

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

March 8, 2021 Meeting Summary

Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Mike Anania, Arlington Business Society; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Andre Boutte', Hickory Creek HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Delmas Harper, POISE, Inc; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Pete Miller, Indian Springs Community Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; John Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

Excused: Shelia Lithwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association

Visitors: Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove; Cliff Hardy, University Park Civic Association; Peter Mione; Mike Corcoran, Kensington; Ed Shvila, The Woods; Donnie Oulton, Glynlea Park Neighborhood Association, Jackson Gray

Staff: Chet Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, District 1; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Chester Clement, JFRD; Chiquita Moore, Neighborhood Services; Connie Quinto, Planning and Development Department; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Jennifer Walters, Animal Care and Protective Services; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Cliff Zukero, Municipal Code Compliance Division.

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Messer called the March 2021 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The February 2021 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

Presentation(s): William Messer, GAB CPAC Chair reviewed the Capital Improvement Project participation invitation letter he received with the CPAC membership. The GAB CPAC has the opportunity to determine and identify one capital improvement project for each neighborhood within the boundaries of the GAB CPAC. Once the recommendations are compiled, they will be submitted by the May 2021 deadline to be considered for inclusion into the FY2022-2026 Capital Improvement Project for funding.

Criteria for a capital improvement project include: the total project must have a total cost greater than \$100,000 and a lifespan of more than ten years and must add to, enhance the value of, or extend the life of the City's physical assets. Some examples include improvements to an existing park, the purchase of land for a future park, road improvements, sidewalk and bike lane construction, drainage projects, intersection improvements and library enhancements. Capital improvement projects do not include general maintenance. The deadline to submit the GAB CPAC recommendations is May 21, 2021.

Chair Messer lead a discussion and reviewed some of the previous recommendations submitted by the GAB CPAC in 2019. A couple of new recommendations were made and will be compiled on the 2021 GAB CPAC Recommendation list. Chair Messer encouraged the CPAC members to give this a little

thought and share their recommendations at the April 12, 2021 CPAC meeting or email them to Rosemary Wesolowski (rosemary@coj.net) to add to the list. As a CPAC, all suggestions will be reviewed and discussed prior to the final recommendation letter submittal.

Elected Officials Report:

Chet Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, City Council District 1, provided the following updates:

- The next City Council Meeting will be held tomorrow night, Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Everyone was encouraged to join in on Zoom.
- The March District 1 Zoom Town Hall Meeting is scheduled for this Monday, March 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM; this meeting will also be conducted on Zoom.
- On March 11, 2021, the Friends of Blue Cypress Park meeting will meet at 6:00 pm via Zoom. The Friends of Blue Cypress are looking for individuals that have a passion for tennis, football, the swim team(s), and golf to get involved with their group.

Council Member Morgan – 904-630-1389 or joycemorgan@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JFRD – Stephen Huber, Battalion Chief, Rescue 56, stated he did not have a report, but was available for questions. There was a question regarding the status of construction on the new fire station under construction near the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and Arlington Road. Battalion Chief Huber stated he had no updates on the construction progress or a timeline for completion.

JPL – Jackie Spiritas informed the CPAC about a couple of upcoming JPL programs:

- By Presidential Proclamation, March has been designated Women’s History Month and JPL has created a booklist titled *Trailblazers of Women's History and Today*. All the books on the list (adults and youth) will celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and recognize the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history in a variety of fields.
- To celebrate both Irish American Heritage Month and St. Patrick’s Day JPL has created a list of books for children to help entertain and learn more about Irish culture and heritage.
- The Jacksonville Public Library and The Museum of Contemporary Art have announced a new perk for library card members. Just show your library card for free admission to MOCA on the final Friday of each month.
- JPL has extended no fines for late returns until April 30, 2021. Ms. Spiritas did emphasize that while there are no fines, everyone is responsible to return the items that they have checked-out from the library. All the libraries are open and are increasing their virtual services and virtual programs that they offer.
- The Jacksonville Public Library will partner with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) TaxAide during the tax season to provide free tax preparation. Taxes will be prepared by appointment only. To schedule an appointment call (904) 513-8627 beginning February 9, 2021 or visit www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide and submit your ZIP code for the nearest location to schedule an appointment.

Jackie Spiritas – spiritas@coj.net

FDOT – Derek Dixon shared the following project updates:

- State Road 202 (J. Turner Butler Boulevard) at Gate Parkway will have additional capacity by adding queuing on the westbound State Road 202 on ramp.
- On I-295, the Express Lane project from 9B to State Road 202 will be completed this summer. New signage will be installed soon.
- The Southside Connector is in the middle of a 2.5-mile re-surfacing project between Trednick Parkway and Merrill Road. The resurfacing project will also include drainage, guard rail and off ramp improvements.

Neighborhoods – Chiquita Moore, Operations Director, greeted the CPAC and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Operations Director Moore informed the CPAC about the upcoming formation of the Park Safety Council. Each CPAC will have a member to serve as a liaison on the council. If you are interested in participating, please contact your Neighborhood Coordinator.

Operations Director Moore introduced Jennifer Walters, Chief of Animal Care and Productive Services and informed the CPAC that Chief Walters will address how a neighborhood properly address a feral cat colony in and around their community.

Chief Walters informed the CPAC approximately 10 or 15 years ago, the City of Jacksonville adopted the Feral Freedom program. Feral Freedom is a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program for free-roaming community cats who live outside and do not belong to anybody. TNR is the most effective method for controlling feral cat population growth. Using this technique, community/feral cats living outside are trapped, spayed/neutered, ear tipped (the universal symbol of a sterilized cat), and then returned to their outdoor home. To date, the Feral Freedom program in Jacksonville has saved approximately 30,000 cats from being euthanized in the city shelter. Chief Walters stated community members can borrow a humane cat trap (with a refundable deposit) from No More Homeless Pets, Jacksonville Human Society and through Animal Care and Protective Services. Once the cat is trapped, you will need to bring the feral cat(s) in for spay/neuter. After the spay/neuter procedure is completed, the cat with a tipped ear will be returned to the community. For additional questions or assistance, please reach out the Animal Care and Protective Services Office at 904-255-2489.

Municipal Code Compliance – Cliff Zukero informed the CPAC that he is the new Municipal Code Compliance Supervisor for the Greater Arlington Beaches – Zone 2 District. In the past thirty days in Zone 2 there have been 446 nuisance cases, 205 zoning cases, 237 commercial/residential violations and 435 snipe signs collected. On February 8, 2021, a systematic inspection was completed in the Southside Estates community and 269 new cases were opened. The next systematic inspection will take place in the Beachwood Community.

Mr. Zukero reminded the CPAC about the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR). The purpose of the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program is to facilitate a means of compliance to those who would otherwise be unable to achieve it due to disability or economic disadvantages. The Program's objective is to provide the abatement services required at no cost to those citizens who qualify, thereby achieving compliance and beautification of the City while not unduly burdening its most vulnerable citizens.

Cliff Zukero – Czukero@coj.net

Planning and Development Department – Connie Quinto did not have a report but was available for questions.

Connie Quinto – ConnieQ@coj.net

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports (3-minute time limit):

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs - Mike Anania - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed two applications (WRF-21-073 and E-21-013) and the LUZ Subcommittee voted to take no action. Mr. Anania presented an overview of both applications, there was some additional discussion, but no motions were made.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – reminded the CPAC that several types of trees are drop their leaves this time of year. Mr. Belge encouraged everyone to check the storm water drains near their home to make sure the leaves, plant material and debris are not obstructing water flow. This preventative measure can be beneficial to prevent flooding in your community.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – no report

Membership – vacant

Transportation – Chair Messer - no report

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Chair Messer – informed the CPAC that unfortunately he needs to resign as the NFTPO liaison; his work schedule has changed. A brief overview of the NFTPO region and types of projects were mentioned. Chair Messer encouraged anyone that is interested to serve as the liaison to the NFTPO to reach out to Rosemary for additional details.

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – John Roberts stated the commission currently has three projects they are working on. The projects are:

1. Assessing the Department of Public Health Services
2. Comparing Jacksonville crime and police enforcement to comparable cities.
3. Overall comparison of Jacksonville to nine other peer cities that have consolidated government.

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski informed the CPAC about the upcoming St. Johns River Celebration 26th Annual Cleanup on March 20, 2021. A list of the clean-up sites was emailed to all CPAC members and everyone was encouraged to participate. It was proudly announced that the GAB District had the most cleanup sites throughout the city. Rosemary also announced that Animal Care and Protective Services will offer free pet adoptions at Latham Park in Jacksonville Beach on Saturday, March 21, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the event is held rain or shine. This information was email to the community.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair Messer recognized the visitors in attendance, thanked them and encouraged them to attend another meeting. If you have a specific concern or topic of interest that you would like a presentation on, please email your suggestions Rosemary at rosemary@coj.net.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – Member Nina Pougiouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association inquired if anyone knew the minimum turn radius needed to accommodate large vehicles (trash trucks, fire engines, etc.) in a cul-de-sac? Their community is trying to save the trees that are planted in the islands that are in the center of their neighborhood cul-de-sacs. City Planner Connie Quinto recommended that she call Tonja McCoy and or the Public Works Department for guidance.

Motion to Adjourn -The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on **Monday, March 8, 2021** at

Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm.