



**RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA
ADVISORY BOARD**

City Hall at St. James
117 West Duval Street, 2nd Floor, Conference Room 2C
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 3:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Location: City Hall at St. James, located at 117 West Duval Street, 2nd Floor, Conference Room 2C, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Advisory Board Members Present; Matt Tuohy-Chairman, Steven Berry, Dr. Ronald Salem, Danyuell Newkirk, Ann Burt, Raj Adhikari

Advisory Board Members Absent: Randy Goodwin - Vice Chair

Others Present: Kirk Wendland-Executive Director, Karen Nasrallah-Redevelopment Manager, Angie Slayton-Administrative Support, Taylor Meija-IGS, Susan Grandin-OGC, Katrin MacDonald-CM Morgan Representative, Patrick Victor-CDM Smith Consultant, Lisa Sterling-CDM Consultant, Jerome Maples-Sen. Gibson's Office, Duane Kent-Public Works Manager, Amy Ingels-Planning and Development, Chief Mitchell-JSO, Sen. Audrey Gibson, Cyril Stubbs Jr.-S.A.L.T., Cyril Stubbs Sr.-S.A.L.T., Mike Fleming-JU, Michael Sulayman-JEA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Chairman Tuohy called the Renew Arlington Advisory Board meeting to order at approximately 3:33 p.m.

II. ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the March 14, 2018 Meeting Minutes

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENEW ARLINGTON ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER BERRY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS DISTRIBUTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RENEW ARLINGTON ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER SALEM. MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 14, 2018 WERE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.

III. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Safety Update

Chief Mitchell, JSO, provided an update on crime within the Renew Arlington CRA boundary. Crime within the CRA boundary since June 1, 2011 to present totaled 1,125 incidents.

Some of the top incidents include:

- 139 simple assault and battery
- 82 petty thefts, non-business

- 62 aggravated battery
- 59 auto burglary

Common addresses include:

- 3500 University Blvd – Tree House Apt. – 65 major incidents
 - 401 incidents - Average yearly responses over five years
- 5959 Ft. Caroline Rd - Carolina Square Apt. – 61 major incidents
 - 387 incidents - Average yearly responses over five years
- 7920 Merrill Rd. – Merrill Pines Condos – 36 major incidents
- 8011 Merrill Rd – 36 major incidents
- 2929 Justina Rd. – Caroline Village Apt. – 25 major incidents

Chief Mitchell stated JSO is currently working with Jacksonville City Council to pull together statistics from each City Council district versus each JSO zone to more accurately reflect crime in the area. Chief Mitchell advised that JSO and the Neighborhoods Department will begin offering a city wide, voluntary, land lord training program in June 2018.

Stormwater Management Plan Update

Ms. Lisa Sterling, CDM Smith Consulting gave a presentation on the Stormwater Management Plan. The Renew Arlington CRA boundary has been broken down into 18 planning units. Water quality treatment is based on land use and impervious area.

General treatment methods include:

- The debriding parcel – does not require bringing area up to current water quality treatment standard.
- Hardscape - water cannot absorb and needs to be collected, treated and repurposed.
- Bio Detention Infiltration – captures water before runoff occurs to put it back into the ground.

Future land use includes:

- Commercial Impervious
 - Amount of hard scape, water will not be able to penetrate or reabsorb back to the aquafer. The water instead runs off and will need treatment before it can be reintroduced to the environment.

Treatment options:

- Bio retention infiltration – capture water before run off and attempt infiltration back into the ground to lessen water treatment.
 - Most appropriate where there is separation between the ground surface and the water table.
- Pervious pavement – also reduces amount of water to be treated.

- use in parking lots, sidewalks, bike lanes
- Stormwater vaults – also reduces water to be treated before reabsorption.
 - Used in parking lots, long trenches. The water is stored in vaults and reintroduced from a gravel bed into the aquifer.
- High Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential

Ms. Sterling proposed the Justina Road ditch be upgraded to a stormwater vault with pedestrian paths over it. This path would run the entire length of the ditch, and could also help reduce crime in this area. Several other options for stormwater drainage were made, including, bio retention systems, inverted crown, pervious pavement, stormwater planters and stormwater overflows. CDM will detail in their final plan.

- Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Salem asked if there was an estimated cost for implementing the stormwater plan and if this cost is expected to come from the CRA fund?
 - Ms. Sterling responded they would provide a cost estimate for the review of the Renew Arlington Advisory Board.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Chair Tuohy distributed a one-page handout highlighting key points for a five-year plan for the Renew Arlington CRA area and how they can tie into the CRA Development Plan. A few examples are:

- Wayfinding signage
- Community police
- Utility surveying
- Norman Studios
- Complete Streets

V. NEW BUSINESS

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Members were asked to be prepared to discuss the FY 18/19 budget at the May 9, 2018 meeting. For the next Renew Arlington Advisory Board meeting, May 9, 2018, the meeting time will commence at 3:00 p.m. to allow ample time for a JEA presentation and discussion for the FY 18-19 budget.

Resolution 2018-252 was introduced to City Council designating a portion of State Road 109/University Blvd between Clifton Avenue and Fort Caroline Road as the “Jim Tullis Memorial Boulevard”.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Cyril Stubbs Jr. and Mr. Cyril Stubbs Sr. came in to discuss plans for their non-profit organization to expand into the Renew Arlington area. They stated that Strategically Aligning Lives Together (S.A.L.T.) is planning to occupy 11 buildings situated on 18 acres located at the Bethelite Center at 5865 Arlington Expressway, Jacksonville, FL. 32211. The focus of this organization is to provide housing for children between the ages of nine to twenty-one who have been, homeless, orphaned, abused or neglected. S.A.L.T. is not a transition home where these kids stay for just a week. This is a long term "home". They will provide onsite access to, psychologist, psychiatrist, onsite jobs, schooling, etc. Community support is requested to help insure that these children have access to the different programs that are currently and will be available to the in the future. Mr. Stubbs feels that having these children living onsite will provide them with a better future, becoming productive members of society. Currently there are over 4000 reported homeless children in Florida.

Mr. Cyril Stubbs Sr. continued on to say, S.A.L.T. was originally started in 2001 in Palm Coast, FL as a residential group home facility for boys ages thirteen to seventeen that had been abused. Mr. Stubbs reiterated the goal of the S.A.L.T. foundation is to ensure today's youth become productive members of society. They currently have a website, Instagram and a Facebook account set up with more information and the ability to accept donations.

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Salem asked if this property is zoned for this type of venture. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded yes, it is currently zoned for this type of facility. Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Salem then asked for an estimated expense for remodeling the Bethelite Center. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded the property owner has agreed to "gift" the property to the S.A.L.T. organization as well as cover the estimated \$7 million dollar reconstruction cost. No funds are currently being requested from the City of Jacksonville or the Renew Arlington CRA. The organization relies on contributions from private benefactors and community members.

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Salem questioned if this would bring increased crime into the Arlington area. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded from past experience, most residents will not know that these kids are there. With the resources they have available, the expectation is the children will receive the stability needed to ensure they graduate high school and college and come back into the community as a productive contributor. Some kids have even come back to the organization after graduating, to work and help others. Mr. Stubbs Sr. added that there will be active staff and security on hand 24 hours, seven days a week. They will have a close working relationship with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. However, from past experience Mr. Stubbs Sr. stated there was not an increased in crime in the areas of previous homes. He feels crime is just an act for attention, and with the attention, nurturing and caring this organization provides, it eliminates the need for crime by these children.

Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Adhikari questioned where they would get the funding to operate the organization. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded that they currently have a contract with the state of Florida allocating funds for S.A.L.T., as well as generous donations from the community.

Mr. Wendland asked if there is currently a contract on the property located at 5865 Arlington Expressway, Jacksonville, FL 32211. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded that the owner has been out of the country in Israel and is due back today. He is meeting with the property owners attorney's on Thursday, April 12, 2018 to finalize the gifting of the property and a partnership with the owner.

Mr. Stubbs Jr. also advised the Renew Arlington CRA Board that the doors should open at the center in November of 2018. Renew Arlington Advisory Board Member Burt asked how many children are expected. Mr. Stubbs Jr. responded the center could house as many as 1,100 people.

Senator Audrey Gibson addressed the Renew Arlington Advisory Board with her support of the progress that is being made in the CRA area. Sen. Gibson asked the CRA Advisory Board Members to put together possible budget requests for the upcoming year that she can help with on a state level. She is happy to help with grants. There are a few projects she is currently trying to receive funding.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Tuohy adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:53 p.m.

Next Renew Arlington CRA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. For verbatim comments of this meeting, an audio file of the meeting is available in its entirety and is available upon request. Please contact Angie Slayton at (904) 630-1858, or by email at aslayton@coj.net.