



**City of Jacksonville – The Jacksonville Journey
Neighborhood Safety & Stability**

MINUTES

OF

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY & STABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

April 8, 2008

**The Jacksonville Journey – Neighborhood Safety & Stability
Sub-Committee**

April 8, 2008

2:30 p.m.

PROCEEDINGS before the Jacksonville Journey - Neighborhood Safety & Stability Sub-Committee taken on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, Edward Ball Building, 8th Floor - 214 N. Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida commencing at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Safety & Stability Committee

Tony Boselli, Chair
Oliver Barakat, Member
John Clark, Member
Charlie Commander, Member
Michael Edwards, Member
Ronnie Ferguson, Member
Joni Foster, Member
Mark Griffin, Member
Charles Griggs, Member
Tripp Gulliford, Member
Alberta Hipps, Member
Suzanne Jenkins, Member
Curtis Johnson, Member
Diane Kerr, Member
Lisa Moore, Member
Devin Reed, Member
Jim Robinson, Member
Toney Sleiman, Member
Eric Smith, Member
Eddie Staton, Member

APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS:

TONY BOSELLI, Chair
MICHAEL EDWARDS, Member
CHARLIE COMMANDER, Member
RONNIE FERGUSON, Member
JONI FOSTER, Member
CHARLES GRIGGS, Member
TRIPP GULLIFORD, Member
ALBERTA HIPPS, Member
SUZANNE JENKINS, Member
CURTIS JOHNSON, Member
DIANE KERR, Member
DEVIN REED, Member
ERIC SMITH, Member

ABSENT MEMBERS:

OLIVER BARAKAT, Member
JOHN CLARK, Member
MARK GRIFFIN, Member
LISA MOORE, Member
EDDIE STATON, Member
JIM ROBINSON, Member
TONEY SLEIMAN, Member

STAFF:

KERRI STEWART
CHAD POPPELL
JENNIFER SAVAGE

OTHERS PRESENT:

Pam Wilson
Derek Igou
Matt Galnor
James Richardson
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer
Earl Kitchings
Matt White
Rosemary Wesolowski
Jenna Emmons
Shannon Nazworth
Mary Kay O'Rourke
Mary Beth Ridderman
Marguerite (no last name)

PROCEEDINGS

April 8, 2008

Neighborhood Safety & Stability Chair/Committee 2:30 p.m.

Call to Order and Comments. Chair Boselli called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

Purpose of Meeting. Discuss the Mayor's crime initiative - The Jacksonville Journey - Take a Step - Neighborhood Safety & Stability Sub-Committee.

Chairman Boselli opened the meeting by addressing an article that ran in the Florida Times-Union exploring the attendance of Jacksonville Journey members to their committee meetings. He said he realizes that this is a voluntary position and that he appreciates the time and effort the members of this committee have given. He then overviewed the process for the remainder of the Journey, saying that the recommendations would be taken to the Steering Committee Thursday, April 10 and then they will go before the Funding Committee. He also provided highlights from the April 1 Neighborhoods meeting (minutes of which are available online at www.coj.net).

A motion was made to open the discussion on the recommendation establishing an oversight board responsible for funding and monitoring all parks and recreation programming in community facilities, which was seconded. Some concerns raised regarding this board were: that the current parks advisory board does not have much of a track record to date; that if this were not to fall under the JCC's responsibility it could be duplicating the JCC efforts; that if it were to fall under the JCC's responsibility, the JCC may not be the best-suited to oversee recreation programs; and it could create greater bureaucracy. The committee then voted on the recommendation which can be seen, as amended by the committee, under the action items section below.

Next, Joni Foster, chair of the Economic Development work group, presented her group's recommendations (the full version of the recommendations the committee reviewed are available under "April 8 handouts" online at coj.net). Members of the committee

voiced concerns regarding the method and vision for devising the recommendations, to which Boselli replied that the recommendations are in line with the committee's vision and represent a fair amount of thought and effort given the two days the group had. The following specific recommendations prompted questions/discussion:

- **Support neighborhood centers that co-locate services for job, jobs placement and income support services.** Chairman Boselli asked for some examples of this and Foster listed Ready4Work, Real Sense and WorkSource.
- **Care should be given to funding and setting of social service programs that may discourage economic redevelopment or intensify unwanted activities in commercial sites, corridors and areas.** Ronnie Ferguson asked for further explanation. Foster used a strip mall she is familiar with as an example. She said all that is there is a methadone clinic and an adult entertainment venue, while the rest of the mall sits vacant. She said care should be given to the placement of these agencies, and to ensuring that clients of social service agencies have a place inside to wait so as to not alienate other potential customers from the mall, in turn limiting the number of businesses willing to locate in close proximity to social service sites. Ferguson said that in his experience those agencies locate in the places they do because the strip malls are already vacant, but that he understands the sentiment behind the recommendation.

Eric Smith suggested adding that the recommendations tie in to JTA's Transportation Oriented Development/Destination project. Tripp Gulliford emphasized that funding is also crucial to the success of the recommendations. Alberta Hipps stated that the responsibility of carrying out a number of these recommendations should fall to the city's Housing & Neighborhoods Department and not the JEDC. A motion was made to approve the entire set of recommendations, as amended and with the agreement that staff would combine and re-format the final version for submission to

the Steering Committee, and they were approved unanimously (amended version below under action items section).

Chairman Boselli again thanked the group and said the final Steering Committee meeting would be April 24, and that there will be a series of town hall meetings in May and June to garner the public's input on the recommendations.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

2. Action Items

- o Establish a new oversight board for funding and monitoring of all parks and recreation programming in community facilities (ie: community centers, libraries, schools, churches, etc) with the intent of holding both city and non-profit programming accountable for outcomes and leveraging private dollars. Approved unanimously.

The following economic development recommendations were all approved unanimously:

- o Charge the Mayor's Sustainable Communities Department Director to institute a Task Force to further develop our recommendations for neighborhood based economic development strategies.
- o Charge and fund the Housing and Neighborhood Department to develop incentives and planning support for focused neighborhood commercial revitalization.
- o Support neighborhood centers that co-locate services for job, jobs placement and income support services.
- o Support and expand the capacity of neighborhood-based, resident-led organizations to redevelop strategic "hot spot" property that "builds" our way out of crime; and to provide community organizing services that increases resident and business involvement in commercial corridor revitalization efforts. The City's Planning Department should review zoning issues and conduct visioning sessions for 'hot spot'

commercial corridor areas. Encourage JTA to coordinate location and design of Transit Oriented developments (TODs) with neighborhood and business organizations.

- Continue proactive enforcement of property safety violations, aggressively move toward proactive enforcement of zoning codes, and increase funding for abatement measures.
- Funding recommendations:
 - Increase funding for the Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund and create a similar economic development resource for other redeveloping neighborhoods of Jacksonville.
 - Earmark funding streams to support these recommendations using CDBG, CRA/Tax Increment financing, general revenue and other state and federal resources.
 - Educate and encourage nonprofits to use the State Community Contribution Tax Credit to leverage city funds.
 - Enhance efforts of the JEDC marketing and public relations arm of the Enterprise Zone Board to education and implement the incentives and tools of the Enterprise Zone and Empowerment Zones.
- Support enhanced trash and cleanliness efforts through expanded city sanitation pick up schedules, JSO inmate crews, Clean it up/Green it up and private clean up efforts as demonstrated by the Springfield model efforts.
- Require JTA to fund and implement trash pickup and beautification of bus stops.
- Enhance efforts of the JEDC marketing and public relations arm of the Enterprise Zone Board to education and implement the incentives and tools of the Enterprise Zone and Empowerment Zones.

- o Care should be given to funding and setting of social service programs that may discourage economic redevelopment or intensify unwanted activities in commercial sites, corridors and areas.

3. Discussion Items

None.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.