

## **Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

### **November 8, 2021, Meeting Summary**

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

#### **Meeting Attendance:**

**CPAC Members:** Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove Condominium; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas Harper, POISE, Inc; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbor; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; Pete Miller, Indian Springs Community Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; John Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

**Excused:** Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington

**Visitors:** Cindy Miller, ISCA; Anne Waldron, Volunteer for City District 1 – COEA; Shannon Casebeer

**Staff:** The Honorable Joyce Morgan, District 1; Michael Chao, Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Compliance; Nikki Evans, Executive Council Assistant, At- Large Group 2; Chief Chester Clemmons, JFRD; Steve Long, Public Works; Ernest Murphy, Municipal Code Compliance Division; Connie Quinto, Planning and Development Department; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Lieutenant Terrell, JSO; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

**Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Messer called the November 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 October 2021 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

**Presentation(s): No presentation**

#### **Elected Officials Report:**

**Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1** provided the following updates:

- Extended an invitation to attend the November 9, 2021, City Council meeting at 5:00 pm. Council Member Morgan stated this would be a busy meeting. City Council Members will be voting on the removal of the confederate statue in Springfield Park (formerly known as Confederate Park).
- Thursday, November 11, 2021 is Veteran's Day and the annual Veteran's Day Parade will be held downtown to honor our local veterans. The parade will begin at the corner of N. Jefferson Street and Water Street. The parade will begin at 11:01 a.m. For complete details, please visit: [https://www.coj.net/welcome/news/the-city-of-jacksonville-honors-veterans-at-th-\(4\)](https://www.coj.net/welcome/news/the-city-of-jacksonville-honors-veterans-at-th-(4))

- The City Council District 1 Town Hall meeting will be held on Monday, November 29, 2021, 6:00 pm at the Gazebo Shopping Center, in the Artist Connection Theater (5566 Fort Caroline Road #7, 32277)

There was a question regarding the influx of immigrants from Central and South America; has there been an uptick in crime associated with this immigration? Council Member Morgan deferred the question to JSO.

Joyce Morgan, 904-620-1389 or [joycemorgan@coj.net](mailto:joycemorgan@coj.net)

**Nikki Evans, Executive Council Assistant**, At-Large Group 2 informed the CPAC that the Mental Health Offender Pilot Program (MHOP) has received funding and is a permanent program now (no longer a pilot program). Four program participants were a part of MHOP's first graduating class. The graduates are invested in turning things around for themselves and have moved into a group home environment where they will live independently. A trust fund for the Mental Health Offender Program has been established and will be available to accept funds/donations by the end of the year.

Ron Salem, 904-255-5216 or [Rsalem@coj.net](mailto:Rsalem@coj.net)

#### **Staff Reports:**

**JSO – Lieutenant Terrell** shared JSO crime statistics that reflect year to date numbers in the Zone 2 area: robberies are down 25%, car jackings down 7.14%, robberies to businesses down 50%, aggravated batteries were down .95%, burglaries to residents were down 17.3%, burglaries to businesses were down 39.5%, auto thefts were down 17.8%, auto burglaries were down 35.79%, grand theft was up 9.88%, petty theft to businesses were down 36.80%.

- The new Zone 2 Sub Station is located at 9119 Merrill Road, 32225 is officially open.
- The old substation at Regency Square Mall will be used by Zone 6 (North District) JSO officers while their new substation is under constructed.
- Everyone was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine; remember to remove valuables and firearms from your unattended vehicles. Remember to lock your car doors when you are not in the vehicle.
- The holiday season is upon us. Please make sure to place your valuables and new purchases in your trunk while out shopping and be aware of your surroundings.

There was a request for statistics on the number of arrests/closed cases there are in the GAB area.

There was a question asking regarding staffing and officers retiring, does JSO have good staff levels? It was confirmed that their staff numbers are good, have students enrolled in the academy and will have a graduating class going out on their own in January 2022.

There was request for an update on the fire at Mascara's Gentlemen's Club, located at 3225 Southside Boulevard. Lt. Terrell confirmed that JDRF responded to a fire call and put out the fire at this location this morning. Once the fire was extinguished a deceased body was found in a storage room. There is an investigation underway in regarding both the fire and the loss of life.

**JFRD – Battalion Chief Clemons**, Rescue Division provided the following updates:

- JFRD request for service calls (citywide) for October 2021 consisted of 27,422 EMS calls and 5964 fire calls.
- The official ground breaking for the new fire station (Station 65) off Arlington Road(near Atlantic Boulevard) will take place in January 2022.
- No updates or additional information was provided regarding the fire at Mascara’s Gentleman’s Club last night.

**JTA – Cheryl Riddick** shared:

- JTA has many employment opportunities available in many different departments of JTA. Earlier in the day, Ms. Riddick had Rosemary email a flyer to the CPAC that provided complete details on employment opportunities.
- There was an update requested for the JTA Mobility Works San Pablo Road project. According to the Mobility Works San Pablo Project Team, this construction project was scheduled to begin in late fall 2021, but the team is still working on securing a permit(s) that are outstanding. The new anticipated start date is Winter 2022. Permit challenges from the public held up the SJRWMD (St. Johns River Water Management District) permit. As of 2020 permits are issued separately by the ACOE (Army Corps of Engineers) and DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) as well. This used to be a joint permit. JTA has the SJRWMD and ACOE permits but are waiting to obtain the FDEP (Florida Department of Environmental Protection) permit.

Cheryl Riddick – [criddick@jtafla.com](mailto:criddick@jtafla.com)

**Military and Veterans Affairs Department – Tiffany Morales** provided an overview of the upcoming Celebration of Valor 2021:

- Tuesday, November 2 to November 10, 2021, there is a Veterans Art Display in the City Hall Atrium, 117 W. Duval Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Some of the pieces are for sale.
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021, (Rescheduled from October 28) there will be a Celebration of Valor and Jaguars Foundation Press Conference in the City Hall Atrium, 117 W. Duval Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202, at 10:00 am.
- Saturday, November 6, 2021, the Wounded Warrior Project Carry Forward 5K will begin at 8:00 am at the Wounded Warrior Project Headquarters, 4899 Belfort Road, 32256.
- Monday, November 8, 2021, the JAX Chamber will hold their 17th Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront, 225 Coastline Dr., 32202.
- Monday, November 8, 2021 the HerVoice Virtual Series 1, Women in Uniform, Women Army Corps Veteran Association & NE Florida Women Veterans will be held at 7:00 pm.
- Tuesday, November 9, 2021, the University of North Florida Veterans Day Tribute will be held at 10:30 am, Veterans Plaza at the Student Union, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224.
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021, the Marine & Navy FMF Corpsmen Memorial Ceremony, will begin at 4:00 pm at Evergreen Cemetery, 4535 N. Main Street, 32206.
- Thursday, November 11, the Veterans Day Parade will be held in Downtown Jacksonville. The parade will begin at 11:01 am.

- Thursday, November 11 - November 28, 2021, the Veterans Hall of Fame Display will be open to the public in the City Hall Atrium, 117 W. Duval Street, 32202.
- For complete details on all upcoming Celebration of Valor events that will occur through December 20, 2021 please visit: <https://www.coj.net/departments/military-and-veterans-affairs/events/all-events/celebration-of-valor-2021>

Tiffany Morales - [tmorales@coj.net](mailto:tmorales@coj.net)

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Gloria Crawford** provided the following updates:

- Blue Cypress Park – restrooms are under renovation and will be open in January; artificial turf will be installed in the field closest to the pond before the end of the year and the playground will receive new playground equipment in 2022 and is currently in the design phase.
- Justina Road Park – new playing field lights will be installed by the end of winter; the old concession stand will be demolished, and the playground equipment will be updated.
- Norman Studios – renovations are underway and should be completed this winter.
- Cesery Park, Isle of Palms Park, and Fort Caroline Park will receive new playground equipment.
- Lake Lucina Park – restrooms will be upgraded later this year
- Senior Expo will be held November 17 and 18, 2021 at the Prime F. Osborn Convention Center, from 9 am to 3 pm each day. Admission and parking are free.
- Holiday Festival for Seniors will be held on December 4, 2021, at the Prime F. Osborn Convention Center, 1 to 4 pm. Please call 255-5667 for tickets or additional information.

**JPL – Jackie Spiritas** announced:

- November is National Awareness Month for Native American Heritage and Diabetes Awareness. JPL has a variety of information on both topics.
- Thursday, November 11, 2021, is Veteran’s Day and all libraries will be closed.
- JPL will host another Lit Chat with author Deesha Philyaw and offer a Book Signing event on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 6:30 PM for of the debut of her short story collection The Secret Lives of Church Ladies which won numerous awards. This event will be held with a live audience at the Mandarin Branch Library, or you can watch it virtually via Zoom. Preregistration is required. To pre-register visit: <http://events.jaxpubliclibrary.org/event/5604128>
- The Main Library is closed. Visit <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/> and visit Locations and Hours for alternate locations. The Regeneron Treatment Site is in the Main Library Conference Center; the entrance into the treatment center is through the entrance on Main Street. If you have questions about Regeneron Treatments, please call 1-850-344-9637.
- Early Voting will begin at libraries starting November 27, 2021 and end on December 5, 2021 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm every day. This special election is to fill an At-Large City Council seat.

Jackie Spiritas – [spiritas@coj.net](mailto:spiritas@coj.net)

**Municipal Code Compliance – Ernest Murphy** provided the following updates:

- In the past 30 days, 1088 inspections were conducted.
- A systematic inspection was completed in the North Beach area and 146 violations were cited.
- The next systematic inspection will be held in the Arlingwood community starting November 29, 2021.

The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was discussed. 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.

If you cannot comply the violations on your property due to a disability or economic hardship, please feel free to visit:

<https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>

Ernest Murphy – [EMurphy@coj.net](mailto:EMurphy@coj.net) or 904-402-5568 or 904-255-7096

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

Connie Quinto – [ConnieQ@coj.net](mailto:ConnieQ@coj.net)

**Public Works – Steve Long** provided the following updates:

- Public Works is still actively addressing drainage issues. If you have a slow flowing or clogged storm sewer, please request assistance to clear the blockage by using the MyJax system either online at <https://myjax.custhelp.com/> or by calling 630-CITY (2489).
- All outfall ditches will be cleaned in the upcoming year, this includes the Sandalwood Canal.
- The Right of Way and Storm water Maintenance team is out repairing broken or uneven sidewalks and cave-ins at this time.
- Chief Long was informed about the following concerns: illegal dumping at recycle center(s), concerns about illegal dumping into fallout ditches, location of several pot-holes, problem sidewalks, and missing portions of sidewalks, and street lights that are out on Kernan Boulevard North (from Landmark Middle School to Sabal Palms Elementary) on the east side of the road.

Steve Long – [Slong@coj.net](mailto:Slong@coj.net)

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

**LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Chair Will Messer served as Chair for the LUZ Subcommittee** - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed five applications and no motions were made.

**Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge** – reminded the CPAC about the 630-CITY Tree Planting Program. This program allows the City to plant trees within publicly maintained street rights-of-way in Duval County when a property owner requests the installation of trees in the street right-of-way adjacent to their property. Please call the Care System (630-CITY) for the installation of one or two trees.

**Environment – Lad Hawkins** – not present

**Membership** – vacant

**Ad Hoc Committees:**

**Nomination Subcommittee – Dedee Harper and Justine Wadyko** attended the in-person meeting and conducted the election. Ms. Wadyko presented the 2021 Slate of Officers to the CPAC members, ballots were distributed, and Ms. Wadyko called three times for nominations from the floor. After the subcommittee tabulated the ballots, it was announced that William Messer will serve as Chair and Tim Keeley will serve as Vice Chair. Congratulations! We look forward to your continued leadership.

**North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Nicole Hamm** informed the CPAC that Autumn Martinage, FDOT gave a brief presentation on FDOT tentative work program and the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS). In our area St. Johns Bluff Road and the Southside Connector will be resurfaced and widened in 2023; specifics on these projects will be shared once they become available. Ms. Hamm stated that she is aware there will be a project in the future (in 2023 or beyond) near a charter/elementary school off San Pablo Road, but she does not have the details. Once information is available on the San Pablo Road project, Ms. Hamm will share with the CPAC.

**TRUE (Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – John Roberts shared three issues with the CPAC:**

- The TRUE Commission has taken on a study to determine if JSO is staffed adequately for the size of our city.
- The TRUE Commission project that compared JSO to nine similar cities has been completed and the report is drafted. There is a little more work to be completed before they release it.

**DCPS Sales Surtax Oversight Committee - Delmas “Dedee” Harper** – no report, but reminded the CPAC that you can track the usage of the half-penny sales tax for the Master Facility Plan Implementation at <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/half-penny>

**Park Safety Committee – Mary Jane Brewer** informed the CPAC that at a quorum was not present at the second meeting (October 25, 2021) of the Park Safety Committee. A few reports were provided by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services staff. The next Parks Safety Committee meeting will be held on November 22, 2021.

**Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski** informed the CPAC that Greenscape of Jacksonville and Keep Jacksonville Beautiful will offer a Paper Collection Event and Tree Giveaway on November 13, 2021, 9 am to 1 pm, Lot E located at TIAA Bank Field, 1680 E. Adams Street, Jacksonville FL, 32202. A flyer for the November 13<sup>th</sup> event is available on the sign in table and a copy was emailed to the CPAC membership.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

**Chairs Report** – Chair Messer thanked the CPAC membership for re-electing him to serve as Chair for 2022. Chair Messer announced that he will attend a meeting with the Mayor’s Staff on Friday, November 12, 2021, at 8:30 am. If there are any concerns or questions that would like addressed, please them to Chair Messer or Rosemary. Chair Messer stated that he is waiting for answers regarding

funding for CIP projects recommended by the GAB CPAC in the Spring and who is responsible for the maintenance of invasive plant species that grows on preservation land.

Chair Messer informed the CPAC that the December GAB CPAC meeting will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021, at 6:30 pm, but this will be a brief meeting. Chair Messer opened discussion to determine if the GAB CPAC members would like to hold their annual Holiday Potluck festivities. There was a brief discussion and motion was made to hold a potluck dinner after the meeting; the was a second. The motion passed by a 6 to 5 vote.

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** – none

**Public Comment** –

- Member Pete Miller informed the CPAC about the variety of electronic alerts we receive on our mobile devices through the Wireless Emergency Alerts system since 2012. Thanks to technology, inexpensive smart watch type of devices are available and have the capability to track or send out SOS messages to help protect our children and seniors.

**Motion to Adjourn** – meeting ended at 8:18 pm

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, December 13, 2021 - In person the meeting will be held at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will be available virtually on Zoom.