

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

May 10, 2021 Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Mike Anania, Arlington Business Society; Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Delmas Harper, POISE, Inc; Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbor; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Shelia Lithwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; 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: Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington

Visitors: Ed Shvila, The Woods; Ed Warland; Rick Granger; Mike Corcoran, Kensington

Staff: Chet Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, District 1; Michelle Begley, DCPS; Charles Benson, Municipal Code Compliance; Assistant Chief Burton, JSO; Kris Jolly, JFRD; Steve Long, Public Works; Connie Quinto, Planning and Development Department; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Cliff Zukero, Municipal Code Compliance Division.

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Vice Chair Keeley called the May 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 April 2021 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

Presentation(s): In lieu of a presentation, Vice Chair Keeley reviewed the CIP recommendations that the GAB CPAC will submit. There was some brief discussion and clarifications. The recommendations were approved by the CPAC and a letter with the recommendations will be submitted.

Elected Officials Report:

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

- The Safer Together workshops continue and an invitation to join the workshops was extended to the CPAC attendees. The next workshop will be held on May 13, 2021. The topic will focus on a Police Civilian Review Board.
- The next City Council District 1 Town Hall meeting will be held on May 24, 2021. This meeting will be held in person at Legacy Church at 6:30 pm.

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

Staff Reports:

JSO – Assistant Chief Burton shared:

- In Zone 2 violent crime is down, but there is an increase in domestic violence.
- Property crimes are down by 59%.
- Auto burglaries are down, but most vehicles that are burglarized are unlocked.
- Everyone was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine. The 9 pm Routine encourages everyone to not leave money, valuables, car keys, wallets/purses, and guns in their vehicles unattended.
- There are approximately 48 parks in the Greater Arlington Beaches District and JSO plans to have a different JSO officer in a different park everyday starting June 1 through July 31 from 6 am to 7 pm. A schedule and complete details will be forthcoming.

Assistant Chief Burton – 904-726-5100

JFRD – Kris Jolly reported on behalf of Captain Gene Klingbeil and provided the following updates:

- The CPAC members were encouraged to download the JaxReady app; this is an especially valuable tool to have during hurricane season.
- Fire Station 19, located on Rogero Road is one of the busiest fire stations in Jacksonville. Station 19 was recently renovated and is currently running an extra fire engine out of this station to keep up with calls and demands.
- It was confirmed that land was purchased to build a new fire station near the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and Arlington Road. There was not an update on the progress of construction or a timeline for completion.

JPL – Jackie Spiritas informed the CPAC about updates at JPL:

- May is Military Appreciation month, Jewish American Heritage month, Asian Pacific American Heritage month and Mental Health Awareness month. JPL will be highlighting books and materials to celebrate these observations.
- All of the library meeting rooms, and study rooms are open to the public again.
- At the University Park Branch Library there will a pop-up Covid-19 vaccination opportunity on Thursday, May 27, 2021 from 10am to 6 pm. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine will be administered to all individuals 18 years old.
- JPL has partnered with FSCJ at several different branches to allow students, who are enrolled in school to borrow laptops for free for the semester. One such branch in the GAB District is the Pablo Creek Regional Library. Contact JPL to get complete details.
- Mayor Curry is inviting all Duval County residents to participate in a survey for the library system. The survey is to envision what the 21st century Urban Branch Library should have. There are five different libraries that are smaller and older library branches, and JPL would like feedback from the community on how the library space can be relevant, accessible and have all the technology needed to serve the community. The branches are Murray Hill; Brentwood Brown; Eastside; Dallas Graham and Westbrook.

Jackie Spiritas – spiritas@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick shared:

- JTA is now offering Ride to Health. In partnership with the City of Jacksonville, the Florida Department of Health for Duval County and other health service organizations, the Jacksonville Transportation Authority provides safe, clean, and reliable transportation to available COVID-19 vaccination distribution locations.
- JTA's ReadiRide service is also providing on-call transportation to vaccination locations. To provide additional support to the community during COVID-19 vaccine distribution, JTA has expanded the coverage of their ReadiRide zones. Call (904) 679-4555 to confirm your eligibility and to make a reservation Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. To learn more about the ReadiRide Program, please visit: <https://www.jtafla.com/riding-jta/ride-to-health/>
- JTA has partnered with Agape Family Health to offer the Wellness on Wheels Program; this is a mobile Covid-19 vaccination program. For this program, JTA has wrapped two buses; one bus is used to vaccinate individuals and the other is used as the post vaccination waiting area. If you are interested in scheduling the buses to come to your place of business or worship, call JTA Customer Service at (904) 630-3100 to make the arrangements.
- Questions were asked about the upcoming JTA road work project on San Pablo Road. Additionally, there were inquiries if the traffic studies conducted for the San Pablo Road project address the new school that is under construction on San Pablo Road. It was also mentioned that parents were parking in the surrounding communities to pick their children up from Alimacani Elementary School, thus creating traffic issues in the neighborhoods.

Cheryl Riddick -904-632-5522 or criddick@jtafla.com

Municipal Code Compliance – Cliff Zukero provided the following information to the CPAC for the month of April:

- There were 7 snipe sign citations written and 177 snipe signs were collected.
- 1402 inspections were completed.
- A systematic inspection was conducted in the Holiday Hills Community and 187 new cases were opened.
- Year to date 8794 inspections in the GAB District have been completed.

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

Parks, Recreation and Community Services - Kara Tucker, Chief of Disabled Services provided the following updates:

- Bruce Park: Master Plan complete, tennis courts re-established, Netball moved to eastern court, light locker work complete, restroom remodel underway, pavilion repairs are complete, new playground will be installed after restrooms are complete.
- Blue Cypress: Pickleball courts are under construction. Finalizing lift station engineering for restrooms/pool/community center is underway. Blue Cypress Golf Course is now open.

- Norman Studios: Second phase of first floor construction should begin within the next 2 months.
- Warrington Park: Playground and tennis courts are complete. Working on bid for the front of the community center building.
- Arlington Lions Club: Boat Ramp lighting complete
- Rowing Center (located on Arlington River behind DCF): is currently being used by Jacksonville Rowing Club, in the future the center will offer adaptable rowing, learn to row, club rowing and regatta site, Parks, Recreation and Community Services is currently working with state officials on parking lot detail.
- Sheffield Park: design of additional flex fields underway, bid documents Fall, 2021
- Sunny Acres Park: CDBG Grant for Phase I construction in place, pursuing additional CIP funding, working with consultant for design of ADA parking and walkway adjustments and building modifications.
- Ed Austin Park: the softball fields are getting new lights.
- The City of Jacksonville's Disabled Services Division is excited to announce that registration for the 10th Annual ADA Symposium has opened online at COJ.net - ADA Symposium. The 10th Annual ADA Symposium will be held on June 4th via Zoom. (The link will be provided after registration has been received.) As we continue our work in removing barriers for individuals with disabilities in our community and promote independent living, we are excited to announce that the 10th Annual ADA Symposium will feature new and important topics: service animals; large area assistive listening devices; hiring persons with disabilities; the ADA in 2021 and beyond - presented by The McIntosh Group (CEU's will be provided by AIA).

The CPAC members requested a list of all the current Pickleball courts in Jacksonville. Ms. Tucker stated she would send a list over to Rosemary in the morning.

Kara Tucker – KaraT@coj.net

Public Works – Steve Long reminded the CPAC that Hurricane Season officially kicks off in three weeks. If you have any drainage issue or slow flowing drains, please call 630-CITY to report. Mr. Long explained how the five-year CIP plan worked to the CPAC membership. Mr. Long answered several questions from CPAC members about issues in their communities; they included how to lower the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph; a sinkhole in Kensington and sidewalk repairs in Osprey Pointe.

Steve Long – Slong@coj.net

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

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs - Mike Anania - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed three applications and the LUZ Subcommittee made one motion to the full CPAC. The motion is to approve 2021-0391 rezoning CO to PUD on Alton Avenue. Because the requests is to better utilize the property for commercial infill and vehicle sales support as a storage site; it is bordered by more intense uses to the south and east and RMD-A to the north. The application outlines the intent of the owner to retain the specimen oak trees and current buffers in the ROW. Additional buffer to the north will create a better transition to the affected residential properties. Granting the PUD will also allow the developer to create a small park to support the Veterans center adjacent to the site as described in the application. The motion was approved unanimously by the CPAC members.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – reminded the CPAC to be mindful of tree removal and to obtain several quotes before they get a tree removed.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – not present

Membership – vacant

Transportation – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Member Nicole Hamm stated that she is willing to represent the GAB CPAC on the North Florida TPO. Member Anania made a motion to nominate Member Hamm and Nell DeCoursey second the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Rosemary will contact the NFTPO.

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

- Comparing Jacksonville crime and police enforcement to comparable cities.
- Overall comparison of Jacksonville to nine other peer cities that have consolidated government.

DCPS Sales Surtax Oversight Committee - Delmas “Dedee” Harper informed the CPAC that this committee organized in January and the purpose is to monitor spending to ensure that your half a penny that you voted for is spent properly by both the Duval County Schools and local charter schools.

The first project will be at Rutledge H. Pearson Elementary School. The school will be newly constructed and will serve as a model for other area schools. There are five additional schools pending for new design. Member Harper wants the CPAC to know there is transparency regarding the spending. On the Duval County Schools website you can obtain all the information, which includes which schools have been rewarded the funding, the amount, and how many schools are charter schools. For more information visit: <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/half-penny>

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski informed the CPAC members that:

- Communities that request clean up supplies from the Clean it Up, Green it Up (Dan Durbec) program in the near future will need to complete the request through a new online system. Complete instructions will be provided.
- The Clean it Up, Green it Up program/Keep Jacksonville Beautiful program is still taking nominations for communities or individuals that have completed cleanup/beautification projects. Please contact Dan Durbec at ddurbec@coj.net for additional information.
- Rosemary introduced Mary Jane Brewer; Ms. Brewer is one of our newer members and she has agreed to serve as the GAB CPAC Park Safety Committee Liaison. The Park Safety Committee meetings haven't started just yet, but they will in the near future and Ms. Brewer will keep us informed. A special thank you was expressed to Member Nicole Hamm for serving as the NFTPO Liaison.

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

Chairs Report – Vice Chair Keeley did not have a report.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – Visitor Ed Wallace informed the CPAC that he is a law enforcement trainer. If you have any questions or need assistance with safety in your community, please contact him at 202-528-5475.

Member Dr. Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA inquired if the CPAC members liked meeting at the PAL Building or would the members like to return to the Pablo Creek Regional Library? And Council Member Ron Salem, At-Large Group 2 will hold a Hybrid Virtual/In-Person Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM, at Regency Square Branch Library located at 9900 Regency Square Blvd Jacksonville, FL 32225. The purpose of the Town Hall Meeting is to provide a forum to discuss Ordinance 2021-0223 (Local Option Gas Tax) and Ordinance 2021-0235 (Septic Tanks).

Member Pam Brown, Osprey Point stated with the construction of a new charter school on San Pablo Road traffic will significantly increase on San Pablo Road. Member Brown stated that charter schools typically do not offer bus service thus increasing the cars on San Pablo Road. It was inquired if the traffic study completed for the new JTA project included the additional traffic that will be generated by the charter school? Ms. Riddick from JTA stated she would investigate.

Motion to Adjourn –

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, June 14, 2021 at

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