

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

April 11, 2022, Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbors; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Sheila Lithwiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; 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: Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association, Delmas “Dedee” Harper, POISE, Inc.

Visitors: Donnie Oultan, Glynlea Park; Michael Jurney; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove; Lorrie Harlow, Hammock Grove; Debi Wagne, Hawkins Cove; Leanna Pearce, Democratic Environmental Caucus of Florida

Staff: Chester Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, City Council District 1; Erin Abney, Planning and Development Department; Jared Chemay, Municipal Code Compliance; Bradley Clayton, Municipal Code Compliance; Lt. D.H. Hall, JSO; Steve Long, Public Works; Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office; Thomas Register, Municipal Code Compliance; Lt. Jarmar Smith, JFRD; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Raelyn Wiirre, JPL

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Messer called the April 2022 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The March 2022 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

Presentation(s): Margaret Dees, Senior Vice President of Economic Development and External Engagement, Jacksonville University, provided an overview of the activities at Jacksonville University.

Ms. Dees announced Jacksonville University (JU) will celebrate their 88th birthday this week. To celebrate this milestone, JU’s annual Charter Week and Charter Day has returned for the first time since 2019. JU has designated Thursday, April 14, 2022, as Charter Day. This means all classes will be canceled so students and staff can participate in a day of community service. So far, 35 service projects have been identified and 400 students have signed up to serve.

In January 2020, construction was completed on a new three-story, 104,000-square-foot Healthcare Sciences Academic Center on the north end of the Jacksonville University (JU) campus. The building houses the School of Applied Health Sciences, the School of Orthodontics and the Keigwin School of Nursing graduate programs.

Jacksonville University's men's and women's basketball teams moved to the school's new Basketball Performance Center in January 2022. The dedicated center has a full basketball court and a half court, offices and weight room. The Basketball Performance Center is located next to the historic Swisher Gym.

Renovations to all on-campus student housing has been completed. JU can now house up to 1000 students on-campus.

JU recently announced they will open a new School of Law in downtown Jacksonville. Classes will begin Fall 2022.

The new roundabout at the intersection of University Boulevard and Merrill Road has been completed. It was reported that JU students like the roundabout and it makes a much safer intersection for the students to cross.

JU commencement ceremonies will be conducted on April 29 and 30, 2022.

Elected Officials Report:

Chester Aikens, III, Executive Council Assistant, District 1 – shared the following updates:

- On April 12, 2022, the new Chief Resiliency Officer, Anne Coglianesi, will present to the Resiliency Committee at City Hall in the City Council Chambers at 12:00 pm or via Zoom.
- There will be a City Council meeting tomorrow night, April 12, 2022, at 5:00 pm at City Hall in the City Council Chamber.
- The next City Council District 1 Town Hall meeting will be held on April 25, 2022, at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 8264 Lone Star Road, 32211 at 6:00 pm.

Joyce Morgan, 904-255-5201 or joycemorgan@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO- Lt. Hall attended the meeting on behalf of Zone 2 Assistant Chief Felipe Alicia. Assistant Chief Alicia was attending a service at the Fallen Officers Memorial Wall in downtown Jacksonville to pay tribute to Jacksonville's 64 fallen officers.

Crime statistics for Zone 2 are at historically low levels except for auto crimes. Auto burglaries continue to be a problem. Seventy five percent to eighty percent of auto burglaries show no sign of forced entry. The CPAC members were encouraged to remind their communities of the 9pm Routine.

Lt. Hall answered questions and addressed concerns about teenagers (possibly unlicensed) driving golf carts on community property and racing golf carts in several adjoining communities; panhandling on street corners and the change in laws regarding free speech; suspicion of a drug house and the amount as evidence needed to shut down a suspected drug house was also covered; if you see a homeless camp, please report to JSO and their Blight Officers will address the camp.

JSO Zone 2 – 904-726-5100

JFRD – Lieutenant Jamar Smith, stated that JFRD is actively working with the community to replace or install new smoke detectors where needed. JFRD can also assist with replacing the batteries in existing functioning smoke detectors. Everyone was encouraged to test their smoke detectors by pushing the test button on the smoke detector. If your smoke detector is malfunctioning, please call 630-CITY (2489) and request to have a new smoke detector installed.

Hurricane Season is upon us and the CPAC was encouraged to get prepared early. One early preparation that was encouraged was to download the JaxReady app to have the most accurate information regarding upcoming storms.

Construction of a new fire station near the intersection of Arlington Road and Atlantic Boulevard has started.

JEA – Renee Goode provided the following GAB District project updates:

- JEA has received a 2021 Safety Award from the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA). This award is to recognize the utility companies' commitment to employee safety and safe utility operations.
- JEA has also received the Diamond Award; this is the highest level awarded by the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Reliable Public Power Provider program which recognizes utilities that demonstrate high proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement.
- JEA held a groundbreaking ceremony on March 31, 2022, for the \$150 million Greenland Water Reclamation Facility which is already under construction on 80 acres near the eTown community. The Greenland facility is the authority's first water reclamation facility built since 1977. The Greenland facility will initially process 4 million gallons of wastewater per day, serving 22,800 JEA sewer customers and providing 5,700 customers with water for irrigation. The plant is scheduled to be operational in November 2024.
- There was a concern brought to Ms. Goode's attention regarding a JEA pump station off San Pablo Road; the bushes and landscaping are overgrown.

Renee Goode – 904-665-6000

JPL – Raelyn Wiirre introduced herself, Ms. Wiirre is the manager of the Pablo Creek Regional Library. Ms. Wiirre shared the following announcements:

- Jax Student Poetry Contest is now open for students in grades 4-12. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in three age categories. The original poem should not exceed one page in length. Submit your poem to any branch library by April 30, 2022.
- Drop-in Genealogy Class will be offered to begin your family tree research on Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 3:00pm - 4:00pm at the University Park Branch Library.

Raelyn Wiirre – rwiirre@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Jared Chemay reported on behalf of Bradley Clayton, Supervisor provided the following updates:

- Code Compliance completed a systematic inspection in the Hidden Hills community and this inspection generated 111 new cases.
- The next systematic inspection began today in the Southside Estates Community.
- There were 1074 inspections were completed in the past 30 days and 7550 inspections completed year to date.

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>

Bradley Clayton – BClayton@coj.net or 904-255-7038

Planning and Development Department – Erin Abney informed the CPAC that LUZ Subcommittee reviewed 5 LUZ applications. Erin Abney and Vice Chair Keeley shared the applications that were reviewed at the LUZ Subcommittee meeting.

Erin Abney – Eabney@coj.net

Public Works – Steve Long reminded the CPAC that curbside recycling collection resumed last week and some of the collection dates have changed. Call 630-CITY or visit MyJax on the COJ website to confirm your collection dates.

In preparation for the upcoming hurricane season and summer rainfalls, the Public Works Department has contracted a company to clear all the drainage/outfall ditches in the city. In the GAB District, all ditches in the 32211, 32216 and 32224 zip code areas have been cleaned. Ditches in the 32225, 32233, 32246 and 322277 will be cleaned next. At this time, plans are to have every ditch cleaned in the City of Jacksonville every 12 to 18 months.

Steve Long – Slong@coj.net

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

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Vice Chair Tim Keeley - the LUZ subcommittee presented one recommendation from the LUZ Subcommittee. The recommendation is:

- Denial of AD-22-23 at 3264 Townsend Boulevard. This application seeks to reduce the required land use buffer width along the north and south boundary line from 10 feet to 0 feet. The motion was made, there was a second, no discussion, the motion carried.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – roadway improvements along Fort Caroline Road, near Holy Spirit Catholic Church are under way. So far 14 trees have been planted as part of the improvements.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – shared there is median on Fort Caroline Road that has multiple trees growing in it that have become overgrown. As part of the improvement project the limbs of these trees have been trimmed. This same median will also receive a landscape irrigation.

Mr. Hawkins reminded the CPAC that the City of Jacksonville has two programs that will plant trees on public lands. If you would like to learn more about the programs, please contact Mr. Hawkins.

It was announced that a coalition has been formed between Scenic Jacksonville and the Sierra Club to encourage everyone to plant wildflowers.

Membership – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

DCPS Sales Surtax Oversight Committee - Delmas “Dedee” Harper – not present

Park Safety Council – Mary Jane Brewer – was unable to attend the meeting, but shared the following report:

Park Safety Council Chair Tyson confirmed all council members reviewed the Park Safety Council report. It was noted that council members found it challenging to complete a proper review because of the lack of updated information and not having access to the other issues submitted by email, calls, or submitted to MyJax. From the review of the Safety Reports the following actions will occur:

- The Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Department is working on creating a process to consolidate all reported safety issues into one program or report.
- Use of the data from the combined reported issues will help set safety standards and allow staff to see the trends of issues. It was requested that the reports be sent to the Park Safety Council in an excel format instead of a PDF, making the information easier to sort.
- Plans are in place to inspect the parks associated with public schools during the summer while the students are out for summer break.
- It was confirmed that a running report would be helpful and would also assist when providing updates to citizens regarding the status of materials or the anticipated time of corrective action. It was determined that a supervisor enters comments in MyJax, and an email is auto-generated and sent to the citizen indicating if the issue has been assigned to someone to be completed or if the issue has been closed. Occasionally the PRCS Department will reach out to the customer if more information is needed.
- There was an inquiry as to what actions had been taken to rectify a few hazardous issues reported at Glynlea Park, 6801 Altama Road. Actions taken at Glynlea Park included tearing down a building with no roof, removing dirt clay piles, removing old piles of fencing, and clearing away a fallen tree. The park is not leased to an organization, but small maintenance items are the responsibility of the licensed softball association at this park. Large maintenance items are the responsibility of the PRCS department. The softball association has priority use of the park for games and practices.

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – vacant

TRUE Commission- John Roberts stated the TRUE Commission reviewed the following items:

- The TRUE Commission approved the release of their report titled, *Peer City Review*. For the report, nine cities similar to Jacksonville in population and that have combined city-county governments were selected for study along with Jacksonville. This report focused on staffing and funding of police. A copy of the report was sent to all CPAC members prior to the CPAC meeting.
- TRUE reviewed the Bill introduced by Duval County Public Schools to ask voters to approve a 1 mill ad valorem tax to attract and retain highly-qualified teachers and staff through additional compensation, enhance art, music and athletic programs, and provide proportionate funding for charter schools, to continue and sustain improvements in the quality of Duval County's school system.

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski introduced Lisa Ransom, Manager of the Neighborhood Services Office. Ms. Ransom shared information about the 2022 Neighborhood Awards competition.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Awards Competition is to recognize neighborhood groups that have emphasized volunteerism, leadership, projects, and events that have been a benefit to their communities. All projects and events should have occurred in 2021. Paper copies of the applications are available for those in attendance and the applications will be emailed to everyone. The deadline to submit an application is June 3, 2022.

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

Chairs Report – Reminded the CPAC members that the CPAC has an opening to serve on the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (North Florida TPO or NFTPO) and to serve as the Membership Subcommittee Chair.

Chair Messer thanked Vice Chair Keeley for conducting the GAB CPAC March meeting in his absence.

Old Business - none

New Business – Member Nina Pougiouklidis informed the CPAC that she has been contacted regarding the upcoming roadwork on San Pablo Road. Ms. Pougiouklidis will share information about the upcoming meeting through Rosemary.

Public Comment – none

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion and a second.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, May 9, 2022 - 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.