

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

August 8, 2022, Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Robert Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove Condominium; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Michael Journey, City Council District 4; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Sheila Lithwiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougliouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Assoc.; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.

Excused: Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; John Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills; Barbara Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills

Visitors: Anne Waldron, COEA; Leanna Pearce, Duval Democratic Environmental Caucus; Keith Johnson; Trish Kapustka, Jax Chamber Arlington; Ray Evans, COEA; Dewitt Robinson

Staff: Chester Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, City Council District 1; James Carroll, Public Works; Jared Chemay, Municipal Code Compliance; Brittany Figueroa, Planning and Development Department; Steve Long, Public Works; Dan Piastuck, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Raelyn Wiirre, JPL

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Messer called the August 2022 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Presentation(s): No Presentation

Elected Officials Report:

Chet Aikens – Executive Council Assistant, Council District 1 shared the following information:

- Tomorrow, August 9, 2022, City Council will meet at 5:00 pm in City Council Chambers, everyone is invited to join the meeting.
- Classes resume at Duval County Public Schools on August 15, 2022.
- Council Member Morgan will host her August Town Hall Meeting at Impact Church, Regency Square Mall at 6:00 pm.

- Celebrate Arlington will be held September 24, 2022, to October 2, 2022. A wide variety of activities will be offered

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

Michael Journey, City Council District 4 CPAC Representative – shared the following updates on behalf of Council Member Carrico:

- The council member is working with JSO regarding the homeless population along Beach Boulevard.
- If you have a business along Beach Boulevard and you are experiencing homeless encampments on your property, JSO recommends that a representative from the business to ask the individual(s) to leave. If the individual(s) do not leave upon your request, please call JSO at 630-0500.

Kevin Carrico – 904-255-5204 or KCarrico@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO- Assistant Chief Alicea provided the following updates:

- For the last 30 days, violent crime is 7.69% and property crime is down 16.16%
- Year to date violent crime is down 9.09% and property crime is up 14%
- Retail crime remains a problem in the district. This is mostly due to shop lifting.
- Auto burglaries remains a problem. It is documented that 95% of the vehicles involved in auto burglaries are left unlocked.

Substation 2 – 904-630-8166 or JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org

Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) – Raelyn Wiirre provided the following updates:

- The next Lit Chat is with Julie G. Delegal, Tuesday, August 30, at 6:30 pm. This event will take place live at the Mandarin Library and will be livestreamed online via Zoom. Preregistration is required.
- An upcoming Lit Chat Interview with #1 New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Gilbert, on Friday, September 23, from 6:30-7:45pm at the Main Library's Hicks Auditorium and online via Zoom. Gilbert is the author of books including Eat Pray Love, City of Girls, and Big Magic. Gilbert will be in conversation with local author and journalist Nikesha Elise Williams. Preregistration is required.
- There is an upcoming writer's lab titled Big Magic Creativity and Courage. This workshop will be conducted by bestselling author Elizabeth Gilbert on Saturday, September 24: 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Main Library - Multipurpose Room 1, 2 and 3. Preregistration is required.

Raelyn Wiirre – rwiirre@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick informed the CPAC that JTA will offer Gameday Express for the upcoming football season. To learn more about the parking lot locations, shuttle hours and prices, visit www.JTAFLA.com and click on Gameday Express.

Ms. Riddick reminded the CPAC that JTA Mobilityworks has a 2.5 mile roadway reconstruction on San Pablo Road. The roadway project will include roadway widening, pedestrian/multi-use paths, utility and drainage improvements. Ms. Riddick did want the share a change order. Two additional mid-block crossing points were added; these are not at intersections. The plan revision was created specifically for students who are walking to school. To learn more about this project and the updates visit www.JTAFLA.com and click in Mobilityworks.

In the future, JTA is also looking at roadway projects on Merrill Road and University Boulevard.

Cheryl Riddick – 904-630-3100

Parks, Recreation and Social Services Department – Dan Piastuck provided the following information on park improvements:

- Starting in the fall of 2022, Sunny Acres Park will receive walkway and parking lot improvements to meet ADA requirements.
- Justina Road Park has a lighting project underway.
- Several parks in the GAB District will receive new playground equipment. Those parks include: Ed Austin Regional Parks, Blue Cypress Park, Fort Caroline Park, Isle of Palms Park, Justina Road Park, Parkwood Heights, and Patton Park.

Dan Piastuck - 904-255-7918

Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Jared Chemay reported on behalf of Supervisor Bradley Clayton and provided the following updates:

- Code Compliance will conduct a systematic inspection in the East Arlington Community on August 15, 2022.
- There were 1315 inspections were completed in the past 30 days and 14,064 inspections were 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>

Florida Senate Bill 60 prohibits code inspectors from initiating investigations of potential violations of codes and ordinances by way of anonymous complaints. The tickets will be closed if they are submitted anonymously.

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

Planning and Development Department – Brittany Figueroa – no report

Brittany Figueroa – BFigueroa@coj.net

Public Works – Steve Long provided the following project updates:

- Blue Cypress Park Pool has entered the bid process phase.
- Fire Station 65 (located on Arlington Road south of Atlantic Boulevard) is currently under construction and should be finished in six months.
- Lone Star Road will be extended to connect with Trednick Parkway. This roadway extension is currently in the design/permitting phase. Once this phase is finished, the project will go out to bid.
- Sunny Acres Park will be renovated. The renovation project has been awarded to a contractor and will begin soon.
- Two new traffic lights will be installed on Hodges Boulevard. The intersections that will receive the new traffic lights are located at Hodges Boulevard and Montebello Way and the other at Hodges Boulevard and Hunt Club Road N. A contractor has been awarded.
- St. Johns Bluff Road will receive sidewalks between Atlantic Boulevard and Beach Boulevard.
- Castaway Island kayak launch will be dredged. This will improve the channel to the inner-coastal waterway.
- The Jacksonville Beach Pier is open.
- Oak Harbor Boat Ramp is another dredge project and this project is nearing completion

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 reviewed five applications and one motion was made.

- Denial of 2022-0556 at 651 Commerce Center Drive to rezone 22.9 acres from a PUD to a PUD in order to add major auto repair to the list of permitted uses for electronic vehicles. The denial was for the following reasons:
 - The area is inappropriate for a PUD that would intensify the use of 22.9 acres in a strip mall to allow for a service garage with major repair facilities as well as a vehicle storage area for operable vehicles.
 - Major repair is too open ended and includes outdoor parking for inoperable vehicles. The requests states that the repairs will involve noise, glare, fumes and smoke.
 - This will create a junk yard appearance for the surrounding area.

The motions carried.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – no report

Environment – Lad Hawkins – reminded the CPAC that you can get a tree planted in the right-of-way in front of your home or on public land. Call 630-CITY and request a tree to be planted and you will be contacted by one of the city’s arborists. The funding comes from the city’s tree fund and the trees are planted at no cost to you.

Membership – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

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

Park Safety Council – Mary Jane Brewer – informed the CPAC that the Park Safety Council met on July 25, 2022. The council reviewed reports of the 303 park inspections that were completed. Of those inspections, 136 parks yielded some kind of finding. There was significant conversation on how the hazards would be mitigated and put back into services. The Park Safety Council has requested documentation on how and when the mitigations are completed.

If anyone has any park safety issues, please send them to Rosemary so she can share them with Ms. Brewer.

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Scott Cowitt informed the CPAC that NFTPO is processing his appointment onto the NFTPO CAC and he will have a report next month.

TRUE Commission- John Roberts – not present

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski provided the following updates:

- Thanked Dr. Ramsey Salem for representing the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC at the 2022 CommUniverCity Leadership Training class on July 26, 2022.
- Everyone was reminded about the upcoming Neighborhood Awards Program that will be held at the Mary Singleton Center on October 20, 2022, at 6:00 pm.
- Rosemary also inquired if there were any presenters or topics the CPAC would like to have presented at future meetings.

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

Chairs Report – Vice Chair Keeley informed the CPAC that he will represent the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC when he serves as a judge on the Neighborhood Awards panel.

Old Business - none

New Business – Member Lad Hawkins expressed his opposition to Ordinance 2022-0447 and Ordinance 2022-0448 that will be before City Council. After significant discussion, a motion and a second was made to oppose Ordinance 2022-0447 and 2022-0448 to the proposed revision of 656.403 of Municipal Code Accessory Uses and Structures that would allow accessory structures on land zoned for one single family structures to allow the accessory structures to be rented. It was sited that this change to the ordinance to allow accessory structures would essentially change the City’s Comprehensive Plan. There is concern that this would change single family home zoning to multiple family zoning. All property not protected by a HOA would be impacted. The number of automobiles associated with each property could be increased causing parking and traffic issues. The motion passed.

Public Comment – Visitor Dewitt Robinson introduced himself and acknowledged he is a football coach at Parkwood Heights Elementary School Park at 8061 Lone Star Road. Mr. Robinson stated the football fields that his teams use abuts abandoned property that they would like to clean up. Mr. Robinson would like some assistance in identifying the property owners so he could reach out to them about cleaning up the property. Mr. Robinson was introduced to the Code Compliance Officer Chemay to discuss the property.

Member Michael Jurney shared a brief interview from a local panhandler.

Visitor Trish Kapustka reminded the CPAC about an upcoming week-long event called Celebrate Arlington that will be held September 24, 2022, through October 2, 2022. A 5k will kick off the celebration followed by a community bizarre at Norman Studios and a boat tour by Old Arlington Inc. There will be a Community Night Out, JAX Chamber Arlington Council Panel Discussion with Council Member Morgan and Tim Cost, President of Jacksonville University. Visit CelebrateArlington.org for more information.

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion and a second; the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, September 12, 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.