

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

### **November 14, 2022, 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; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Delmas “Dedee” Harper, POISE, 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; Shelia Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Leanna Pearce, Duval Democratic Environmental Caucus; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougipoklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.

**Excused:** Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association

**Visitors:** Anne Waldron, COEA; Diana Richardson, Mayport Landing; Maaten Rotman; Mary Castors; Lynn Thompson; 904-631-6401

**Staff:** The Honorable Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1; Chester Aikens, Executive Council Assistant, City Council District 1; Erin Abney, Planning and Development Department; Devron Cody, Municipal Code Compliance; Steve Long, Public Works; Dan Piastuck, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department; Jamar Smith, JFRD; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Raelyn Wuirre, JPL

**Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Messer called the November 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 October 2022 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

**Presentation(s): Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans Department,** provided an overview of the services offered by this department. The Military Affairs and Veterans (MAV) Department not only addresses the needs of members of the armed forces and veterans, but also offers services for their families. Services offered include:

- Assistance with filing claims and applying for social and educational assistance.
- Celebration of Valor
- Veterans Services
- Social Services
- Jobs For Veterans - Career Source is in the MAV office every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

- Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program (HVRP)
- Events (Veterans Day Parade, Army/Navy Watch Party, Military Spouses Night Out)
- Florida Defense Factbook
- Veterans Council of Duval County
- Northeast Florida Military Veteran College Network - to ensure support for military students.
- Free tax preparation

To contact or request a service please call: Military Affairs at (904) 255-5522 or Veteran Services at (904) 255-5550

### **Elected Officials Report:**

**Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1** shared the following information:

- Council Member Morgan will host her November Town Hall Meeting at Citadel Church, 1057 Arlington Road, 32211, at 6:00 pm on November 28, 2022.
- As an update to the LUZ Application (Ordinance# 2022-713) located at 8300 Merrill Road (formerly Lakeview Christian Fellowship Church). Council Member Morgan provided the following information:
  - Curtis Hart, LUZ Applicant Agent has spent a lot of time in the community to work with the adjacent neighbors in effort to resolve some/most of the issues associated with the project.
  - The Renew Arlington CRA Advisory Board has recommended denial on the project.
  - Council Member Morgan stated she requested a deferral on the application and is waiting on a traffic study.
- A Household Hazardous Mobile Waste collection event will take place at Ed Austin Regional Park on November 19, 2022, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Joyce Morgan – 904-255-5201 or [joycemorgan@coj.net](mailto:joycemorgan@coj.net)

### **Staff Reports:**

**JSO- Assistant Chief Alicea** – Crime stats for the past 30 days reflect property crime is down 17.8% and violent crime is down 8.55%. Year to date, violent crime is down 6.4% and property crime is up 7%. Most of the property crime can be attributed to auto burglaries, shoplifting and theft of catalytic converters.

A CPAC member informed Assistant Chief Alicea that there is a traffic situation on San Pablo Road as a result of how JSO is directing traffic by Alimacani Elementary School and the River City Science Academy Charter School; specific details related to the traffic issues were provided.

The CPAC members identified a couple of intersections where panhandling is creating traffic safety issues especially in areas with roadway construction.

Substation 2 – 904-630-8166 or [JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org)

**JFRD – Lieutenant Jamar Smith** reminded the CPAC that:

- We still have a couple weeks to go in hurricane season. Everyone was encouraged to download the JAXReady app to get up-to-date hurricane information.
- As the cooler weather arrives, JFRD recommends that homeowners have their chimneys inspected and/or cleaned prior to using them. Everyone was encouraged to operate space heaters safely and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

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

- Starting on November 17, 2022, Friends of the Library will hold a book sale at the University Park Branch Library. The sale will conclude on Sunday, November 20, 2022.
- SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and our local Area Agency on Aging. Specially trained volunteers can assist you with your Medicare, Medicaid, and health insurance questions by providing one-on-one counseling and information. SHINE services are offered at various libraries throughout the city. For more information, visit <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/>

Raelyn Wiirre – [rwiirre@coj.net](mailto:rwiirre@coj.net)

**JTA – Cheryl Riddick** was in attendance via Zoom. Due to technical difficulties the CPAC members could not understand Ms. Riddick’s report. Ms. Riddick will email the report to Rosemary to distribute to the full CPAC.

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

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services – Daniel Piastuck** provided the following updates:

- All of the parks, community centers and sports facilities will be inspected to see if any damage has occurred from Hurricane Nicole. So far, no significant damage was identified, but cleaning debris has been the biggest need.
- Playground installations are still expected and on schedule for Ed Austin Regional Park, Isle of Palms Park and Parkwood Heights Park for this year. In early 2023, playground equipment will be installed in Fort Caroline Park, Justina Road Park, Patton Park and Blue Cypress Park.

Daniel Piastuck – [Dpiastuck@coj.net](mailto:Dpiastuck@coj.net)

**Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Devron Cody** shared the following updates:

- In Zone 2, there were 1048 inspections were completed in October and 471 inspections completed so far in the month of November.
- Last month a systematic inspection was completed in the East Arlington area and 203 violations identified.
- In late December 2022 or early January 2023, a systematic inspection will be conducted in the Woodland Acres area.
- A number of roofs have been tarped due to Hurricanes Ian and/or Nicole. An emergency declaration has been established to allow roofs to be tarped for up to six months without penalty.

- 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.

Supervisor Cody answered several questions that were specific to individual neighborhoods.

Devron Cody – [Dcody@coj.net](mailto:Dcody@coj.net)

**Planning and Development Department – Erin Abney – no report**

Erin Abney – [Eabney@coj.net](mailto:Eabney@coj.net)

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

- Mr. Long confirmed that he is now the Director of Public Works Department.
- Director Long reminded the CPAC about the November 19, 2022, Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collection event at Ed Austin Regional Park. Director Long also announced there will be a second Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collection event on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at Blue Cypress Park. Both mobile collection events will be held 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- Citywide, there were only minor damages associated with Hurricane Nicole. The St. Johns River breached the bulkheads downtown and in parts of San Marco and Avondale. Several roads were flooded; the most severe flooding was in the Mayport area. The Jacksonville Beach Pier sustained minor damages as well. Citywide, 85 trees (on public property) fell; all the trees have been cleaned up and debris removed.

Director Long answered several questions that were specific to individual neighborhoods.

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

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

**Nomination Subcommittee:** Amita Agnihorti, Kacy Evans, Dedee Harper, Lad Hawkins, and Justine Wadyko were the co-chairs/members of the Nomination Subcommittee. Ms. Wadyko presented the 2022 Slate of Officers to the CPAC members, Ms. Wadyko called three times for nominations from the floor and there were none. It was announced that Tim Keeley will serve as GAB CPAC Chair in 2023 and Delmas “Dedee” Harper will serve as Vice Chair.

**LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Vice Chair Tim Keeley** - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed two LUZ applications that were on the monthly Planning and Development Report and took no

action on either application. The LUZ Subcommittee also discussed Ordinance # 2022-0713, the LUZ application that was discussed during Council Member Morgan’s report. After a significant amount of additional discussion, the CPAC made a motion regarding the application. The motion is:

Denial of 2022-0713, 8300 Merrill Road. The Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizen Planning Advisory Committee has the following concerns regarding the application:

- **Traffic Capacity:** An ineffective measure, average daily traffic, was used rather than Peak AM and Peak PM for the traffic study. The additional traffic offers no mitigation for the existing traffic congestion during Peak AM and Peak PM.
- **Traffic Safety:** Connectivity to Hartsfield Road was abandoned in latest project plan. Hartsfield Road connectivity would aid with traffic ingress and egress and safety.
- **Renew Arlington Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) vision:** Project scope is inconsistent with the Renew Arlington Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) vision
  - This parcel was identified in the CRA as a catalytic node along the Merrill Road corridor leading to Jacksonville University.
- **Stormwater:** Compensatory storage requirement for stormwater in the CRA is unmet.
- **Buffer Requisite:** The siting of the multifamily buildings abutting the surrounding single-family residences creates a fire safety concern.
- **Parking:** The project’s product mix with a significant concentration of 3-bedroom units offers inadequate parking, less than 1.75 per unit.
- **The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizen Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) did not receive any notification about this application in its Land Use and Zoning subcommittee. Only concerned District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC members and residents brought this application forward to the broader CPAC.**

The motion passed unanimously.

**Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – no report**

**Environment – Lad Hawkins – no report**

**Membership – vacant**

**Ad Hoc Committees:**

**DCPS Sales Surtax Oversight Committee - Delmas “Dedee” Harper – the next quarterly meeting will be held on November 16, 2022.**

**Park Safety Council – Mary Jane Brewer – no report**

**North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Scott Cowitt – no report**

**TRUE Commission- vacant**

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

- Rosemary Wesolowski presented the GAB CPAC Chair Will Messer with an appreciation award from the 2022 Neighborhood Services Office Award Program. The CPAC members expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Chair Messer for his leadership.

- Rosemary led a discussion regarding the December 2022 CPAC meeting with the CPAC members. After much discussion, it was determined that the GAB CPAC December meeting would be an abbreviated meeting followed by a social gathering. Everyone that would like to participate in the social gathering will bring their own snack/refreshments.

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

**Chairs Report** – Chair Messer thanked the CPAC for their support over the past three years and stated that he plans to remain a CPAC member. As this was the last full CPAC meeting of the year, Chair Messer brought his wife to the meeting and introduced her to the CPAC members.

Chair Messer informed the CPAC that he attended the quarterly CPAC meeting with the Mayor’s Staff. At the meeting, Chair Messer again shared the concern about invasive plants over taking preserve land, thus spreading onto private property. At this time, there is not a definitive answer to the problem. Also at the Mayor’s Staff meeting, it was also announced that Animal Care and Protective Services is overcrowded and needs help. If you would like to adopt a pet or foster a pet, please call 630-2489 for details or visit Animal Care and Protective Services in person at 2020 Forest Street.

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** – none

**Public Comment** – Anne Waldron introduced herself as a Council on Elder Affairs (COEA) member. This is a voluntary advisory board that focuses/advocates on elder issues. Ms. Waldon also resides in the Arlington area and has submitted paperwork to become a GAB CPAC member representing her condominium association.

**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, December 12, 2022 - the meeting will be held in-person at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will be available virtually on Zoom.