

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

### **August 12, 2024, Meeting Summary**

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

#### **Meeting Attendance:**

**CPAC Members:** Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Point HOA; Robert Beckham, Pelican Bay HOA; Cheryl Brantley, Hidden Hills Country Club Estates HOA; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas "Dedee" Harper, POISE, Inc.; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbors; Alexander Hoffman, Ashley Green HOA; Tim Keeley, Chair, Kensington Association; Sheila Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Joe Mantione, The Woods Community; Donnie Oulton, Glynlea Park Neighborhood Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.

**Excused:** Marion Anglin, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA

**Visitors:** Gary Dickinson, Grove Park HOA; Janice Curry, Celebrate Arlington; Steve Kapustka, Old Arlington Inc.; Trish Kapustka, Old Arlington Inc.; Vincent Saladino, Jacksonville University

**Staff:** Assistant Chief Alicea, JSO; Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; Connor Corrigan, Planning & Development Department; Devon Holland, JPL; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

**Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Keeley called the August 2024 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** – Approval of the July 2024 meeting summary with the correction on page 2, paragraph 1; change the street name from Merrill Road to Fort Caroline Road.

**Presentation(s):** **Fre Berley, Military Affairs and Veterans Department (MAVD)**, informed the CPAC about the services, events and opportunities offered through the MAVD.

Services offered through Military and Veterans Affairs Department include:

- **Veterans Services:** staff can assist veterans, widows and surviving children with filing a VA claim, identifying benefits, complete and file paperwork, and advocate on the veteran's behalf. Additionally, they can provide help with pre-determination burial for the national cemetery; VA home loan programs, and DD Form 214, Discharge Papers and Separation documents among other services.
- **Social Services:** Thanks to the Jaguars Foundation, MAVD assists Veterans with housing and utilities through either no-interest loans, grants, and budget counseling. The Jacksonville Veterans Resource and Reintegration Center (JVRRRC) can assist with employment. They also offer the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.

- Outreach: These services are provided through the Career/Veterpreneur Summit; free yearly tax filing; free monthly legal services; and support through the website, phone calls or offices visits.
- Advocacy: The MAVD manages up to \$4 million in local, state, and federal grants at any one time.
- Encroachment Protection/Compatible Land Use Program: this is a program that encompasses 1,770 acres of land that surrounds around our local military bases. This program can assist the community with concerns/complaints about military bases, aircraft noise and other issues, such as safety and environmental impacts to land uses around airports.
- Jacksonville was designated a Purple Heart City in June 2024.
- Special Events: These events include the Homeless Veteran Stand Down; Military Spouse's Night Out; Memorial Day Observations and the Veterans Day Parade to name a few.
- Food Farmacy is offered twice a month at the Mayport USO.
- The military flags that are displayed in front of City Hall (in James Weldon Johnson Park) will be relocated and mounted to the front of City Hall in the near future.
- There are plans in the next few years to open a Veterans Community Wellness Center in the Emerald District (near Hogan's Creek).

For additional information, please contact the Military Affairs and Veterans Department at 904-255-5550.

**Elected Officials Report:**

**Staff Reports:**

**JSO – Assistant Chief Alicea** presented the following JSO report for District 2:

- In the past 30 days in District 2:
  - There were 253 incidents of crime against persons, which is up 11 incidents from the prior 30 days.
  - There were 361 incidents of crimes against property, which is down 57 incidents from the prior 30 days.
- Thefts of Hyundais and Kias remain a problem.
- Sheriff Waters held his District 2 Town Hall Meeting on August 8, 2024, at The Church of Eleven 22 (651 Commerce Center Drive, Suite 100) at 6:00 pm.
- Everyone was reminded to participate in the 9:00 pm routine; remove all valuables from vehicles and lock your car every night at 9:00 pm.
- Due to Hurricane Debby, JSO postponed National Night Out; a makeup date has not been determined.

Assistant Chief Alicea – 904-630-8166

**Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Devon Holland introduced herself to the CPAC and provided the following information:

- The JPL Summer Learning programs and the free summer lunch program ended on August 2, 2024. The programs were a big success, thousands of children logged hours of reading, attended numerous educational programming and many won prizes.
- Early voting began on August 5<sup>th</sup> and will end on August 18<sup>th</sup> at most libraries. However, on Election Day (August 20, 2024), voters must vote at their assigned precincts only.
- JPL will reinstate the Books by Mail service. This is a free service, but you must register for the service; please call 904-255-BOOK for assistance with registration and/or additional information.
- The Jax Book Fest will return to the Main Library on September 20-21, 2024. Please visit: <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/new-york-times-bestselling-author-gabrielle-zevin-jax-book-fest> for more information.

Devon Holland – [DHolland@coj.net](mailto:DHolland@coj.net)

**JTA – Cheryl Riddick** highlighted the following information:

- JTA's Game Day Express is available for transportation to and from the Jaguar games and for some college games.
- Game Day Express shuttle service begins operating two hours before kickoff and ends one hour after the end of the game. There is continuous service throughout the game.
- Game Day Express offers wheelchair accessible shuttles; these shuttles are only available at the Kings Avenue Parking Garage.
- For more Game Day Express information, please visit: <https://www.jtafla.com/ride-jta/bus-schedules-and-services/gameday-xpress/>
- JTA is offering the My Ride to School program again for the 2024/2025 school year. This program allows middle school and high school students a ride to school for free on a JTA bus after they show their valid student id.
- Service enhancements will be implemented to increase the frequency of bus service, especially in peak commuting hours. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Cheryl Riddick – 904-630-3100

**Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Robert Bautochka shared the following updates:

- In the past 30 days, 1,231 inspections were completed, and 322 snipe/litter signs were removed.
- Campaign season is upon us. Campaign signs are allowed on private property and must be placed 10 feet away from the right of way. The property owner can have one campaign sign per candidate and one sign per issue. In addition, the property owner can also have one free expression sign. All election signs are required to be removed within seven days after the election.
- The growing season is here. Grass and/or weeds must be 15 inches in height before it is a violation.
- 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.

Robert Bautochka – [RBautochka@coj.net](mailto:RBautochka@coj.net)

**Planning and Development Department – Connor Corrigan** – no report

Connor Corrigan – [Ccorrigan@coj.net](mailto:Ccorrigan@coj.net) or 904-255-7844

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

**LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Mike Corcoran** stated the subcommittee reviewed three applications and presented two motions to the CPAC. The motions were:

- Denial of SW-24-07 (2024-0616) 3044 San Pablo Road (RE# 167080-0000) to increase the maximum size of a sign from 24 sq ft to 30 sq ft and reduce the maximum setback from 25 feet to 1 foot. The GAB CPAC recommends denial because:
  - The proposed change is vehemently opposed by the surrounding communities for the severe safety issues this change will cause. The community sent several residents to speak at the CPAC to advise on how this will adversely affect the safety for pedestrians and motor vehicles egressing the property and using the pedestrian sidewalks on this busy North/ South thoroughfare.
  - The reduction of minimum setback would put this sign 1 to 2 feet from the edge of the proposed improvements to San Pablo Road as well as completely block the vision of cars, attempting to exit the property of pedestrians and bicyclists utilizing the sidewalk or the proposed bike lane. The San Pablo expansion project does not appear to have been considered when this proposal was developed.

The CPAC voted unanimously to deny the application.

- Denial of WRF-2416 (2024-0540) 0 N. Gerona Drive (RE# 166872-0020) to reduce the required minimum road frontage from 48 feet to 0 feet. The GAB CPAC recommends denial because:
  - The property does not meet the minimum lot size to build a home on.
  - There is no current water or sewer service on the property.

The CPAC voted unanimously to deny the application.

**Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge** – not present

**Environment – Lad Hawkins** – stated that he is working with JAA regarding the trees that were removed at JAXEX at Craig Airport. Council Member Gay, District 2, had scheduled a town hall meeting to address the tree removal, but the meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Debby. Mr. Hawkins will keep us posted on any updates.

**Membership** – vacant

### **Ad Hoc Committees:**

**North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Scott Cowitt** – shared that the NFTPO is conducting the third and final survey for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). To participate in the survey, please visit: <https://northfloridatpo.com/news/take-the-final-lrtp-survey>. The survey will be available to the public until August 30, 2024.

**Park Safety Council** – is currently vacant. CPAC Member Donnie Oulton has submitted an application and he is hopeful to hear an update soon.

**TRUE Commission - Alex Hoffman** – the TRUE Commission is currently reviewing the COJ 2024-2025 budget. The commission is focusing on budgetary changes. Currently, the Property Appraisers Office and the Tax Collectors Office budgets have requested the biggest changes/increases. The TRUE Commission will review these changes line item by line item.

**Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski** informed the CPAC that the NSO office received a lot of nominations for the Neighborhood Award program this year. The finalist for each award will receive a letter from the NSO Office by Monday, October 7, 2024. The Neighborhood Award Program will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the Jacksonville Public Main Library, 303 N. Laura Street from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 904-255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

**Chairs Report** – Chair Keeley confirmed that there was an increase of Neighborhood Award applications submitted for this year's Neighborhood Awards Program and shared that the CPAC Chairs served as judges in reviewing the applications.

**Old Business** – none

**New Business** – none

**Public Comment** – Visitor Janice Curry, representing Celebrate Arlington informed the CPAC about the September 20 and 21, 2024 Arlington Community Festival. Most of the events/activities will take place at the corner of Cesery Boulevard and Commerce Street. On Friday night (September 20, 2024) the event will kick off with live music followed by showing the movie IF at 7:30 pm on an outdoor screen. Then on Saturday morning (September 21, 2024) the day will begin with a 5K and a Kids Fun Run through the streets of Arlington. For more details, visit: <https://www.celebratearlington.org/>

Visitor Trish Kaputska, member of Old Arlington Inc. (OAI), announced OAI will hold their 8<sup>th</sup> annual Mid Century Modern Home Tour on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Flyers were available for complete details.

**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 9, 2024, the meeting will be held in-person at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building Cafeteria, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will also be available virtually on Zoom.