

Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

October 24, 2022, Meeting Summary

Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Brandon Andersen, Villa San Jose Civic Association; Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; Joyce Brown, Pine Forest Community Action Corp.; Walter Bryant, St. Nicholas Area Preservation; Richard Cardell, The Lakewood Community; Ramon Day, Timberland Ridge HOA, Inc.; Carol D’Onofrio, Deercreek Owners Association; Sharon Ervin, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc; Joanne Parker Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic; Jose Gonzalez, Mandarin Community Center; Blake Hakimian, Northwest Quadrant Equity Owners; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; William Herron, Shiloh Creek; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Debbie Johnson, The Gables HOA; Scott Koslowski, James Island Homeowners Association; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Sherri Marks, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Abby Howard Murphy, Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA; Rowena Nagales, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA; Robin Pickle, Briarwood Neighborhood Association; John Reed, Linkside at Baymeadows; Linda Gail Rowe, Lake Mandarin HOA; Craig Shoup, Council At-Large Group 2; Jon Singleton, San Marco; Kathy Soares, Highland Glen HOA; James Taylor, Deerwood Improvement Association; Denise Torres, The Arc Jacksonville Village; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mill Community Association, Inc.; Gary Weise, Secret Cove Civic Association

Excused: Ryan Colvin, Bayard Community Association; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association

Visitors: Cliff Green, The ARC; Susan Bailey, Linkside Baymeadows; John Nooney, Pottsburg Creek; Simone Davis, Williamstown; Steve Davis, Williamstown; Omega Allen Mayoral Candidate; Maureen Elise Devlin, Village Green at Baymeadows; Bonny Benton; Corey Wright

Staff: The Honorable Danny Becton, City Council District 11; The Honorable Michael Boylan, City Council District 5; Devron Cody, Municipal Code Compliance; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development Department; Nikki Evans, At-Large Group 2, Executive Council Aide; Charles Johnson, JFRD; Eric Soriano, JPL; Robin Smith, Public Works; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

Call to Order/Verify Quorum:

Chair Joanne Griffin called the SE CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Mandarin Senior Center and on Zoom. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The September 2022 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

Presentation(s): James Kowalski, Jr., President and CEO, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. provided an overview of the civil legal services that Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. (JALA) offers to the community.

JALA serves 17 counties of North Florida including Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Nassau, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union.

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. (JALA) provides civil legal help to eligible clients in many areas of the law. JALA provides the following services:

- Self Help Resources
- Free Legal Clinics
- ADA
- Foreclosure Intervention Program
- Ask A Lawyer Events
- Free Legal Clinics and Pro Bono services

To learn more about the services offered or upcoming events, please visit: <https://www.jaxlegalaid.org/>

Elected Officials Report:

The Honorable Danny Becton, City Council District 11 – provided the following updates:

- Council Member Becton met with the Planning and Development Department Director to discuss the six planning districts. It was stated that the district boundaries were established in 1985 and were created for data analysis. The census track was partly used to create the boundaries. Any boundary changes would need to be approved by the Mayor/Executive Branch and the Planning and Development Department.
- At Fort Family Regional Park, construction began on three baseball fields that will have AstroTurf fields and a facility for concessions/restrooms. Two flex fields are also under construction; one field will have AstroTurf and the other will have natural grass. Completion date is expected to be mid to late February.
- For additional information about happenings in City Council District 11, please visit Council Member Becton’s website: <https://dannybecton.org/>

Council Member Becton – dbecton@coj.net or 904-255-5211

The Honorable Michael Boylan, City Council District 5 – Provided the following updates:

- The Critical Quality of Life Issues (CQLI) Special Committee was created to address access to healthcare, affordable housing, and homelessness in Jacksonville. Thus far, the special committee has met three times and has used subject matter experts to inform them on the needs and services currently available citywide. The results and recommendations that The CQLI Special Committee is tasked with developing will be presented in a report to the full City Council at the December 13, 2022, City Council meeting.
- The next Council District 5 Town Hall meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. There will be a Round Robin table discussion at the November meeting and the following participants will be in attendance:
 - Michael Pinckney – Superintendent, Solid Waste Department
 - Michael Chao – Director of Code Enforcement
 - Assistant Sheriff Craig Waldrup – JSO Zone 3 Chief
 - Tim Rogers – Executive Director, Jacksonville Public Library
 - Mike Hogan – Supervisor of Elections (tentative)

- Also at the November 2, 2022, town hall meeting, Ms. Kim Smithers will be making a brief presentation regarding IQ Fiber’s plans to install broadband fiber in the Mandarin area and what the installation process entails.

Council Member Boylan – MBoylan@coj.net or 904-255-5206

Nikki Evans, City Council At-Large Group, Executive Council Assistant – provided the following updates:

- The Mental Health Offender Program held a graduation ceremony last week and the program can now add five more graduates to their success story.
- The Special Committee on Solid Waste was formed with the task of looking for a new way to deal with solid waste locally. As a member of that special committee, Council Member Salem is looking at ways to divert some of our solid waste from our landfill and to create compost areas. The council member is working with Duval County Public Schools to see if there is a way to create and implement a policy / procedure for this process by testing options using solid waste from our schools.

Council Member Ron Salem- RSalem@coj.net or 904-5216

Staff Reports:

JSO – Assistant Chief Waldrup, shared that currently Zone 3 (Southeast District) has the highest volume of JSO calls for services in Jacksonville and the call volume has been that high for the past few months. In Zone 3, violent crime is up, and property crime is down over the past 30 days.

JSO continues to work on stopping illegal street racing, panhandlers, traffic, and elimination of homeless camps. The CPAC was reminded to not leave their valuables and keys in unlocked cars. The 9pm Routine was encouraged.

Zone 3 Substation – 904-630-8100

JFRD – Captain Johnson, Fire Prevention Division, informed the CPAC that this is Fire Prevention Week. Everyone was encouraged to change their batteries in their smoke detectors and to be mindful of the location/age of their home fire extinguishers.

JEA – Shay Hill acknowledged that the price of natural gas is at a 15 year high nationally, thus driving up the cost of electricity locally. As soon as the cost of natural gas goes down, that reduction will be passed on to JEA customers. If you are having problems paying your electric bill, please call JEA at 904-665-6000 to set up a payment plan.

This is also International Fraud Week. Everyone was reminded that JEA will never ask you to pay with a prepaid debit card or call you to give you a warning that your power will be turned off. There is never a single notification (much less an one hour notice) that your power will be turned off.

JPL – Eric Soriano, Library Manager, provided the following updates:

- Early voting started today. Please visit: <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/> to see which libraries are offering early voting.

- E-resources; if you need assistance with learning how to use electronic devices, free services are available every Wednesday at 3:00 pm at the Southeast Regional Library in the Electronic Classroom near the lobby.
- Friends of the South Mandarin Library will hold a three-day book sale starting on November 16 and will end on November 19, 2022. Please visit the JPL website for more details.
- Students who are currently enrolled at FSCJ can borrow a laptop and/or hotspot for use throughout a full academic term. The laptop/hotspot is available on a first-come, first-served basis at these Jacksonville Public Library locations:
 - Charles Webb Wesconnett Regional
 - Bradham and Brooks Branch
 - Highlands Regional
 - Pablo Creek Regional
 - Bill Brinton Murray Hill
 - Main Library

Please note: Only one laptop and/or hotspot is issued per library account. Check out and return must be done at the same location. Laptops will be available for holds placement but may only be checked out at the laptop's or hotspot's home location. Laptops/hotspots are not transported through delivery from one library location to another.

Eric Soriano – esoriano@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance Division –on behalf of Robert Bautochka Zone 3 Supervisor, Devron Cody, Zone 2 Supervisor announced that the rescheduled Pine Forest systematic inspection will be conducted on November 7, 2022.

In the past 30 days, 623 inspections and year to date 13,103 inspections were completed in the Southeast District. Seventeen citations were written for snipe signs on the right-of-way.

The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was reviewed. 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 with 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>

Robert Devron Cody – 904-255-7055 or rbautochka@coj.net

Planning & Development Department – Kaysie Cox informed the CPAC that the Planning and Development Department is working with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and a local Technology Planning Team to assess broadband (internet) access for Jacksonville's citizens and businesses. There are two surveys, one for citizens and one for businesses. Everyone was encouraged to participate in the survey. Hardcopies of the surveys were available for all in attendance.

Kaysie Cox – 904-255-7853 or KaysieC@coj.net

Public Works – Robin Smith reminded the CPAC that this is the start of the fiscal year, and the Public Works Department is finalizing their new projects.

Robin Smith – 904-255-8710 or RobinSmith@coj.net

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

LUZ– Craig Shoup – stated the subcommittee reviewed twelve new LUZ applications and two old LUZ applications. The subcommittee made a motion for one of the applications:

Deferral for E-22-70 at 3423 Loretto Road until more information about the proposed school could be obtained. There was a second for the motion, followed by discussion. The CPAC voted unanimously to send a letter.

Membership – Ramon Day – no report

North Florida TPO – Jim Hill – presented a report from the NFTPO, the report included:

- FDOT has requested funding to improve the intersection at Belfort Road and J. Turner Butler Boulevard (S.R. 202). FDOT would like to redesign and install a diverging diamond interchange at this intersection. An overview of how a diverging diamond interchange works was discussed.
- To learn more about this or other FDOT projects, visit: www.NFLROADS.com and scroll down to Duval County. Click on the Duval County link to see a complete list of local FDOT road projects.

Park Safety Council – Walter Bryant informed the CPAC that the Park Safety Council met earlier in the day and reviewed safety inspection reports from February to September 2022.

In Zone 3, 112 inspections were conducted. During this period, 64 of the parks had no issues and 48 of the parks had a variety of potential safety hazards; none of which were classified very serious. The most common safety hazard was not enough mulch under playground equipment.

If you see any potential safety issues or maintenance issues, please call 630-CITY to report.

To review the statistics and other data related to the Park Safety Council, please visit:

www.coj.net/departments/parks-recreation/park-safety-council

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ramon Day provided the following updates:

- On August 4, 2022, the TRUE Commission unanimously adopted Mr. Day’s report on staffing JSO’s empty positions and staffing needs for potential population growth.

Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski shared the following updates:

- It is time to form a Nomination Subcommittee. At least three individuals are needed to volunteer to serve on this temporary subcommittee; please contact Rosemary.
- Announced at the October 20, 2022, Neighborhood Awards Program several awards were presented to those attending the meeting tonight. Awards were presented to:
 - Carol D’Onofrio to recognize her service as SE CPAC Chair in 2020 and 2021.
 - The ARC Jacksonville Village for their 2021 SpookTacular
 - John Nooney for completing the most cleanups in the Southeast District in 2021.Rosemary Wesolowski 904-255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair Griffin introduced new member Jose Gonzales representing the Mandarin Community Club.

Chair Griffin inquired if the SE CPAC members would like to have an abbreviated meeting in December, followed by dinner out as a group. The CPAC members stated they would like to hold a holiday social in December. A recommendation was presented by SE CPAC Member Scott Koslowski; he spoke to the owner of Leci’s Italian Café, 9475 Philips Hwy, STE 8, 32256 about hosting a dinner for the SE CPAC members at this restaurant. The owner is willing to set up a private room for our group and to offer an all-you-can-eat buffet for a set price. The price is to be determined. There was an inquiry if any of the CPAC members would like to recommend a different restaurant near the Mandarin Senior Center; no additional recommendations were made. There was a brief discussion about the date to hold the meeting in December. If the Senior Center is available, December 19, 2022, was the preferred date for the December SE CPAC meeting.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business: - None

Public Comment –

- Omega Allen introduced herself and announced that she is a City of Jacksonville Mayoral candidate.
- Visitor John Nooney expressed his concern regarding land that was cleared cut from the 3000 block of Parental Home Road to Pottsburg Creek. Mr. Nooney has reached out to several local, state, and federal agencies to express his concern about the land that was cleared as well as the health of Pottsburg Creek.

Motion to Adjourn – the meeting ended at 9:04 pm

The next meeting of the District 3 CPAC will be a hybrid meeting on **Monday, November 28, 2022**, at 6:30 pm. Join us in-person at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 or virtually on Zoom.