

Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

September 7, 2022 Meeting Summary

Hybrid Meeting:

Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, First Floor Training Room, Jacksonville, FL 32202 and on Zoom

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Kim Pryor, Chair; Bryant Shumaker, SPAR Council; Celia Miller, Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A; Ernest Smith III, Plaza Condominium Association; Bill Hoff, SAMBA; Greg Radlinski, Vice-Chair; Becca Dinger, 2nd Mile Ministries; Juanita Senior, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; Deloris Swain, Grand Boulevard Crime Watch; John Shermataro, SAMBA; Terry Canty, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts

Excused: Keith Davis, All Things Common Ministries, Inc.

Visitors: Maggie Fernandez; Richard Lewis; Van Thomas; Peggy Lee; April Wilson; Linda Harris; Victor Coleman; Jeanette Mitchell; Barry Farmer; Marcia Ellison; Lauren Steif; Angelina; (404) 580-0075; Dennis Stone; Brenda Ford

Staff and Elected Officials: Darryl Willie, Duval County Public School Board Chair; Warren Jones, Duval County Public School Board Member, District 5; Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; Nicole Evans, Council Vice President Ron Salem; Keli Likins, JPL; Dana Kriznar, DCPS; Charles Johnson, JFRD; Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans Department; Lauren Christiansen, Parks, Recreation and Social Services; Jessica Denson, Neighborhood Services Office; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office;

Meeting Summary

- **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Pryor called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Jessica Denson confirmed a quorum was present.
 - **Approval of Previous Meeting's Summary:** The August 2022 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC members.
 - **Presenter:** No presentation
 - **Public Comment:** None
 - **Elected Official's Report:**
 - **Nicole Evans, Executive Council Assistant, Council Vice President Ron Salem, At-Large Group 2** - stated the City Council Finance Committee has completed their line-by-line review of the City of Jacksonville 2022/23 budget. Council Vice President Salem has partnered with and allotted his city council funds to the Northeast Florida Healthy Coalition to purchase a bus to serve as a mobile pantry. This mobile pantry will provide diapers, formula, pregnancy tests and materials to the community. Ms. Evans announced she will be out on maternity leave December 2022 through February 2023.
 - **Daryl Willie, Duval County School Board** – thanked everyone for voting to approve the 1 mill property tax increase on behalf of Duval County Public Schools. Mr. Willie explained the breakdown of how and when the additional funds will be spent.
 - **Warren Jones, Duval County School Board** – no report
 - **Chairs Report:** Chair Pryor reminded the CPAC about the November CPAC Chair and Vice Chair elections. A Nomination Subcommittee was established, and the members are Dimitri Demopoulos, Ernest Smith and Bryant Shumaker.
 - **Staff Reports:**
 - **JSO** – not present
 - **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD)**- Charles Johnson, Fire Captain Prevention 40, reminded the CPAC members of hurricane season and encouraged the CPAC members to download the JaxReady App to receive updates regarding their evacuation zones. As an update, Captain Johnson shared fire extinguishers typically last 10 years and should be rotated to keep the contents loose. Captain Johnson can be reached at johnsonc@coj.net.
 - **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)**- Keli Likins announced:
 - The Jacksonville Main Library will be open for ArtWalk tonight and September is National Library Sign-Up Month; swing by and get a library card if you do not have one.
 - Lit Chat Interview with Elizabeth Gilbert on Friday, September 23, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Participants can register at <https://jaxpubliclibrary.libnet.info/event/6919969>.
 - Writer's Lab: Big Magic Creativity and Courage workshop with Elizabeth Gilbert on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Participants can register at <https://jaxpubliclibrary.libnet.info/event/6919999>.
- Keli Likins may be reached at KLikins@coj.net or (904)255-6090.

- **Parks, Recreation and Social Services** – Lauren Christiansen provided the following updates:
 - The Emerald Trail Model Mile is under construction. Work on McCoy's Creek will begin in November and it is expected to take 18 months to be completed.
 - Ground was broken at the Lift Every Voice and Sing Park; this project is expected to be completed in 9 to 12 months.
 - The Klutho Park playground has been installed. Fencing, trash cans and benches are on order.
 - The Flossie Brunson Park playground equipment is on order.
 - In October, the Northbank Riverwalk will enter into phase one of the tree replanting and bench rejuvenation project.
 - Ms. Christiansen will follow up on the status of the following: playground equipment at Grunthal Park; the status of improvements at Myrtle Avenue Park and crossing McCoy's Creek in this area; why the gazebo at McPherson Park is fenced up, the status of Raymond E. Davis Park sidewalk easement improvements and the status of Friendship Fountain Park.

Lauren Christiansen can be reached at LChristiansen@coj.net

- **Military and Veterans Affairs** – Tiffany Morales provided the following updates:
 - The Veteran's Day Parade will held in November. Applications to participate in the parade will be accepted until September 30, 2022.
 - Saturday, September 10, 2022 is Veterans National Suicide Prevention Day. In honor of this day, a family friendly event to support our veterans will be held at Vystar Downtown from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
 - On Saturday, September 18, 2022, Freedom Grant - Honor Our Veterans Event will be held at the Jacksonville Elks Lodge #221, 1855 West Road from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The event will provide information about available resources.

Tiffany Morales can be reached at TMorales@coj.net

- **Municipal Code Compliance (MCCD)** - Robert Bautochka, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that in the past 30 days, MCCD completed 1,342 inspections in the Urban Core District and 15,902 inspections in the past 365 days. In the past 30 days, 141 snipe signs removed. At the August meeting concerns were expressed about three properties off West Eighth Street; all were inspected and two have made corrections and abatement has been completed on the third property. There was a concern about trash cans remaining at the curb full of garbage for extended periods. Robert Bautochka can be reached at RBautochka@coj.net or (904)-255-7055.
- **Neighborhood Services Office (NSO)**- Jessica Denson extended an invitation to the CPAC to attend the Neighborhood Awards Program on October 20, 2022, 6:00 pm at the Mary Singleton Center. Ms. Denson then shared the bittersweet news that she has resigned from her current NSO position to join newly elected City Council Member Tyrona Clark-Murray as her Executive Council Assistant. Ms. Denson shared that she would return to future CPAC meetings to provide updates from City Council District 9. The CPAC thanked Jessica for all of her hard work and commitment.

- **Old Business** – Member Ernest Smith inquired if the UC CPAC CIP recommendation that were submitted this year are funded. It was explained that the 2022/23 budget has not been approved yet.
- **New Business** –
 - Member Celia Miller inquired about the length of time JEA takes to replace street light bulbs and the light poles. A light pole needs to be replaced on the east side of Myrtle Avenue near 15th Street. The issue has been submitted to MyJax for some time. Chair Pryor will use the JEA website to request the pole replacement.
- **Subcommittees:**
 - **Blight and Code Enforcement:** No report
 - **Homelessness:** No report
 - **Governmental Affairs:** No report
 - **Public Comments** –
 - Chair Pryor turned the meeting over to the Vice Chair Radlinski in order to discuss a building in LaVilla located at 618 West Adams Street. It was stated the structure was purchased in June 2020 with the intent to retrofit the structure into a restaurant, private club and rooftop lounge. It has since been announced that the buyers cannot restore the building to fit their proposed concept. In June, 2022, Elev8 Demolition formally applied for a permit to demolish the structure which is one of LaVilla's few remaining century-old structures. Chair Pryor stated she requested

that the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission open a Landmark Application to designate this structure as an Historic Landmark. The commission agreed to sponsor the application, delaying the demolition until the research is completed. Chair Pryor made a motion that the UC CPAC send a letter to the Historic Preservation Commission requesting this property receive landmark designation. There was a second followed by a conversation; the motion passed unanimously.

- Visitor Barry Farmer stated he was looking for resources to conduct clean ups throughout his neighborhood. Mr. Farmer was referred to contact Dan Durbec at Clean it Up, Green it Up, ddurbec@coj.net. It was also recommended that he contact Kelly Rich, the Executive Director of SPAR, Edward Waters University and FDOT.
- Visitor Linda Harris resides in the Myrtle Avenue / Moncrief Road area and has concerns regarding individuals walking in her community using profanity and being loud. She inquired if anyone could help curtail this behavior. Ms. Harris was encouraged to attend a Sheriffs Watch meeting, to call JSO and ask for a supervisor and to return to the UC CPAC meeting next month to speak to the Assistant Chief for the area.
- Visitor Lauren Steif works for a public affair and public relations firm called Tucker Hall which will launch Cuppa Jax locally. Based on Tampa's successful Café con Tampa events, Cuppa Jax is launching on September 14, 2022, at 8:00 am at Riverplace Tower and will offer gatherings for neighborhood and community leaders. The cost is \$15 per person; scholarships are available.
- Member Rebecca Dinger stated 2nd Mile Ministry hosts neighborhood forums on the last Tuesday of each month. This month the Executive Director of the Blue Zone will present at the 2nd Mile Ministries Headquarters, 4003 N. Pearl Street at 5:30 pm to discuss their health initiatives that will be implemented in five area zip codes.

- **Adjourn:** There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next Urban Core CPAC Meeting is Wednesday, October 3, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Ed Ball Building, First Floor Training Room and via Zoom.

Summary prepared by Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net. A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website: [Public Records](#).

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to ADAAccommodationRequest@coj.net