

Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

June 8, 2023, Meeting Summary

Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Rd., 6 pm
ZOOM Meeting ID: 864-3543 1494 Passcode: 630145

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members - Leroy Kelly (Acting Chair), Carver International; Elaine Billups, Better Living Community Association, Inc.; Jacqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Henry Scott, North Riverside CDC; Lana Suggs, Carver international; Shirley Thomas, North Riverside CDC; Doretha Tompkins, Riverview; Vanessa Cullins-Hopkins, Pebo Corp;

Excused: Rhonda Boyd, Chair (Timber Oaks HOA); Victor Coleman, Vice Chair (Central Fairfax Community Association); Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Waynetta McGraw, Jacksonville Ranch Club II; Kim Stephens-Perry, North Jacksonville Trout River Manor Neighborhood Association

Guests: Sallie Barnes, Robinson's Addition; Dr. Antonia Bryant, Lake Park; Garold Smith, ADG Group; Kim Maye, BTS Duval; Skylar McKnight, S & K Consultants; Mildred Jennings, NWJCDC & Sherwood Forest; Althea Mikell, Sherwood Forest Community

Elected Officials and City Staff: Tyrona Clark-Murray, City Council District 9; Jessica Densen, City Council District 9 Executive Council Assistant; Warren Jones, Duval County School Board; Paula Renfro, Duval Schools; La Dora Taylor, Parks, Recreation and Community Service; Damian Bell, JFRD; Adam Scott, JPL; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Services Office; Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance

Meeting Summary

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Due to the excused absences of the Chair and Vice Chair, Leroy Kelly, chair of the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee served as Acting Chair for the meeting. The meeting of the Northwest CPAC was called to order at 6:15 pm. Michelle Godwin-Ware confirmed that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary: Membership approved the May 11, 2023, Northwest CPAC Meeting Summary.

Presentation: Garold Smith, Business Development and Communications Director, Acuity Design Group (ADG) Mark, provided an update on the City of Jacksonville Parks Master Plan, and identified ways for the CPAC/public to be involved once the project begins. ADG is part of a collaborative consulting team. The goal is to create a 10-year vision for the parks in Jacksonville. Mr. Smith said this would include upgrading and improving existing parks and adding new parks where appropriate.

The study is not yet ready for public participation, but the project website just went live a few days ago: www.ImagineJAXParks.com. There will be a survey later in June asking for input. If you would like to receive emails and an invitation to participate in the study, please sign up with your contact information.

Kristin Caborn, Project Manager – GAI Consultants, reiterated that the planning effort will be comprehensive. For those who are participating via ZOOM, please send an email to Hello@ADGMark.com. further information will be forwarded to the NW CPAC Coordinator who will disseminate the information to the NW CPAC Membership.

Garold Smith, Business Development and Communications Director, Acuity Design Group, 904-619-8605

Elected Officials' Report: The Honorable Warren Jones, Duval County Public School Board Member, District 5, acknowledged the presence of Paula Renfro from the school superintendent's office. Board Member Jones thanked everyone for their support over the years, and especially for their support of the half penny and millage increase.

Dr. Dana Kriznar has been appointed the new Superintendent, with a six-month contract, which will give the school board time to do a national search. The school district will begin the discussion of the search for a new superintendent on Wednesday, June 14 at 12:30 pm, in Room 613 of the School Administration Building, 1701 Prudential Drive, in Jacksonville.

Board Member Jones made a statement regarding Dr. Diane Green's early retirement and spoke very highly of her many accomplishments, including having been twice voted Superintendent of the Year for the entire State of Florida and as a finalist for the National Superintendent of the Year.

He further stated that kindergarten and new student enrollment is in full swing. NW CPAC Participants were invited to visit their neighborhood school to enroll or see school choice for options about open seats. Visit: [Duval County Public Schools / Homepage \(duvalschools.org\)](http://DuvalCountyPublicSchools.org)

The Honorable Tyrona Clark-Murray, representing Council District 9 – stated it was “good to be home,” as the NW CPAC is where she got her start, and that CPACs are key for communities advocating for themselves. “This is where the knowledge and power to change things comes from.”

The City of Jacksonville just elected a new Mayor (Donna Deegan) and she will be putting together a new leadership team. Council member Clark-Murray informed NW CPAC participants that they should consider serving on a board or a commission and urged everyone to go to: commissions23@coj.net to view the list and apply based on interest.

The Council member also discussed the “Pedestrian Safety Ordinance,” and although it was voted on some time ago, the section pertaining to individuals soliciting in the middle of the median has been in the media quite a bit and it affects groups like high school sports teams that come together and solicit in different intersections. These “Charitable Solicitations” must now go through a permitting process. There is no application fee. The Public Works Department will provide a safety vest and appropriate signage. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) will be notified that there's a group in the area, so there won't be any issues. Other stipulations, include, no one under the age of 18 is permitted to be in the median and the organization must keep a copy of the permit on hand.

(Ord. 2002-852-E, § 1; Ord. 2008-513-E, § 1; Ord. 2011-732-E; Ord. 2013-209-E, §§ 24, 40; Ord. 2014-667-E, § 1; Ord. [2016-140-E](#), § 16)

Tyrona Clark-Murray, City Council District 9 TClarkMurray@coj.net or 904-255-5209

Chair's Report – none.

Staff Reports

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO): Lt. John Gay stated that he will get information on which roadways are impacted by the Distributing and Solicitation Ordinance to the Chair. He also stated that Jacksonville has a very high pedestrian homicide rate and that the requirement of signs, safety vests and training on how to conduct charitable solicitations in the median, in a safe way, should have a positive impact on lowering the number of pedestrian accidents.

Regarding crime statistics, Lt. Gay is pleased to report a reduction in both violent and property crimes. He encouraged NW CPAC members to considering joining the Sheriff's Watch, which meets monthly and is an opportunity to meet face-to-face to discuss any issues, to fellowship and get to know the people in your area.

JSO is hiring. Goto: www.JoinJSO.com for a full list of positions. The sheriff's office is in need of correction officers, community service officers, dispatchers, etc.

A JSO Realignment will probably take place sometime in the fall. It's been 26 years since the last one and it is overdue. The purpose is to better serve the citizens and reduce call/response times. The Sheriff will hold public meetings so that he can speak to and hear directly from the community. Lt. Gay will forward the dates to the CPAC as soon as they are available.

Zone 5 Substation – 904-470-8900 or JSOZone5@jaxsheriff.org

Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD): Captain Damian Bell spoke about heat related issues and injuries and strongly encouraged taking the following precautions: limit outdoor activities as much as possible; stay hydrated; wear loose fitting and light-colored clothing; do yardwork either early in the day or later in the evening; practice water safety; and pay close attention to children near the water.

Captain Bell announced that smoke detectors are distributed year round as well as battery replacement. Contact 630-CITY for more information.

Captain Damian Bell, Fire Prevention DamianB@coj.net or 904-255-3280

Jacksonville Public Library (JPL): Scott Adams, Highland Branch Manager reported on events taking place this weekend – and noted that the Summer Programs have started. Many of the branches are offering free lunch at 11 am for those 18 and under. The Charles Webb Branch (on 103rd by the Walmart) offers Career Services every Friday from 10 am to 4 pm – for resumes and job searches. The Eastside Branch has a sewing program, “Stitch Please,” on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm

Mr. Adams announced that Bookfest will take place September 20 through 23 this year. Details to follow.

Contact Scott Adams, JPL Highland Branch Library Manager, at SAdams@coj.net or 904-255-2665

Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA): Cheryl Riddick reported that Duval County Public School Students were required to relinquish their school ID cards at the end of this school year; and since the My Ride to School Program requires high school and junior high school students to show their school IDs, to ride the bus for free, they may show a copy of a printed report card or proof of DCPS Enrollment via mobile phone instead. This policy will end August 15, 2023, as students will be returning to school on August 14th and will be issued their new school ID Cards. Fliers were sent to the school district for appropriate distribution.

Contact Information: www.jtafl.com Phone: 904-630-3100

Military Veterans Affairs (MVA): no report.

Municipal Code Compliance (MCC): Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that there were 1,275 inspections since last month, bringing the total for this area to 8,500 year to date inspections. Fifty litter signs (also known as snipe signs which are attached to trees, utility poles, public property or public utilities) were pulled since last month, for a total of 180 year to date.

The JAR Program, Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program, is designed to help those individuals who cannot necessarily afford to abate nuisance debris, board-up unsafe structures, graffiti, etc. Eligibility is based on income or disability. A citizen who has been cited and is unable to pay for remediation, can fill out the application for assistance.

Brian Naples, Code Compliance Supervisor at BNaples@coj.net or 904-697-7290

Parks, Recreation and Community Services: La’Dora Taylor, District Manager, offered additional information about swim safety and suggested those who are interested to visit JAXParks@coj.net for information on swim lessons and financial vouchers or email SplashSquad@coj.net for more information.

Ms. Taylor reported on playground improvements completed. Additionally she brought fliers for upcoming summer youth programs and events and stated that the majority of community centers are offering free lunch programs. Summer camp sessions are full, but parents may want to get placed on the waiting lists in the event that there are openings. Financial vouchers are also available for some of the activities.

LaDora Taylor, Parks District Manager at LadoraM@coj.net or 904-255-7946

Subcommittee Reports:

- **T.R.U.E. Commission:** Velma Rounsville – no report
- **Governmental Affairs/LUZ (Land Use and Zoning):** LeRoy Kelly, Chair
Meeting was called to order at 5 pm. The subcommittee reviewed and discussed six (6) applications:
 - **Ordinance 2023-0331:** seeks to rezone multiple properties from Commercial Community/General-1 (CCG-1) to Public Buildings and Facilities-1 (PBF-1) for the New Medical Examiner’s Office. **Recommendation:** No action taken; allow the community organization to address this issue. **J. Harrington moved to support taking no action and allowing the city and community residents to address this issue, seconded by E. Billups and passed unanimously.**
 - **Ordinance E-23-041:** seeks an exception for a daycare to have 44 children in Commercial Residential and Office (CRO) **Recommendation:** approve all remaining sites. **J. Harrington moved to support, seconded by E. Billups and passed unanimously.**
 - **Ordinance V-23-07:** seeks to increase size of accessory structure from 780 sq. ft. to 2,520 sq. ft. for a carport/garage for storage purposes only in a Rural Residential-Acre 4.81 acres (approved)
 - **Ordinance 2023-0362:** seeks to rezone a portion of the property from industrial Business Park (IBP) to Industrial Light (IL) acres (approved)
 - **Ordinance 2023-0365:** seeks to rezone the property and restore it to the previous Roost Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Ordinance 2016-55-E) with some minor improvements .90 acres (approved)
 - **Ordinance SW-23-06:** seeks to reduce setbacks from 10 feet to 2 feet in Commercial Residential Office (CRO) .17 acres (approved)

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Public Comments:

Michelle Godwin-Ware introduced Ms. Edwina Henry, who was hired this week to be the CPAC Coordinator for the Northwest and Urban Core CPACs. Ms. Henry gave a brief statement of her background and stated that she was very, very pleased to be in the City of Jacksonville in this capacity with the Neighborhood Services Office.

Adjourn: There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 8 pm

NOTE; NW CPAC will not meet in July The next Northwest CPAC Meeting is Thursday, August 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Rd., FL 32219 & ZOOM

Summary prepared by Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8260 or EHenry@coj.net. A copy of the audio recording of this Northwest 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 ADAAccommodationsRequest@coj.net