

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

January 11, 2021 Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Will Messer, Chair; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair; Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Mike Anania, Arlington Business Society; Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Andre Boutte, Hickory Creek HOA; Pam Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenny Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas Harper, POISE, Inc.; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Shelia Lithwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Joseph Manitone, The Woods Community; Pete Miller, Indian Springs Community Association; Peter Mione, Old Arlington Inc.; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; John Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

Excused:

Visitors: Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove; Cliff Hardy, University Park Civic Association; Carol D’Onofrio; Donnie Oulin GPNA; Mike Corcoran, Kensington

Staff: Nikki Evans, City Council At-Large Group 2, Executive Council Assistant; Assistant Chief Burton, JSO; Renee Barnhart, JSO; Patrick Guoin, JFRD; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Steve Long, Public Works; Connie Quinto, Planning and Development Department; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Bradley Clayton, Municipal Code Compliance; Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance; Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office.

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Messer called the January 2021 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The November 2020 meeting summary was approved.

Presentation(s): No presentation

Elected Officials Report:

Nikki Evans, City Council At-Large Group 2, Executive Council Assistant stated Council Member Salem has received several calls requesting a new 2021 trash/recycling calendar. Ms. Evans informed the CPAC if they turn the 2020 calendar over, you will find the 2021 calendar. Ms. Evans recapped the projects that Council Member Salem has been working on. The projects include:

- Mental Health Offender Pilot Program -to divert misdemeanor offenders with mental health issues out of jail and to provide them with the care they need.
- Renaming of Parks and Buildings – this will include a review from the Historic Preservation Section of the Community Planning Division and to allow community input.
- Improved recycling practices.
- Working with Council Member Joyce Morgan to address violence in Arlington.
- Commemorate the donation of the centennial plaque of the Florida Pharmacy Association.

Ms. Evans provided copies of Council Member Salem's newsletter that provided additional details on the projects that the council member has/is working on.

Council Member Salem - 904-255-5216 or Rsalem@coj.net

Joyce Morgan, City Council Member, District 1 provided the following updates:

- Friends of Blue Cypress Park will meet on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm to discuss park improvements; Executive Council Assistant Chet Aikens will send additional information about the meeting.
- Covid testing and Covid vaccinations will be offered at Regency Square Mall, but in different locations at the mall.
- Council Member Morgan is Subcommittee Chair of the Education, Protection of Local Neighborhoods, and Community Outreach - This subcommittee focuses their attention on ways the City of Jacksonville can better inform its citizens. Ideas for community engagement will be discussed too. An online location of the information: a one-stop-shop for all information related to Resiliency, should be created. This would also include links to other websites where the science and policy documents are housed. Opportunities for education will be thought out. The needs of vulnerable populations will also be addressed here.
- The main entrance at Jacksonville University will be closing soon to allow work on the Merrill Road / University Boulevard roundabout to begin.
- City Council will vote on the proposed Lot J project tomorrow night at the City Council meeting. Council Member Morgan acknowledged she has received many emails and calls in opposition to the project.

Council Member Morgan – 904-630-1389 or joycemorgan@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO – Assistant Chief Burton introduced herself and her assistant Renee Barnhardt. Assistant Chief Burton informed the CPAC she has received several calls and/or emails regarding an increase in homeless population/camps and panhandling in Zone 2. It was stated that due to social distancing at the homeless shelters, a hotel in the Arlington area has opened their doors to help shelter some of those in need. JSO is also working with the Salzbacher Center to provide services to those living in homeless camps that have popped up throughout the city. Additionally, JSO is working with various city commissions and departments to also address the needs of our local homeless population. The CPAC members were encouraged not to give money to individuals that are panhandling. It was stated that panhandling can be very profitable and if panhandlers are not getting money at a certain location, they will move on. Several of the attendees shared where homeless camps could be found. One member inquired about who is responsible to enforce the law pertaining to the use of fireworks in gated communities certain times of the year? It was recommended that the community hire an off-duty officer or have the association address this violation with the offenders.

Zone 2 Substation - Phone: 904.630.8166 or 904.726.5100. Fax: 904.630.8170. JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org

JFRD – Patrick Gouin confirmed that a groundbreaking for the new Arlington area fire station should be in February. The new station will be located near the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and Arlington Road. JFRD expects construction to begin at the end of November or the beginning of December. An additional four manned fire engine will be added to the Fort Caroline Fire Station to help with the additional calls. Additional staff will also be added to the Rogero Road station.

JPL – Jackie Spiritas informed the CPAC that JPL has extended no fines for late returns until April 30, 2021. Ms. Spiritas did emphasize that while there are no fines, everyone is responsible to return the items that they have checked-out from the library. All the libraries are open and are increasing their virtual services and virtual programs that they offer. For complete details, please visit:

<https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/>

Jackie Spiritas – spiritas@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Bradley Clayton introduced himself as the new Municipal Code Compliance. Mr. Clayton informed the CPAC about the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR). 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.

Bradley Clayton - bclayton@coj.net

Planning and Development Department – Connie Quinto did not have a report but was available for questions.

Connie Quinto – ConnieQ@coj.net

Public Works – Steve Long, Chief of Right of Way and Storm Water Maintenance informed the CPAC that the Public Works Department consists of seven divisions:

- The Engineering and Construction Management Division handles planning and engineering of public works projects.
- The Right of Way and Stormwater Maintenance Division maintains the city's streets, sidewalks, and drainage systems.
- The Mowing & Landscape Maintenance Division maintains landscape, including grass, trees, other vegetation, and irrigation, on various city-owned assets.
- The Traffic Engineering Division installs, maintains, and regulates all street markings, signs, signals, and other traffic control devices on city-owned roadways.
- The Real Estate Division handles all aspects of managing the city's real estate holdings.
- The Public Buildings Division provides security, custodial and maintenance for the city's public buildings and facilities.
- The Solid Waste Division ensures proper disposal of solid waste and supervises city landfills.

The Public Works Department is also responsible for the Jacksonville Stormwater Utility and billing the stormwater fee. To request service or report a problem, please call (904) 630-CITY (2489), or visit MyJax on the COJ website or use the MyJax app.

Mr. Long answers several questions and again encouraged everyone to use 630-CITY or MyJax (app or online) to report concerns or requests for service.

Steve Long – Slong@coj.net

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

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs - Mike Anania - left before his report; it was confirmed that no actions, recommendations, or motions were taken by this subcommittee.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – reminded the CPAC to be mindful of moss and fungus in and around your property. Moss and fungus can cause health related issues and can be slippery on payment.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – left before his report

Membership – vacant

Transportation – Chair Messer - no report

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Chair Messer – no report

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – John Roberts stated the commission is very interested in the Lot J project and would like to review any studies on the proposed project.

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski introduced Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office Manager. Ms. Ransom thanked all the CPAC members for attending the CPAC meeting and for participating in the Neighborhood Services Office Awards Program. Ms. Ransom looks forward to the next awards program and encouraged everyone to submit a nomination for their community.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair Messer recognized the visitors in attendance, thanked them and encouraged them to attend another meeting. Chair Messer inquired if anyone had a specific concern or topic that they would like a presentation on. Several suggestions were made: Update on Comp Plans and Resiliency; to address street parking in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan; trash and littering along University Boulevard how to correct this problem. If you have a specific concern or topic of interest that you would like a presentation on, please email your suggestions Rosemary at rosemary@coj.net.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – none

Motion to Adjourn -The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on **Monday, February 8, 2021** at

Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm.