

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

March 14, 2022, Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Bob Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbors; Tim Keeley, Vice Chair, Kensington Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

Excused: Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Sheila Lithwiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Will Messer, Chair, Queens Harbor POA.

Visitors: Joshua Hicks, Ibis Point; Kathy Walker University Park; Linda Nogle, Hawkins Cove; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove; Leanne Pearce, DCDEC of Florida; Kathy Walker; Debi Wagne, Hawkins Cove; Celind Breton, Hawkins Cove

Staff: The Honorable Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1; Erin Abney, Planning and Development Department; Felipe Alicia, Assistant Chief Zone 2, JSO; Jared Chemay, Municipal Code Compliance; Bradley Clayton, Municipal Code Compliance; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Nikki Evans, Executive Council Assistant, City Council At-Large Group 2; Charles Johnson, JFRD; Shawn McCormick, JSO; Chiquita Moore, Neighborhoods Department; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Raelyn Wiirre, JPL

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Vice Chair Keeley called the March 2022 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The February 2022 GAB CPAC meeting summary was approved.

Presentation(s): Jennifer Walter, Chief, Animal Care and Protective Services, presented on the services that ACPS offers to the community.

Services provided by Animal Care and Protective Services include: adoption center; lost pet reunification; medical and daily care of abused, neglected, abandoned, and unwanted pets; pet licensing; resources for pet owners; SpayJax program for income qualified residents; Duval Cat Fix; enforcement of Chapter 462 and State Statute 828; emergency operations and deceased animal pick up.

Chief Walter informed the CPAC on how neighborhoods can handle cat colonies in and around their communities. Community Cat Management is regulated by 462.312(b) and it states that:

- All managed cat colonies must be maintained on private property of caregiver or with permission from property owner.

- Cats must be sterilized, vaccinated against rabies, and ear tipped to be exempt from ordinances pertaining to owned animals.
- Caretaker is required to provide proper nutrition and medical care.
- Trapped cats may be taken to First Coast No More Homeless Pets (6817 Norwood Ave).
- Traps are available for loan at ACPS - \$75 deposit. Refunded when trap is returned.

Duval Cat Fix Program offers:

- Free spay and neuter program for pet, feral, or free roaming cats.
- Only qualification is Jacksonville residency
- Funds are limited.
- To schedule call First Coast No More Homeless Pets: 904-425-0005

Chief Walter did clarify that Animal Care and Protective Services only provides services for domesticated animals. If a community is having problems with wildlife (coyotes, boars, alligators, raccoons) they would need to contact either:

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission North Central Regional Office: 386-758-0525
- Wildlife Rescue Coalition of NE Florida: 904-779-5569

If you are interested in adopting an animal from Animal Care and Protective Services, please know:

- Hundreds of animals are available for adoption every day. Monthly specials make adoption affordable and convenient.
- All animals are current on age-appropriate vaccinations, microchipped, sterilized, dewormed, and started on flea preventative. Dogs are heartworm tested.
- Adoption center hours: Tuesday through Friday from 12pm until 7pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10am until 6pm at 2020 Forest Avenue.

To contact Animal Care and Protective Services:

- To report concerns in the community:
 - Online: myjax.custhelp.com
 - Phone: 630-CITY (2489)
- Pet owners needing assistance:
 - Email: JaxPets@coj.net
 - Phone: 630-CITY (2489)

Chief Walter – JaxPets@coj.net

Elected Officials Report:

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

- Derelict water vessels have become a problem citywide. In the Arlington area, there are several derelict and/or abandon water vessels in and around Exchange Island and the Arlington Road boat ramp. Local officials are working on a plan to remove and properly dispose of these vessels.
- At Blue Cypress Park, the turf field is nearing completion of installation.

- The Special Committee on Solid Waste will meet in City Council Chambers at City Hall, 117 West Duval Street Jacksonville, Florida 32202 on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 10:00 am – 11:30 am. The topic of discussion will be the use of a transfer station.
- On April 4, 2022, curbside recycling will resume in the City of Jacksonville.
- The next City Council District 1 Town Hall meeting will be held on March 28, 2022, at Arlington Baptist Church 6009 Arlington Road, 32211 at 6:00 pm.

Joyce Morgan, 904-255-5201 or joycemorgan@coj.net

Nikki Evans, Executive Council Assistant, City Council At-Large Group 2 – provided the following updates:

- Council Member Salem serves as the Chair of the Special Committee on Solid Waste, Council Member Morgan serves as the Vice Chair, with Council Members Matt Carlucci, Randy White and Reggie Gaffney rounding out the committee.
- On April 4, 2022, curbside recycling will resume in the City of Jacksonville.
- The Mental Health Offender program can boast that on March 21, 2022, there will be six more graduates from the program. The new graduates consist of five men and one woman. Another \$600,000 has been appropriated to keep the program funded and operational.

After Ms. Evans report, there was a question regarding solid waste collection calendars being mailed to the community. After some discussion, it appears the communities that receive waste collection services from Waste Pro have received a waste collection calendar and those that receive waste collection services from Meridian Waste have not received a waste collection calendar.

Ron Salem, 904-255-5216 or RSalem@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO- Assistant Chief Felipe Alicia introduced himself to the CPAC as the new assistant chief for Zone 2 (the Greater Arlington Beaches area) and shared a brief overview of his 18-year career with JSO.

Crime statistics for Zone 2 reflect a 12.7% reduction in violent crime and a 14% reduction in property crime. Auto burglaries continue to be a problem. 75% to 80 % of auto burglaries show no sign of forced entry. The CPAC members were encouraged to remind their communities of the 9pm Routine.

JSO Zone 2 – 904-726-5100

JFRD – Captain Charles Johnson, Fire Prevention Bureau, informed the CPAC that he was attending the meeting on behalf of Lieutenant Craig Fry.

Captain Johnson stated the main focus of the Fire Prevention Bureau is residential fire prevention. The captain explained that once a residential fire occurs in a community, Lieutenant Fry and his team activate a canvassing team and they go door to door in that community to educate the community about fire prevention and importance of smoke detectors. Additionally, this team will replace or install new smoke detectors where needed and assist in replacing the batteries in existing functioning smoke detectors. Everyone was encouraged to test their smoke detectors by pushing the test button on the smoke detector. If your smoke detector is malfunctioning, please call 630-CITY (2489) and request to have a new smoke detector installed.

FDOT – Derek Dixon provided the following GAB District project updates:

- Southside Connector (SR113) resurfacing from the Arlington Expressway to I-295 which began on October 19, 2021. The project includes resurfacing of the roadway, shoulder treatments, drainage, new highway signage and guardrail repairs. Ramps to be resurfaced include the Southside Connector on-and off-ramps at Regency Square Boulevard North, Tredinick Parkway and Merrill Road. In addition, the Merrill Road I-295 northbound ramp, the I-295 southbound flyover and the Southside Connector Service roads will also be resurfaced. Safety improvements include traffic signal, sidewalk and crosswalk upgrades at the Merrill Road interchange and adding bicycle lanes to the southbound and northbound Southside Connector Service roads. Expected completion is Spring 2022.
- FDOT will host a construction open house for the Merrill Road to Wonderwood Drive (State Road 116) resurfacing and improvement project on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at Fort Caroline Baptist Church, 11428 McCormick Road, 5 to 7 pm. This will be an informal open house to share details about the project. The open house will also be accessible online at nflroads.com/virtualmeetings or by phone at (914) 614-3221, access code 784-657-104.

This roadway improvement project will run along seven miles of State Road 116 from east of I-295 at Jane Street to Sandcastle Lane. The project includes milling and resurfacing, base work, curb and gutter, drainpipe replacement and pedestrian safety improvements. This project is expected to start in April and be completed in summer 2024.

- The third project is a safety improvement project on Mayport Road. This project will run from Atlantic Boulevard to Wonderwood Drive. The three-mile project includes new signage, new turn lanes, improved turn lanes, new signage, additional crosswalks, restriping current crosswalks, right turn only intersections and upgraded street lighting. This project will begin soon and should be completed by Fall 2022.

Derek Dixon – Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us

JPL – Raelyn Wiirre introduced herself, Ms. Wiirre is the manager of the Pablo Creek Regional Library. Ms. Wiirre shared the following announcements:

- The Jacksonville Public Library is proud to partner with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) TaxAide again this year during the tax season to provide free tax preparation. Taxes will be prepared by appointment only. To schedule an appointment visit: aarpfoundation.org/taxaide
- Great Decisions: Russia and the U.S. will be held at the Southeast Regional Library (10599 Deerwood Park Boulevard, 32256) on Thursday, March 24 from 7:00pm - 8:30pm. Please join other community members and local experts as they discuss Russia and the United States and the areas of conflict and some possible areas of mutual interest. Arms control, Russian interference in U.S. elections and support of cyberattacks, the status of Ukraine, the fate of opposition politicians in Russia, all continue to be concerning. How will the new administration in Washington approach these issues? Each Great Decisions meeting begins with a video lecture followed by a facilitator-led discussion. Reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book is optional. The facilitator will be Izabela Majewska, PhD, Professor in the Political Science and Public Administration department at the University of North Florida. Pre-registration is mandatory;

please call 904-255-2655 and ask for Learning Services or email JPLPrograms@coj.net to pre-register.

- JPL is proud to partner with Tennikka Hughes anchor of Action News Jax once again for the Tennikka's Books for Kids 2020. This is an annual effort to collect book donations for children who participate in the Jacksonville Public Library's summer learning program. The book drive runs from February 29 - March 14, 2020. You can buy and donate books online for Tennikka's Books for Kids. Books can be purchased on Amazon, just look for the "Jacksonville Public Library's Gift Registry Address" as the shipping address and the books will be shipped directly to the library. Or books can be purchased at the San Marco Bookstore and they will be delivered to the library for you.

Raelyn Wiirre – rwiirre@coj.net

Neighborhoods Department – Chiquita Moore, Operations Director informed the CPAC about the following programs that the Neighborhoods Department has to offer:

- Federal funds for the Mortgage Relief Program are still available. The City of Jacksonville's Housing and Community Development Division continues to provide mortgage relief to assist individuals and families who have been affected by COVID-19. Individuals requesting assistance must be the owner and occupant of the property. The program will provide up to six months of delinquent mortgage payments or \$7,500, whichever is less. Payments will be made directly to the mortgage company. Federal guidelines require qualifying individuals and families to have an income that falls below 80% of the area median income. In addition to the income prerequisite, applicants must provide proof of delinquency, as well as a W-9 form from their lender. For additional information, please call (904) 630-2489 (CITY).
- There are several assistance programs that are offered through the Housing and Community Development Division. All programs listed below require all applicants to be the owner and occupant of the property to be rehabilitated. Applicant must be current on their mortgage, property taxes, and provide proof of homeowner's insurance. However, for applicants, whose total household income is below fifty percent (50%) of the area median income, the insurance requirement may be waived. Income requirements are gross annual household income of at or below eighty percent (80%) of the area median income for Jacksonville, adjusted for household size, as published by U. S. HUD. For more information, please call 904-255-8200. The programs include:
 - *Emergency Repair Program* - Eligible rehabilitation activities include, but are not limited to, the following: electrical components that pose an immanent fire hazard; structural components that show signs of imminent collapse; heating and air condition repair/replace; water heaters repair/replace; ADA ramp; falling ceilings repair (not roof).
 - *Limited Repair Program* - Eligible rehabilitation activities include, but are not limited to, the following: roofing; electrical; plumbing; structural; flooring-walls-ceilings; heating; kitchens; baths; water heaters; doors; exterior paint; windows; septic tanks; lead-based paint testing & remediation and drain fields.
 - *Utility Tap in Program* - Eligible rehabilitation activities include, but are not limited to, the following: connect personal residence to city sewer and waterlines lines if available; failed septic tank, drain field or well water repair/replace; outdated galvanized pipe repair/replace ADA bathroom.

- *Head Start to HOME Ownership Program (H2H)* - The H2H program provides financial aid in the form of down payment and closing cost assistance to eligible families and/or individuals interested in buying a home. Families and/or individuals who do not currently own a house, who will reside in the home as their primary residence and who meet household income criteria will be eligible for assistance pending funding availability. In addition to meeting the income criteria, the applicant must have a minimum down payment of \$500 and \$375 due when the initial inspection is scheduled. Any single-family housing unit newly built or existing (including patio homes, town homes and condominiums) located within the consolidated City of Jacksonville is eligible except mobile homes or manufactured housing.
- *Hurricane Matthew Housing Repair Program* – all applicants must meet the criteria listed above and the repair(s) and damages must be due to Hurricane Matthew. Repairs cannot be completed on a manufactured or modular home.

Operations Director Moore encouraged the CPAC members to call 630-CITY to confirm their waste collection schedule if they have not received a waste collection schedule/calendar in the mail.

With the onset of daylight-saving time, the daylight-saving landscape irrigation rules are back in place. The rules include:

- March-November no watering from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Odd number addresses, or addresses ending with letters N-Z, or no address may water only on Wednesday and Saturday.
- Even number addresses or those ending with A-M may water only on Thursday and Sunday.
- Non-residential addresses may water only on Tuesday and Friday
- Apply up to 3/4-inch or less of water each cycle

Chiquita Moore – ChiquitaM@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Bradley Clayton, Supervisor provided the following updates:

- Code Compliance has an upcoming systematic inspection in the Hidden Hills community next month.
- There were 1068 inspections were completed in the past 30 days.
- Supervisor Clayton introduced Jared Chemay, to inform the CPAC about the Jacksonville Assistance Relief Program.

The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was discussed. 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 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>

Bradley Clayton – BClayton@coj.net or 904-255-7038

JTA- Cheryl Riddick provided the schedule for the Acosta Bridge Light scheme. The colors will vary throughout the month March from Acosta blue, green for St. Patrick’s Day, purple for Women’s History month and orange for kidney cancer awareness.

Ms. Riddick reminded everyone that JTA is hiring and has numerous positions to fill. Please visit JTAFLA.com to see all of the employment opportunities JTA has to offer.

Cheryl Riddick – criddick@jtafla.com

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

Erin Abney – Eabney@coj.net

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

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Vice Chair Tim Keeley - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed eight applications and no motions or actions were taken or presented to the full CPAC.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – encouraged everyone to start their spring yard maintenance and yard beautification programs.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – not present

Membership – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

DCPS Sales Surtax Oversight Committee - Delmas “Dedee” Harper – no report

Park Safety Committee – Mary Jane Brewer – provided the following report: Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Chief, Keith Meyerl, receives a monthly park inspection report that lists all the parks that Park Facility Officer, John Taylor, has reviewed. Mr. Meyerl provided a copy of the park inspection report to the Park Safety Council (PSC) prepared by John Taylor for December 2021 through January 2022. At the time of inspection Mr. Taylor sends a report regarding the park that was inspected to the appropriate PRCS District Managers for that park, as well as the appropriate maintenance personnel so the items reported can be resolved. As the items are completed, they are sent back to Mr. Taylor and noted on the master spreadsheet as completed. Mr. Meyerl explained that the park inspection report is a running list.

Questions brought forth by the Park Safety Council (PSC):

- Do we have the test equipment to use for testing access points, the size of the openings in ladder, netting, and pinch points on the play equipment?

- Are permits required for large gatherings such as birthday parties, weddings, etc.? If so, are there special rules concerning such gatherings and where can they be located? Who, if anyone, is responsible for ensuring compliance with the rules?
- Are signs with rules and requirements posted at parks with special types of equipment such as slides, swings, climbing features, etc.?
- Are signs posted with warning about hazards of equipment located in a park or other city location such as a community center, swimming pool, etc.?
- Do we have the proper test equipment to ensure installed equipment meets the safety requirements such as minimum opening size, dimensions, height, etc.?
- Is there an updated Parks Department Safety Program Manual that provides information on the requirements for use of the Parks Department facilities, the safety requirements of each piece of equipment and who is allowed to use them?
- Are additional safety personnel needed? Perhaps formal inspections should be increased on larger parks and facilities. Currently each park may only get a formal inspection once a year.
- Are use zones identified in parks with multiple pieces of equipment?
- Are all material maintenance issues (repairs, replacement, etc.) inspected by a qualified inspector prior to being returned to the PSC? Does the Parks Division have certified inspectors?
- Are follow-up inspections on newly installed equipment conducted according to the manufacturer's requirements? If items are installed by contractors, is the contractor held responsible for the installation for a period after the installation?
- Are incident investigations completed to identify any hazards that might have contributed to the incident?

Suggestions submitted by Park Safety Council Members:

- The PRCS ensures all installation records, maintenance records, inspection records are completed with all necessary information to properly identify issues, corrective action (to include materials used), and inspections completed after the issue is resolved. This will allow tracking of re-occurring issues and assist in determining if changes in material or other items need to be changed.
- Multiple levels of inspections be done to make sure everything is done correctly by qualified and certified staff.
- Investigation reports would be helpful for the PSC to review to provide an idea of what hazards have been present in the past. Maybe as the PSC is looking at visiting parks or looking at the reports, PSC can keep those hazards in mind.
- All reporting should go through the MyJax Customer Service System regardless of the issue being reported by a phone call or email to the Parks department. This will allow a comprehensive report to be created, identifying the source of the information. There is a need to have some type of audit in the event an incident does occur somewhere. This will assist in knowing that the issue has been logged with the City, and what steps have been taken from a City perspective.

These questions and suggestions will be reviewed and discussed at future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28 at 11:00 am.

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Nicole Hamm – not present

TRUE Commission- John Roberts stated the TRUE Commission reviewed three items and they are:

- A City Controller presented on the I-Cloud Financial system the City of Jacksonville implemented on February 29, 2020. Since implementing I-Cloud there has been a variety of problems to the point that Oracle, designer of the system has had to step in to work on the system. Currently payroll is still working on the old system that was in place before the introduction of I-Cloud. At this time, Detroit and Atlanta are the only other cities that are using I-Cloud and both cities are facing similar challenges.
- TRUE reviewed the quarterly reports Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA), JEA, JTA and Jacksonville Port Authority (JPA). Three of the authorities are reporting surplus funds and one authority is financially breaking even.
- The City of Jacksonville and Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) have reached a mediated settlement with Metropolitan Parking Solutions LLC (MPS) over the company's 2004 development agreement for three Northbank parking garages. The settlement will allow MPS to continue owning the garages but gives operating control and all future parking revenue to the DIA. It also gives the city the option to buy the structures in 2041.

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski shared information about the upcoming St. Johns River Celebration and 27th Annual Cleanup on Saturday, March 19, 2022, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. There are numerous locations citywide. This is an excellent opportunity for our younger neighbors to get community services hours.

The 2022 Jacksonville Neighborhood Awards Competition has returned. The purpose of the awards is to recognize neighborhood groups that have emphasized volunteerism, leadership, projects, and events that have been a benefit to their communities. All projects and events should have occurred in 2021. Paper copies of the applications are available for those in attendance and the applications will be emailed to everyone.

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

Chairs Report – Vice Chair Keeley did not have a report.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – none

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion and a second.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, April 11, 2022 - In person the meeting will be held at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will be available virtually on Zoom.