

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

April 10, 2023, 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; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove Condominium; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas “Dedee” Harper, POISE, Inc.; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Tim Keeley, Chair, Kensington Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.

Excused: Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Shelia Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association

Visitors: Robert Beckham, Pelican Bay HOA

Staff: Chester Aikens, City Council District 1 Executive Council Assistant; Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development Department; Nikki Evans, City Council At-Large Group 2; Steve Long, Public Works; Sara Radovic, JPL; Lieutenant Jarmar Smith, JFRD; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Keeley called the April 2023 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The March 2023 meeting summary was approved by the GAB CPAC members.

Presentation(s): Detective April Cobb, JSO and Detective Harold Chapman, JSO informed the CPAC about identity theft and various types of scams.

The detectives reviewed the most common scams occurring locally. The scams include skimmers at gas pumps or ATM machines, online romance scams, fake calls regarding family emergencies (usual fake grandchildren), fake calls from local utilities and phishing through emails. All of these types of scams should be reported to the police.

Detective Cobb provided a brief overview of how and who to report fraud to and how to start repairing the damage created from an identity theft and/or scam. Materials from the Federal Trade Commission were provided to serve as a guideline to recover from identity theft and scams. This information can also be obtained online at www.IdentityTheft.gov. This information covers personal account recovery, child identity theft, tax identity theft, and medical identity theft.

Elected Officials Report:

Chet Aikens, City Council District 1, Executive Council Assistant provided the following updates:

- The next Council District 2 Town Hall meeting will be held on April 24, 2023, at the Mount Zion United Methodist Church, 1238 Ballard Ridge Road, 32211 at 6:00 pm.
- The next City Council meeting will be held tomorrow night, April 11, 2023 in City Council Chambers; everyone was invited to attend.
- Jax River Jams, free concert series has returned to Riverfront Plaza for the month of April. Each Thursday in April a national headliner and local opening acts will perform for free. Gates open at 5:00 pm

Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1 – 255-5201 or joycemorgan@coj.net

Nikki Evans, City Council At-Large – Group 2, Executive Council Assistant announced Council Vice President Salem’s pilot composting program (for Riverside/Avondale restaurants) will begin next week. The six-month pilot program was designed to test the efficacy and benefits of commercial composting.

Ron Salem, City Council Vice President – 255-5216 or Rsalem@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO – Assistant Chief Alicea announced in the past 30 days, overall violent crime is down 32% and property crime is down 40.8% in the GAB District.

JFRD – Lieutenant Jarmar Smith shared JFRD and COJ Municipal Code Compliance Division are now working on protocols that will be followed after a residential fire.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will offer National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday April 22, 2023. Please use the following web address to find complete details and a location near you. <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>

DCPS – Sharwonda Peeks stated DCPS is currently offering open enrollment for those that are new to Duval County and/or transferring from a private/charter school. The upcoming commencement/graduation school schedule is now available. Please contact your student’s high school to confirm the date, time, and location of the ceremony.

Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) – Sara Radovic provided the following updates:

- The Jacksonville Public Library has partnered with the American Association of Retired People (AARP) to provide free tax preparation again this tax season. Pre-registration is required. This service will end on April 20, 2023. You can still schedule an appointment at: www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/locations or call (904) 701-3462.
- There will be a Lit Chat with local historian Wayne Wood at the Main Library on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 2:00 pm. Registration is required for both in-person attendance and the virtual program. Please use the following web address to register: <https://jaxpubliclibrary.libnet.info/event/8155390>

Sara Radovic – Sradovic@coj.net

JEA – Shay Hill encouraged the CPAC members to visit <https://www.jea.com/> to familiarize themselves with the JEA website; JEA public meeting notices and customer rebate programs information can be found the website. JEA has opened their new headquarters/ Customer Solution Center today. The new headquarters is located at 225 N. Pearl Street, Jacksonville, FL. 32202.

Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Robert Bautochka shared the following updates:

- In the past 30 days, 1617 inspections were completed, and 344 snipe signs were removed.
- The next systematic inspection will be conducted in the Atlantic Beach Estates community.
- 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>

- Florida Senate Bill 60 prohibits code inspectors from initiating investigations of potential violations of codes and ordinances by way of anonymous complaints. The tickets will be closed if they are submitted anonymously.

Robert Bautochka – RBautochka@coj.net

Public Works – Steve Long shared the following updates:

- Fire Station 65 located on Bailey Body Road is now officially open.
- Everyone was encouraged to keep their storm drains clean so the water can move freely and drain properly. Never put yard waste down the storm drains.
- The growing season is here, if you see any city owned property that needs to have the grass mowed, please call 630-CITY or use MyJax to request the property to be mowed.
- Mr. Long confirmed that there will be recycle bin audits completed by an agency that provides this service nationally. The audits will be completed to ensure we are recycling the appropriate items. To confirm the items that can be recycled, visit: www.coj.net/recycleright

Planning and Development Department – Erin Abney – Ms. Abney informed the CPAC that she has received a promotion and this will be her last meeting working with the GAB CPAC.

Erin Abney – Eabney@coj.net

Subcommittee Reports (3-minute time limit):

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Michael Corcoran - the LUZ subcommittee reviewed four LUZ applications and no motions or recommendations were made.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – encouraged the CPAC to read the IFAS newsletter that is shared with the CPAC. The newsletter contains a lot of information about trees and plants that thrive in this area.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – reminded the CPAC about the Tree Commission and the Tree Planting Program. For more information about the Tree Planting program, visit:

<https://www.coj.net/departments/public-works/tree-commission>

Membership – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Scott Cowitt - no report

Park Safety Council – Mary Jane Brewer – no report

TRUE Commission- vacant

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski reminded the CPAC that in October, CPAC's will celebrate their 30th Anniversary. To commemorate this milestone, there was a request for any CPAC memorabilia, especially items, pictures, or appointment letters from the 1990's.

CommUniverCity Leadership Training is still taking applications for attendees. The deadline to apply to attend CommUniverCity is April 27, 2023.

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

Chairs Report – Chair Keeley opened the discussion regarding the GAB CPAC Capital Improvement Project (CIP) recommendations and reviewed the criteria for Capital Improvement Project (CIP) recommendations. After some discussion, the CPAC decided to re-submit three of the unfunded CIP recommendations from prior years. The recommendations include:

1. Build an "over the road walkway" over San Pablo Road in between Alimacani Elementary School (2051 San Pablo Road) and River City Science Academy (2002 San Pablo Road S.)
2. Ed Austin Regional Park: as a safety measure, conduct an engineering study to determine the number of additional lights needed to properly illuminate the parking lot(s) adjacent to the PAL Building and the Jim Fortuna Senior Citizen Center both located within Ed Austin Regional Park.
3. Build a multi-use path/trail system using JEA right-away land. The start of the trail would begin at the St. Johns River (RE#160266-0120 to RE#161135-0000) and continuing east across McCormick Road.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – none

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion and a second; the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, May 8, 2023 - the meeting will be held in-person at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will be available virtually on Zoom.