

## **Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

### **November 22, 2021, Meeting Summary**

**Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257**

#### **Meeting Attendance:**

**Members:** Brandon Andersen, Villa San Jose Civic Association; Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; Joyce Brown, Pine Forest Community Action; Walter Bryant, St. Nicholas Area Preservation; Richard Cardell, The Lakewood Community; Carol D’Onofrio, Deercreek Owners Association; Sharon Ervin, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc; Manny Gonzalez Akers, Pickwick Park; Joanne Parker Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Ralph Hodges, Council-At-Large Group 4; Richard Horvath, Cypress Trails HOA Inc.; Abby Howard Murphy, Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA; Eric Laner, East Hampton HOA; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Rowena Nagales, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association; Robin Pickle, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; Craig Shoup, Council At-Large Group 2; Kathy Soares, Highland Glen HOA; Denise Torres, The Arc Jacksonville Village; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Gary Weise, Secret Cove Civic Association

**Excused:** Ramon Day, Timberland Ridge HOA, Inc.; Debbie Johnson, The Gables HOA

**Visitors:** John Zona, Belfort Estates at Pottsburg; John Nooney; Norman Brewer, Brewer for Jax; Gabriel Divone, Group 4 Design; Wayne Clark; Linda Gail Rowe, Lake Mandarin; Linda Lisella, Lake Mandarin; Blake Hakimian, Northeast Quadrant Equity Owners Association; Ann Clapp, GENA; Richard Skule, GENA; Gary Monahan;

**Staff:** Danny Becton, City Council District 11; Michael Boylan, City Council District 6; John Braswell, JFRD; Michael Chao, Municipal Code Compliance; Bradley Clayton, Municipal Code Compliance; Keli Likins, JPL; Johnetta Moore, Social Services Division; Thomas Register, Municipal Code Compliance; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Paul Soares, DCPS; Assistant Chief Craig Waldrup, JSO; Arimus Wells, Planning and Development Department; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office.

#### **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:**

Chair D’Onofrio called the SE CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Mandarin Senior Center and on Zoom. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary** – The October 2021 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

**Presentation(s):** Alan Bliss, Executive Director, Jacksonville Historical Society provided an overview of the history of Jacksonville and the current activities at the Jacksonville Historical Society.

Mr. Bliss stated for approximately 10,000 years Native Floridians have lived along the St. Johns River. The St. Johns River has had a variety of names, including Welaka, “river of lakes.” It is recorded that natives called the narrow St. Johns River crossing at today’s downtown Jacksonville, Wacca Pilatka, meaning “place of cow’s crossing.”

It has been documented that in 1822 Jacksonville was founded in the area formerly known as Cow Ford. The streets for the new town (Jacksonville) mostly came from land donated by major property owners, Isaiah Hart and John Brady; Isaiah Hart gets the credit as the town's founder as it was his idea.

With the approach of 2022, the City of Jacksonville is preparing to celebrate its bicentennial. In less than a year the citizens of Jacksonville/Duval County will have that chance to celebrate as many organizations make plans to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the founding of Jacksonville.

The Jacksonville Historical Society, in partnership with about two dozen organizations focused in Arts & Culture, Business & Industry, Education, Environment, Faith, Government, Health & Wellness, Media, Nonprofit, and Sports & Entertainment, is planning to kick off the Jacksonville Bicentennial Commemoration in January 2022 with programs and events leading up to a Bicentennial Celebration next June 15, 2022. To learn more about the upcoming the bicentennial please visit: [www.Jax200.org](http://www.Jax200.org).

### **Elected Officials Report:**

**Danny Becton, City Council District 11** – Extended an invitation to the CPAC to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the connection of city water services to the Greenland Heights community on Cordial Drive. Another invitation was extended to attend the next Special Committee on Redistricting on December 6, 2021, at 12:30 pm.

Council Member Becton – [Dbecton@coj.net](mailto:Dbecton@coj.net) or 904-255-5211

**Michael Boylan, City Council District 6** – informed the CPAC that JEA has come to a last-minute agreement with a 301 Capital Partners, LLC (a Ponte Vedra-based developer) that will bring utility service to a very large, new development located on Jacksonville's Westside. The developer, 301 Capital Partners LLC, had asked the state to let it deliver water and sewage services to a 7,000-acre tract of land that's slated to accommodate more than 11,000 homes. Under the agreement reached, 301 Capital Partners will plan and build facilities to produce and treat water and wastewater in the area, and JEA will then purchase those facilities and provide the service to residents. The parties will present the plan to the City Council tomorrow night at the November 23, 2021, meeting.

Council Member Boylan – [Mboylan@coj.net](mailto:Mboylan@coj.net) or 904-255-5206

### **Staff Reports:**

**JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Assistant Chief Craig Waldrup**, stated in Zone 3 (Southeast) in the past 30 days violent crime is down significantly, property crime is about the same and auto burglaries are up slightly.

Assistant Chief Waldrup addressed the following questions or concerns:

- Illegal street racing continues to be a problem and JSO is making headway in stopping the racing. Please call JSO to report any racing in your area.
- Catalytic converter theft has become a problem in Jacksonville. The catalytic converters are targeted because of the amount of platinum they contain and with the right tool, they are very easy to steal. JSO has made several arrests, but it is such an easy and fast crime it is hard to catch anyone in the act.

- Laws have been changed and it is no longer against the law to solicit for funds along roadways. This has created a huge challenge for JSO. The legal department at JSO and FDOT are looking at the possibility of considering panhandling a trespassing offense on the roadways, thus giving JSO more. This is a work in progress. If you find an area that has a significant amount of litter, call JSO so they send in their Blight Unit to access and investigate if needed.
- JSO has plans in place to open a stop station at the St. Johns Town Center soon. The stop station will be located near the Panera's and Joseph A. Banks Store. A JSO Bicycle Unit will also work out of the stop station.
- It was mentioned that pop-up parties have been occurring in various private HOA community centers. The pop-up party attendees typically consist of 20 to 30 underage males that do not live in the community. The roving parties have been recorded on several community centers security systems. Unfortunately, by the time JSO arrives, the party attendees have left the area.
- There was an inquiry if a PAL (Police Athletic League) facility could be built in the Southeast District.
- Everyone was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine; remember to remove valuables and firearms from your unattended vehicles. Remember to lock your car doors when you are not in the vehicle.

Zone 3 substation – 8875 Liberty Ridge Drive, Suite 110, 32256 – 904-828-5463

**JFRD** – John Braswell, Fire Battalion Chief Rescue 56 did not have a report but was available for questions.

**Duval County Public Schools (DCPS)– Paul Soares** announced there is a school bus driver shortage in Duval County. There is a major recruitment campaign in place.

**JPL – Keli Likins, South Regional Manager**, announced that JPL will offer early voting for the special election. Early voting will be held November 27, 2021, through December 5, 2021. Everyone was encouraged to get out and vote.

Keli Likins – [Klikins@coj.net](mailto:Klikins@coj.net)

**JTA – Cheryl Riddick** reminded the CPAC that JTA is hiring a wide variety of positions in their organization. To see a full list of open positions or to learn more about a specific position, please visit: <https://www.jtafla.com/work-with-jta/careers/>

Cheryl Riddick – [criddick@jtafla.com](mailto:criddick@jtafla.com)

**Military and Veterans Affairs** – Tiffany Morales informed the CPAC about the following:

- Thursday, November 11 - November 28, 2021, the Veterans Hall of Fame Display will be open to the public in the City Hall Atrium, 117 W. Duval Street, 32202.
- Friday, December 3Vetrepreneur Summit – Virtual - 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
- Saturday, December 11 - Army Navy Watch Party, Game starts 3:00 P.M. - Gates open 2:00 P.M. TIAA Bank Field, East Club, 1 TIAA Bank Field Dr. - 32202
- Saturday, December 18 - Wreaths Across America - 12:00 P.M. - Jacksonville National Cemetery, 4083 Lannie Rd., 32218

- For complete details on all upcoming Celebration of Valor events that will occur through December 20, 2021 please visit: <https://www.coj.net/departments/military-and-veterans-affairs/events/all-events/celebration-of-valor-2021>

**Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bradley Clayton announced that there is a new Code Compliance Officer in the Southeast District. Mr. Clayton informed the CPAC that 871 cases were inspected in the past 30 days. A systematic inspection was completed in the Windy Hills community which generated 309 violations.

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>

Mr. Clayton reminded the CPAC about State Bill 60 (SB 60). SB 60 amends the county and municipal code enforcement statutes to prohibit county and municipal code inspectors and code enforcement officers from initiating an investigation into violations of city or county codes or ordinances based upon an anonymous complaint. It also requires that an individual making a complaint of a potential violation provide his or her name and address to the local government body before an investigation may occur.

The prohibition does not apply if the code inspector or code enforcement officer has reason to believe the alleged violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare or imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources. The Bill went into effect July 1, 2021.

Bradley Clayton – [bclayton@coj.net](mailto:bclayton@coj.net)

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services** – Johnetta Moore, Chief of Social Services informed the CPAC that the Social Services Division provides funding to support eight State of Florida mandates, two city-mandated programs and four essential city services. The division contracts for mental health and substance abuse services, an indigent cremation/burial program, and homeless outreach services. The division's Emergency Financial Assistance Program addresses the shelter and utility needs of financially challenged households. Rent, Mortgage and Utility Assistance is provided on a short-term basis to eligible households to prevent evictions and homelessness. The division also oversees grants that provide a variety of social services to the community, including HIV/AIDS services, advocacy services for victims of crime and for the elderly and a specialized program for victims of domestic violence.

**Planning & Development Department** – Arimus Wells did not have a report but was available for questions.

Arimus Wells – 904-255-7824 or [ArimusW@coj.net](mailto:ArimusW@coj.net)

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

**LUZ– Joanne Parker Griffin** and the LUZ Subcommittee reviewed ten LUZ applications and no motions or recommendations were made.

**Nomination Subcommittee – Nancy Barry, Donna Herrin, Jim Hill, and Kathleen Perera.** Subcommittee Members Herrin, Hill and Perera attended the in-person meeting and conducted the election. Mr. Hill presented the 2022 Slate of Officers to the CPAC members and Mr. Hill called three times for nominations from the floor. No nominations were made from the floor. It was announced that Joanne Parker Griffin will serve as Chair and Craig Shoup will serve as Vice Chair. Congratulations! We look forward to your leadership.

**North Florida TPO – Jim Hill** prior to the CPAC meeting had Rosemary share the NFTPO tentative road work project list with the CPAC members. The Duval County projects begin on page 36.

**Park Safety Committee – Walter Bryant** informed the CPAC that the Park Safety Committee held a meeting earlier in the day. The committee is tasked with producing a quarterly report and today they received instruction on the criteria to conduct their reviews.

Mr. Bryant learned that annually (sometimes bi-annually) every park in Duval County receives a safety inspection. As a result of the safety inspections, 20 playgrounds have been closed and their playground equipment removed because of safety issues. The committee was informed that \$50 million has been allocated for park improvements. Of which, \$20 million has been allocated for playground equipment, basketball and tennis courts.

The next Parks Safety Committee meeting will be held in January 2022.

**TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ramon Day** - no report

**Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski** – thanked Chair Carol D’Onofrio for serving the past three years as the SE CPAC Chair. It has been a most difficult time to serve as Chair through the Pandemic. Congratulations were extended to Joanne Parker Griffin and Craig Shoup.

Rosemary Wesolowski 904-255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

**Chairs Report – Chair D’Onofrio** informed the CPAC that she attended the quarterly CPAC Chairs meeting with the Mayor’s Staff on November 12, 2021. The follow updates from the meeting were presented:

- Covid relief funds are still available. You can use your MyJax app to apply for relief funds.
- 630-CITY has a new Chat feature available Tuesday through Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm.
- State Bill 60 (SB 60) that amends the county and municipal code enforcement statutes to prohibit county and municipal code inspectors and code enforcement officers from initiating an investigation into violations of city or county codes or ordinances based upon an anonymous complaint was reviewed.
- A copy of the CIP list was provided and shared with the CPAC.
- Several CPAC members have expressed concern about individuals recording video of CPAC meetings on their cell phone. It was confirmed that CPAC meetings are considered public meetings and they can be recorded on a cell phone.

- The December SE CPAC meeting will not have a speaker and the CPAC members will go to dinner after the meeting. Recommendations for restaurants were requested.

**Unfinished Business – None**

**New Business: - None**

**Public Comment –**

- Member Abby Howard Murphy expressed concerns about the MyJax app. Ms. Howard Murphy stated she has not received a response email to most of her concerns that she submits through the MyJax app. The emails would provide progress on the concern reported and that information is sorely missed.

Additionally, Ms. Howard Murphy expressed concern about the functionality of the MyJax app and the time frame in which the problems are being corrected. Currently she has two concerns reported through the MyJax app regarding traffic lights, not JEA streetlights. The issues remain unresolved; it has been over two weeks since reported and they have become a safety issue.

Ms. Howard Murphy would like to see a process improvement on the MyJax app to expedite issues that could be more needing of an urgent response though not an emergency. It was stated that there are many more steps associated with the MyJax app than there was with the old app. Based on all the subcategories, it would seem reporting could get to most reported-most dropped and most passed on to state or non-city agencies to improve usage and directing best to proper authority.

Ms. Howard Murphy recognizes that many of her concerns are state road issues, but it is challenging to know all the areas of FDOT and where to route issue(s) to. Most citizens have no clue as to which streets belong to whom, so seems best to let city sort and hold FDOT accountable. Again, it is most important to update the person that reported the issue so they can know the issue is being handled.

- Member Kathleen Perera thanked and extended her appreciation to Carol D’Onofrio
- Visitor John Nooney stated he had concerns about the FINE Projects and has tried to voice his opinion. Mr. Nooney states he has been shut down and would like to have his concerns heard. Mr. Nooney expressed concerns about the health of Pottsburg Creek. Mr. Nooney thanked Chair D’Onofrio for conducting a good meeting and letting the concerns of the community be heard.

**Motion to Adjourn –**

The next meeting of the District 3 CPAC will be a hybrid meeting on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 6:30 pm. Join us in-person at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 in person or virtually on Zoom.