

Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

June 7, 2021 Meeting Summary

Hybrid Meeting:

Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, First Floor Training Room, Jacksonville, FL 32202 and on Zoom

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Kim Pryor, Chair; Glen VanVorst, Vice Chair; Bill Hoff, SPAR Council; Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral Becca Dingler, 2nd Mile Ministries; Cindy Watson, JASMYN; Juanita Senior, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; John Shermataro, SAMBA; Deloris Swain, Grand Boulevard Crime Watch; Keith Davis, All Things Common Ministries, Inc.

Excused: Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts; Celia Miller, Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A.

Visitors: Richard Lewis; Kelly Rich; Pam Batts; Nancy Powell; Darcel Harris; Ernest Smith III, Mia Hobdy; Michelle Hughes; Marci Larson; Debra Tinsley; Dan

Staff and Elected Officials: Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; Gloria Crawford, Parks; Cheryl Reddick, Jacksonville Transportation Authority; Marshelle Berry, JPL; Kiaira Nixon, State Attorney Office; Brian Jefferson, State Attorney Office; Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office; Jessica Denson, Neighborhood Services Office

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Pryor called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Jessica Denson confirmed a quorum was present.
- 2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Summary:** The May meeting summary was approved by the CPAC Members.
- 3. Presentation:** Nancy Powell, Executive Director of Scenic Jacksonville, informed the CPAC members that last year, the Riverfront Parks Now Coalition (that consists of 13 non-profit organizations) reviewed options to improve resiliency and revitalization in the downtown Jacksonville area. The Riverfront Parks Now identified a need for an active large riverfront park and extensive public green space along the Riverwalk. Ms. Powell showcased numerous cities to emphasize the benefits of a riverfront park. She explained how a riverfront park would be a compliment to the future Emerald Trail and help bring more people downtown. Ms. Powell informed the CPAC members that the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) will review and vote on the three final redevelopment designs for the Riverfront Plaza (formerly the Landing) on June 24, 2021. She encouraged the members to support Riverfront Parks Now by participating at the DIA meetings held on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. to voice their concerns about the vacant city-owned properties along the river. Go to www.dia.coj.net for DIA meeting information. Go to www.riverfrontparksnow.org for more information.

Nancy Powell may be reached at nancy@scenicjax.org.

4. Public Comment:

- Mari Larson, Public Affairs Manager, North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO), announced that the North Florida TPO Citizens Advisory Committee (NFTPO CAC) has a vacancy in the Urban Core District. Ms. Larson explained the purpose of the committee and encouraged the members to attend a meeting. The NFTPO CAC meets on the first Wednesday of the month (excluding January and July) at 2 p.m. The meetings are held in-person at the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization Headquarters, 980 North Jefferson Street. The next meeting will be on August 4, 2021.

Marci Larson may be reached the (904) 306-7513 or mlarson@northfloridatpo.com.

- CPAC Member Keith Davis invited the members to the Bridges to the Cure, Community Reset Event on Saturday, June 26, 2021, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The event will be held at All Things Common Ministry, 1357 Hart Street. Participants at the event will receive services such as employment assistance, legal services, and a food giveaway.

5. Elected Official's Report: None

6. Chairs Report – Chair Pryor introduced Keith Davis, All Things In Common Ministries as a new Urban Core CPAC Member. Chair Pryor informed the CPAC members that the CPAC meetings are hybrid meetings until further notice. Members will have to walk to the front of the room to speak on the microphone to allow Zoom participants to hear and see them.

7. Old Business – None

8. New Business – Chair Pryor stated the Carmen Street railroad crossing that split Springfield and Eastside Communities has a sign posted stating the railroad crossing will be closed; the citizens in the area do not want the railroad crossing to closed. Chair Pryor will send an email regarding the issue.

9. Subcommittees:

- **Code Enforcement and Blight:** Vice-Chair VanVorst stated the Code Enforcement and Blight subcommittee did not meet and provided an update on the demolition of the Burkman Plaza II. Vice-Chair VanVorst motioned to dissolve the Code Enforcement and Blight subcommittee. The motion failed.
- **Homelessness:** Cindy Watson – No report
- **Governmental Affairs:** Bill Hoff – No report

10. Staff Reports:

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)-** Marshelle Berry reported the following:
 - The JPL is hosting community meetings for the 21st Century Urban Branch located at the five libraries in the Urban Core District (Bill Brinton Murray Hill Library, Brentwood, Dallas Graham, Brown Eastside Branch Library, and Westbrook). Participants will have an opportunity to tour the sites and completed a survey regarding the building's strengths and weaknesses.
 - The JPL annual Summer Reading Program starts June 1, 2021, and will end on July 31, 2021. The program will be virtual and held at local parks. Registration is required.
 - The JPL will provide free lunch at 12 library branches starting June 7, 2021 – August 6, 2021, for kids up to age 18. No registration is required. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and coordinated by the Kids Hope Alliance (KHA).

For more information go to www.jacksonvillepubliclibrary.org.

Marshelle Berry may be reached at mberry@coj.net or (904)255-6088

- **Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)-** Cheryl Riddick stated JTA has no new updates, but JTA is still offering complimentary rides to COVID-19 vaccinations sites. For more information visit www.jtafla.com.

Cheryl Riddick may be reached at criddick@jtafla.com or (904)632-5522

- **Parks** – Gloria Crawford, Chief of Senior Services Division, reported the following park projects in the Urban Core District:
 - The new playground at the Catherine Hester McNair Park, also known as Brentwood Park, is completed. Parks is currently working on a walkway replacement, no date completion date set.
 - The Northbank Riverwalk Floating Dock Project is scheduled for completion by the end of June 2021, except for the area in front of the Florida Times-Union where the bulkhead construction is underway.

- The Friendship Park Fountain Project should be completed by Spring 2022, and the surrounding park Summer 2022.
- The Post Street Dock Project should be completed by Spring 2022.
- The Jackson Street Dock should be completed by Winter 2021.
- The Springfield Dog Park improvements will start in Fall 2021.
- The Warren W. Schell Jr. Memorial Park playground installation will start in Fall 2021.

JaxParks Summer Camps for ages 6 -12 will start June 21, 2021, and will end on July 30, 2021. The camp will be Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. -5 p.m. The cost will be \$75 per two-week session, \$20 non-refundable activity fee. Extended day will be offered from 7 a.m. -8 a.m. and 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. for an additional cost of \$20.

JaxParks Rec N' Roll Program for ages 6 -17 will start June 14, 2021, and end on July 30, 2021. The program will be Monday- Friday from 10:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. No registration is required.

The Summer Night Lights Program for ages 13- 17 will be from June 18, 2021- July 31, 2021. The program will be on Friday and Saturday nights from 6 p.m. -10 p.m. No registration fee required.

Pools are open Tuesday – Friday from 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Senior Centers are scheduled to open on August 9, 2021.

For more information go to: www.jaxparks.com

Chief Crawford may be reached at gcrawford@coj.net or (904) 255-5401.

- **Municipal Code Compliance (MCCD):** Robert Bautochka, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that in May, MCCD completed 1,670 inspections in the Urban Core District and 17,164 inspections in the past 365 days. The MCCD Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) still have funds available. The JAR Program may prevent a lien from being placed on your property. Please visit the Municipal Code Compliance Departments website for more information: www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program
Robert Bautochka can be reached at RBautochka@coj.net or (904)-255-7055.
- **Neighborhood Service Office (NSO)** –Jessica Denson, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, encouraged the CPAC members to register for the NSO Robert's Rules of Order Training on Thursday, June 24, 2021, from 6: 30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. The training will be both hybrid and in-person at the Ed Ball Building, 214 North Hogan Street, or via Zoom. The registration deadline is June 17, 2021, at 5 p.m. To register, call 904-255-8250 or email Neighborhoodservices@coj.net.
- **Public Comments** – None

11. Adjourn: There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

The next Urban Core CPAC Meeting is Monday, August 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Ed Ball Building, First Floor Training Room and via Zoom.

A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core 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](#).