

North Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

January 12, 2022, Meeting Summary

Oceanway Community Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W

Zoom Meeting ID: 898 3595 6669 Passcode: 464317

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Dr. Donald Green, Chair; Jamie Lacy, Vice Chair; Vicki Drake, DCPS PTA/PTS Assoc.; Mike Getchell, Eagle Bend Island; Tommy Ruffin, Council Appointee District 7; Jane Love, Amelia View; Michael and Shelley Wozniak, Lydia Estates; Sharon Bivins, Blue Grass Northwood; Deborah Green, Captiva Bluff HOA; Bessie Williams, Copper Hill HOA; Dot Mathias, Charter Member.

Zoom: Ingrid Montgomery, Victoria Preserve HOA.

Visitors: Dorothy Boland, Amelia View; Paul Harden, Eden Group; Claude Collins, Eden Group/North Jacksonville Business Leaders; Mary Sperow; Wayne Clark, Sheriff Candidate; Robertha Walley, Hart Estate HOA; Jennifer Casey, Duval Soil and Water Conservation District.

Zoom: Valerie Green.

Staff and Elected Officials: Jackie Spiritas, Jacksonville Public Libraries; Rosemary Wesolowski Neighborhood Services Office; Erin Abney, Planning and Development Department; Keith Meyerl, Parks, Recreation and Community Services; Charles Benson, MCCD; Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans; Victoria Schultz, DCPS.

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Dr. Donald Green called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Rosemary Wesolowski verified a quorum.
- 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The November 10, 2021, summary was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Elected Officials:** None
- 4. Presentation:** None
- 5. Chair Report:** Chair Green thanked everyone for attending.
- 6. Staff Reports:**
 - **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Jackie Spiritas, Executive Assistant I, reported that the Urban Branch Study was completed. The study will shape the future of the Brentwood Branch, Dallas Graham Branch, Brown Eastside Branch, Westbrook Branch, and Brenton Murray Hill Branch libraries, which are among the oldest libraries in Jacksonville. The unveiling of the final plan will be in person at the Main Library, in the first-floor conference room, located at 303 N. Laura St. on Thursday, January 20, 2022, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event is open to the public. Guest will be able to provide additional feedback. Ms. Spiritas also reported that the Highlands library children's department is progressing well. The estimated date for reopening is early spring. Ms. Spiritas will be sure to share the exact date with the CPAC once it is provided. Ms. Spiritas also reported that AARP will be providing free tax preparation at various Jacksonville Public Library locations. AARP will prepare taxes by appointment only; no walk-in appointments will be accepted. Citizens are welcome to register for appointments by visiting the AARP Foundation website: www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide, where they can search nearest locations by ZIP code. Early voting begins February 12, 2022, through February 20, 2022, for the Special Unitary First Election for City Council At-Large Group 3 at many of the library branches. Election day is February 22, 2022. The Early voting sites and your polling locations may be found by visiting the Duval County Supervisor of Elections website: <https://duvalelections.com>. Jackie Spiritas may be contacted at (904) 992-7101 ext. 220 or spiritas@coj.net
 - **Military Affairs and Veterans (MAV)** – Tiffany Morales, Veterans Outreach Coordinator, reported that the City of Jacksonville's Homeless Veterans Stand Down will take place Friday, January 28, 2022, and Saturday, January 29, 2022, at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds, 510 Fairgrounds Place.

Services provided on January 28, 2022, include employment, medical, shelter and housing from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Services provided on January 29, 2022, include dental, food, clothing, Veteran Center, Veteran Affairs services, and hygiene kits from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All veterans are welcome to attend. The event is still accepting volunteers, vendor registration, and nonperishable food donations. Please contact Ms. Morales at (904) 255-5524 for more information. Ms. Morales also reported that the Military Spouses Night Out event will take place Thursday, February 3, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A Philip Randolph Blvd. The event provides a night of pampering and fun for Military Spouses with a valid Military ID card. Tiffany Morales may be contacted at (904) 255-5524 or tmorales@coj.net

- **Municipal Code Compliance Department (MCCD)** – Charles Benson, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that a total of 1069 inspections were completed for the month of December, a total of 14 litter citations have been written, and 103 snipe signs were removed. Mr. Benson announced that applications for the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) are still available. The JAR program assists with required abatement services at no cost to those citizens who qualify. The program only prevents liens from being placed on the property after the abatement occurs. Visit the Municipal Code Compliance Department website for more information: <https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>. Mr. Benson reminded CPAC members that citizens must provide a name and address for an inspection to be conducted. Tickets that are submitted anonymously will be closed out and a request for contact information will be made so the investigation can continue.

Mr. Benson provided updates regarding several complaints made by CPAC members:

- The litter problems at the store fronts along Dunn Avenue are being closely monitored.
- In the Northlake neighborhood along Percy Road and Samson Road commercial vehicles are not allowed to park on private property but may park on the street.
- There are still active cases along Yellow Bluff Road. MCCD will continue to work with the owners.
- The issue regarding the uncut front yard in Captiva Bluff has been addressed. MCCD received a new service request regarding a roaming rooster in the neighborhood and will investigate the issue soon.

Mr. Benson thanked the North CPAC for being good partners, being diligent in reporting issues, and asking questions.

Charles Benson may be contacted at (904)255-7299 or Cbenson@coj.net

- **Parks Recreation and Community Services** – Keith Meyerl, Chief of Recreation, reported that 100 million dollars has been appropriated to Parks, Recreation, and Community Services. Over the next two years Parks, Recreation, and Community Services will receive \$50 million to use towards deferred maintenance, repairs, and various other projects. The Parks and Quality Life Special Committee will oversee where the money is being spent. The first \$20 million has been approved to invest in the improvement of playgrounds, athletic courts, and the repair and installation of American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant restrooms. Over 40 playgrounds have been identified as needing to be replaced this year because they have been deemed unsafe. Additionally, 70 courts; basketball and tennis courts will be resurfaced, and 20 restrooms will receive ADA improvements. The remaining \$30 million is being presented to Council and the Parks and Quality Life Special Committee for additional projects. Mr. Meyerl will provide an update on where the additional \$30 million will be spent once those decisions have been finalized. Mr. Meyerl explained that receiving the additional \$15 million dollars for two years is a significant investment for the City's parks. Mr. Meyerl also reported that Parks, Recreation, and Community Services is preparing for this year's summer programs and the opening of the community pools beginning Memorial Day. Positions for lifeguards and summer camp counselors are available. Positions are also available for the year-round program Rec N' Roll and the Club Rec After School program for children ages five through 12. Please visit <https://www.coj.net/departments/parks-and-recreation/recreation-and-community-programming.aspx> for more information regarding these programs. Please visit <https://www.coj.net/employment> for a listing of current job openings. Keith Meyerl may be contacted at (904) 255-7936 or kmeyerl@coj.net

- **Duval County Public Schools** – Victoria Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resource Services, reported that Duval County Public Schools are continuing to educate students while struggling with staffing needs because of the increase in COVID-19 cases. The salary for paraprofessionals has been increased to \$15 dollars an hour with free health insurance and other benefits. Interested parties may send their resume directly to Ms. Schultz at SchultzV@duvalschools.org or visit <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/domain/11488> to view available positions.

Victoria Shultz may be reached at SchultzV@duvalschools.org

7. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports.

- **Governmental Affairs and Planning & Development** – Vice Chair Lacy and Erin Abney, City Planner I

The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee reviewed six Land Use and Zoning applications and two recommendations were made:

New Business

- **Oppose 2022-0010 – Conventional Rezoning: 0 Interstate Center Drive:** This application seeks to reduce the required road frontage from 80 feet to 0 feet to build one single family dwelling on the property zoned Residential Rural-Acre. Conventional rezoning does not allow for community input. The CPAC would like to see the application changed to a Planned Unit Development (PUD).
- **Oppose 2022-0016 – Planned Unit Development: 0 Owens Road:** This application seeks to rezone approximately 42.17 acres from Planned Unit Development (PUD) to Planned Unit Development to develop the property with up to 4225 multi-family dwellings. The CPAC would like more clarity regarding the lot sizes and the height of the building. The CPAC also opposes 40-foot lots.
Erin Abney may be contacted at (904) 255-7849 or eabney@coj.net
- **Transportation** – Vacant.
- **Ad-Hoc-Taxation, Revenue, Utilization and Expenditures (T.R.U.E)** – Vacant

8. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report – None

9. New Business – None

10. Old Business - None

11. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements: Jennifer Casey, Duval Soil and Water Conservation District Chair announced that the Florida Legislature have introduced Senate Bill 1078 and House Bill 783, which will abolish all 58 Florida conservation districts this year. If this bill passes citizens will lose volunteer, non-salaried partisans who are elected to educate and provide critical conservation services based on the needs of each community it serves. Duval Soil and Water Conservation District works directly in the community on projects such as the Regeneration Park in the Urban Core area and the Start Farming program. Duval Soil and Water Conservation District is completely funded by private donations and grants. For more information about Duval Soil and Water Conservation District, Senate Bill 1078 and House Bill 783 please visit <http://www.duvalsoilandwater.com/>.

12. Motion to Adjourn: Chair Dr. Green adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: **Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 5:30 p.m.** Hybrid - Oceanway Community Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W., 32218 and Zoom

Next Governmental Affairs Subcommittee Meeting: **Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 4:30 p.m.** Oceanway Community Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W. 32218

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, Neighborhood Services Office, (904) 255-8236 or MichelleGW@coj.net

A copy of the audio recording of this North 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: [COJ Public Records Request](#)