

Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

August 13, 2020 Meeting Summary

Via Zoom Conferencing, 6 p.m.

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members – Tyrona Clark-Murray, Chair; Roxan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Jaqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks; Rhonda Boyd, Timber Oaks HOA

Excused – Doretha Tompkins, Vice Chair

Visitors – Gracie McCastler; Kim Stephens-Perry; Charleyne Martin, Durkeeville Community; Donald Roger; Antonio Bryant, Brenda Ann Jordan; Fredrecia; Renfrop; Ros Smith; Glenn Weiss, CCGJ; Admin, CCGJ;

Elected Official and City Staff – Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent of Schools; Hon. Warren Jones, Duval County School Board Chair; Dana Kriznar, DCPS; Tracey Pierce, DCPS; Glenn Weiss, Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Berdell Knowles, JEA; Bruce Chauncey, Municipal Code Compliance; Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office; Arimus Wells, Planning and Development; Chris LeDew, Public Works; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Service Office.

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Tyrona Clark-Murray called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The meeting began with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed that a quorum was present. Velma Rounsville motioned to approve March 12, 2020 meeting summary and Jaqueline Harrington seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Presentation:

- Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools, and Hon. Warren Jones, School Board Chair, presented information on the return to school, the half cent referendum and the progress in student achievement. Dr. Greene reported that school will begin August 20, 2020. Several options are being provided to families regarding how their children return to learning. These choices include in school options, distance learning through Duval HomeRoom and fully virtual learning through the Duval Virtual Instruction Academy. For more details regarding these choices, please visit www.dcps.duvalschools.org. Face coverings will be required on the school bus and in school, but will not be required during P.E., recess, band, music and other classes which the facial covering is an obvious impediment to learning activities. Each bus will be equipped with hand sanitizer and students are asked to sanitize their hands each time they board the bus. Dr. Greene announced that on the DCPS website a "Talk with Team Duval" button will be available. This button will ensure questions are directed to the correct person or department. School Board Chair Jones reported that the Duval Sales Tax Referendum will be on November 3rd ballot. Voters will decide whether to provide funding to upgrade schools through repairs to keep schools safe, modernize, improve technology or build new schools. The Duval School Board would levy a 15-year, half-cent sales tax to execute their Master Facility Plan. To learn more about the plan visit www.ourduvalschools.org. Dr. Greene may be reached at greened@duvalschools.org or 390-2115 and Board Member Jones at jonesw2@duvalschools.org or 390-2372.
- Glenn Weiss, Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville Director, Public Art Program, presented pictures of the "Winged Victory" sculpture for the Legends Center, as well as the sculpture for the Winton Drive Traffic Triangle. Mr. Weiss also included pictures of

several new murals across the street from the Durkeeville Historical Society at Myrtle Avenue and 18th Street.

3. Chair Report: Chair Tyrona Clark -Murray had no report for the CPAC, but thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting.

4. Elected Official: None.

5. New Business: No new business.

6. Subcommittee and Liaison Reports

- **Land Use and Zoning Subcommittee:** City Planner Arimus Wells reviewed several land use and zoning applications with CPAC and LUZ Subcommittee members. Members agreed that the applications reviewed did not require CPAC action.
- **TRUE Commission:** Velma Rounsville stated that the Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Revenue (TRUE) Commission has not met and that she had nothing to report.
- **Transportation:** Mr. Solomon was not present to give a report. Chair Clark-Murray announced that the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) Citizens Advisory Committee will meet September 2 at 2 p.m. She will have a report regarding the Work Improvement Plan during September's Northwest CPAC meeting.

7. Staff Reports

- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT):** Derek Dixon, Transportation Systems Coordinator (derek.dixon@dot.state.fl.us: 360-5653), reported that resurfacing and roadway improvements will take place on approximately one-mile of I-95 south of the Norwood Avenue northbound off ramp north to Edgewood Avenue West. This project began the week of April 13th and has an estimated completion of spring 2021. Mr. Dixon also reported that construction is under way on the Jacksonville National Cemetery Access Road. The work will include the construction of approximately 3.4 miles of new two-lane road connecting Lannie Road at the Ethel Road intersection, and Arnold Road. The roadway will feature bike lanes, ponds to promote drainage, a newly constructed bridge over Seaton Creek and improved transportation options for motorists seeking to access the Jacksonville National Cemetery.
- **Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA):** Berdell Knowles, Director of Government Relations (knowb@jea.com: 665-4524, reported that the groundbreaking for the new JEA headquarters located at 325 W. Adams Street will take place at the end of August. Mr. Knowles advised CPAC members that storm season has begun. JEA will use the Power Restoration 1, 2, 3 process designed to assess and repair facilities and restore power across Jacksonville. Mr. Knowles announced that JEA resumed disconnections on July 10th and 92 percent of customers made payment arrangements. Kim Stephens-Perry asked Mr. Knowles to assist in finding out why she was not able to speak to a live person during a power outage on Tuesday, August 11th in her neighborhood. Mr. Knowles said he would investigate the issue.
- **Municipal Code Compliance:** Bruce Chauncey, Municipal Code Compliance Supervisor (bruceec@coj.net: 255-7035), reported that there is a total of 255 back logged inspections for the area. Mr. Chauncey announced that the MCCD will introduce four 10-hour days, Wednesday through Saturday for a newly created task force. Mr. Chauncey advised CPAC members that they may email him at Bruceec@coj.net if there are any concerns. Issues can also be reported to MyJax@custhelp.com or 630-CITY.

- **Public Works:** Chris LeDew, Chief of Traffic Engineering (clede@coj.net: 255-7533), reported that a designer for the Road Diet and Lane Illumination Project on Soutel Drive has been selected. The design is scheduled to be completed in a year. The State Road 139 Kings Road traffic signal updates are scheduled to be completed summer 2020. Chair Clark-Murray asked Mr. LeDew to review the intersection at Melson Avenue and 20th Street. She reported that there is a large pothole, the rail crossing is very rough, and there is standing water where there is no drainage. She also asked Mr. LeDew if Public Works could review Sophia Street. The whole street floods very badly. Glenn Weiss asked if Lem Turner Boulevard and Trout River Boulevard West will get a sidewalk installed. The area is not paved and is not safe to walk along. Mr LeDew said he would check on these issues.
- **Neighborhoods Services Office:** Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Service Coordinator (michellegw@coj.net : 255-8236), reported for Sharon Kirkes, Branch Manager (skirkes@coj.net: 630-0922 ext. 220) that the Main Library, Highlands, Pablo Creek, Southeast and Webb Wesconnett now have inside hours. The Main Library is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the Highlands, Pablo Creek, Southeast, and Webb Westconnett are open Monday through Thursday 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. All customers and staff must have their temperature checked, complete a COVID-19 screening form, and wear a mask at all times while in the library. Curb side pickup for holds are available at Highlands, Pablo Creek, Southeast and Webb Wesconnett from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Curbside pickup is also available at Argyle, Beaches, Brentwood, Dallas Graham, Mandarin, Regency, South Mandarin, University Park, West and Willowbranch from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. All current overdue fines have been waived, and no new overdue fines will be applied through December 31, 2020. Early voting and elections will take place at various library locations beginning August 3rd through August 18th. Please visit Jaxpubliclibrary.org for a list of early voting and election locations. Ms. Godwin-Ware announced that the International Coastal Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday September 19, 2020. Volunteers are needed for the various locations throughout Jacksonville. Site captains will register volunteers and provide bags and gloves at the cleanup locations. Everyone is welcome to volunteer and pre-registration is not required. If interested in a site, please reach out to Dan Durbec at 904-255-8276 or email him at ddurbec@coj.net.

8. Public Comments

- **Kim Stephen-Perry** said that the ditches along Kenya Street and Estes Road are extremely overgrown with trees and debris. Chief LeDew advised he would forward the information to the correct person.

9. **Adjourn:** Velma Rounsville motioned to adjourn the meeting. Roxan Currier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

The next CPAC Meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2020 via Zoom at 6 p.m. A Zoom meeting invitation will be posted no later than 48 hours before schedule meeting.

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 here: [Public Records](#).