

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

November 18, 2019 Meeting Summary

Pablo Creek Regional Library, 13295 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL, 32246

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Dr. Ramsey Salem, Chair; Melody Shacter, Vice Chair; Mike Anania; Arlington Business Society; Kirk Armstrong, Lucina Lake Association; Robert Barletta, Charter Point Community Association; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenore Hanapel; Covington Creek HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Harley Herndon, Cypress Cove Good Neighbors; Tim Keeley, Kensington Association; Sheila Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Joseph Manitoine, The Woods Community; Pete Miller, Indian Springs Community Association; Peter Mione, Old Arlington Inc.; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Poigiouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; John Roberts, The Valley at Hidden Hills; Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Lennette Hauver, Hickory Creek HOA; Will Messer, Queens Harbour POA; Patricia Sanders Charter Point Community Association; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

Excused: Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Delmas Harper, POISE, Inc;

Visitors: Peter Zhao, Waterleaf HOA; Larry Perry, ISCA; Roberta Thomas, FCCES; Susan Cruz, Marshside HOA; Chris Craft, Marshside HOA; Alexandra Dell, Clifton

Staff: Erin Abney, Planning and Development Department; Assistant Chief Brown, JSO; Chetster Aikens, City Council District 1; Keith Meyerl, Parks, Recreation and Community Services; Rudy McClain, Municipal Code Compliance; Elaine Lancaster, Municipal Code Compliance; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Michael Sullivan, JPL; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Salem called the November 2019 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary: The October 2019 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

Presentation: Karen Nasrallah, Office of Economic Development reviewed the Renew Arlington Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) process and presented updated information on the current status of the CRA.

On November 24, 2015, the CRA was approved and a tax increment financing (TIF) was established as the public financing method for redevelopment, infrastructure, and other community-improvement projects in the CRA.

To date the Renew Arlington CRA Projects include: a Stormwater Management Plan; Compliance Grant Program; Renew Arlington Zoning Overlay; Merrill Road Traffic Study and Merrill Road Complete Streets Planning.

Ms. Nasrallah confirmed that a facade grant program is now part of Renew Arlington CRA Zoning Overlay . On June 25, 2019, City Council approved Zoning Overlay Resolution 2019-239-E. The Overlay will address signage, fencing and landscaping in CRA area that encompasses property along three

corridors in Arlington: University Boulevard from the Arlington Expressway to Fort Caroline Road; Merrill Road from University Boulevard to Interstate 295; a section of Arlington Road from University Boulevard to Rogero Road and a couple of parcels along the north side of the Arlington Expressway near University Boulevard. A grant program has been established to aid in the compliance with the CRA Zoning Overlay.

Commercial property owners would use the money to comply with signage that doesn't meet new height and dimension standards set out in the overlay, as well as install landscaping and buffers like fencing. Business owners would have five years to implement the new landscaping, signage and fencing regulations.

The business/property owners will need to submit a separate grant applications for each of the three categories: fencing, landscaping and signs. All three grant categories can be applied for at the same time and the CRA will pay 100% of the minimum standard expense. The CRA will also fund an in-house consultant or part-time landscape architect; there will be no sliding scale.

Ms. Nasrallah and her team are working to create Renew Arlington Design Review (RADR) team. The RADR will review the grant applications and site plans once a month at a set time. Permits will be received upon RADR review and approval.

To learn more about the Renew Arlington CRA please contact Karen Nasrallah at 255-5449 or karenn@coj.net.

Elected Officials Report:

Chester Aikens, City Council District 1, Executive Council Assistant extended an invitation to attend Council Member Morgan's November Town Hall Meeting on November 25, 2019, 6:00 pm at the Regency Square Branch Library, 9900 Regency Square Blvd, 32225. Flyers for the Town Hall Meeting were distributed and available at the sign in table. Mr. Aikens announced that there will be City Council meeting on November 26, 2019 and encouraged everyone to attend.

Council Member Morgan - 904-255-5201 or Joycemorgan@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Zone 2 Assistant Chief Christopher Brown introduced himself to the CPAC. Assistant Chief Brown grew up in the Arlington area and his father was also a JSO officer.

Assistant Chief Brown announced year to date both property and violent crimes are down in Zone 2. Now that it is darker earlier in the evening and the holiday season is approaching, Assistant Chief Brown shared a few safety tips: be mindful of your surroundings; lock car doors and do not leave your valuables in the car; remember to do the 9 p.m. Routine; use timers on lights and do not forget to update the time on existing timers; if shopping after daylight hours, park and walk in lighted areas and do not hesitate to ask security to walk you to your car if you are uncomfortable.

JSO Zone 2 substation – 9501 Arlington Expressway – 904-726-5100

Jacksonville Public Library – Michael Sullivan, Executive Assistant I, announced Jax Book Fest will return to the Main Library Feb. 29, 2020, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., with New York Times best-selling authors Brad Meltzer and Karma Wilson as keynote speakers. The event, which will celebrate its fourth year in 2020, will feature more than 80 local authors of every genre. Authors can apply now for exhibit space at Jax Book Fest 2020. Literary vendors such as writers' groups and publishers may also apply to participate.

There is a \$40 nonrefundable application fee for all applicants. You may review criteria, rules and regulations, and apply online on the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation's website at jplfoundation.org/jaxbookfest. The deadline to submit applications is Nov. 30, 2019.

Jackie Spiritas – spiritas@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick reminded the CPAC to use Gameday Xpress to ride to the games. All Gameday Xpress fare prices include round-trip transportation. All Gameday Xpress vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to park at the Convention Center lot, where JTA Paratransit vans are available. For all Jacksonville Jaguars games, the Gameday Xpress operates two hours before kickoff and one hour after the end of the game. For college games, the Gameday Xpress operates three hours before kickoff and one hour after the end of the game. Continuous service during the game is available at the Convention Center lot only.

JTA is expanding ReadiRide to three additional neighborhood zones on Monday, Dec. 2 along with other service changes for some JTA bus routes. The JTA offers ReadiRide through Owl, Inc. to provide affordable, on-call transportation for customers seeking short trips within certain neighborhoods. Unlike traditional bus service, ReadiRide does not operate on a fixed-route, giving customers more control over where they want to be transported. ReadiRide currently operates in designated zones within the Arlington, Beaches, Highlands, Mandarin, Northside, Southeast, Southside and Southwest neighborhoods. Single trips are \$2 per passenger, per trip. Riders can purchase fares with cash, (exact change only), or through the free MyJTA app, available for smart mobile devices.

Cheryl Riddick – 904-632-5522 or criddick@jtafla.com

Neighborhood Municipal Code Compliance Division – Elaine Lancaster reported on behalf of Supervisor Gary Roberts. Ms. Lancaster stated that the Zone 2 Code Compliance teams worked 2312 cases from October 1 to November 18, 2019. Code Compliance completed four systematic inspections. Results from the systematic inspections are: Charter Point- 19 cases and 23 violations; Colony Cove – 1 case/1 violation; University park – 21 caes and 28 violations and Woodmere – 32 cases and 46 violations. Ms. Lancaster also introduced Code Compliance Senior Officer Rudy McClain to the CPAC.

Gary Roberts – 904-255-7057 or gdroberts@coj.net

Parks, Recreation, and Community Services – Keith Meyerl, Chief informed the CPAC that the Lions Club fishing pier repair is completed and the pier is open. The boardwalk that connects Lions Club Park and Blue Cypress Park is currently under construction. The Dames Point Fishing Pier is currently in the design phase. Construction of the Blue Cypress Pool is expected to start in Spring 2020. Renovations at the Blue Cypress Golf Course are underway and should be completed in the next six months. The Abess Dog Park is in the design phase.

Keith Meyerl – 904-255-7936 or kmeyerl@coj.net

Planning and Development Department – On behalf of Connie Patterson, Erin Abney, City Planner 1, staffed the GAB November CPAC meeting. Ms. Abney reviewed the three LUZ application that the LUZ subcommittee reviewed.

Connie Patterson – Constancep@coj.net

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports (3 minute time limit):

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs - Mike Anania, LUZ Subcommittee Chair stated the subcommittee members reviewed three applications and no motions were made.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge did not have a report

Environment – Lad Hawkins shared there is a 5G Telecommunication Bill that will go before City Council tomorrow night, that would wave all the standards that limit the size of the cell phone towers and the boxes on them. Visual Blight is an issue and we need to speak up tomorrow night at the City Council LUZ meeting.

Mr. Hawkins announced the Pablo Point Civic Association, Inc. has been certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a Community Wildlife Habitat area; this is the first neighborhood/community in Duval County to receive this distinction. Mr. Hawkins made a motion that the GAB CPAC recognize the Pablo Point Community Wildlife Habitat Certification Project and read a recognition letter as the motion. There was a second and the CPAC voted unanimously to the motion. Mr. Hawkins encouraged everyone to visit the display table that the Pablo Point Community has set up in the lobby.

Nomination Subcommittee – Nina Pougioklidis introduced the two candidates that are running for GAB CPAC Chair and the one candidate for Vice Chair. Mr. Will Messer and Mr. Michael Anania were the candidates for the CPAC Chair. Both Chair candidates provided a brief bio and how they planned to lead the CPAC. The CPAC members had an opportunity to make a nomination from the floor for both positions; no nominations were made from the floor. The CPAC members were reminded that there is only one vote per association and to write their association name on the ballot. The ballots were distributed, collected and counted. The tabulation of the ballots resulted in a tie. Another set of ballots were distributed and the CPAC voted again. The second set of ballots were collected and tabulated. The tie was broken. Mr. Will Messer will serve as Chair and Dr. Ramsey Salem will serve as Vice Chair in 2020.

Transportation – Will Messer did not have a report, but Lad Hawkins announced FDOT will have a public meeting/hearing to discuss a proposed median modification on State Road 10/Atlantic Boulevard. FDOT will present the recommended improvements at the above-referenced public hearing. The request is to change a full median opening to a directional median opening on Atlantic Boulevard as part of a project to construct Terrabella Apartment Community at 13723 Atlantic Boulevard. The proposed modifications are required by FDOT to reduce median openings to meet current median opening spacing standards and would be funded by the developer, not FDOT. The meeting/hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at Atlantic Beach Assembly of God, 680 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233. It will begin with an open house from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by a public comment period at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Hawkins brought up the topic of traffic calming and he distributed some information to some of the CPAC members on the requirements needed to get traffic calming in a neighborhood. Mr. Hawkins stated that getting permission/agreement from 75% of the neighbors is a difficult task, especially if a HOA or neighborhood association does not exist. Mr. Hawkins stated that he wanted the CPAC to send a letter to Mr. John Pappas, Director of Public Works to ask if they could work with the community and not require the agreement from 75% of the neighbors to put in traffic calming measures on cut-through residential streets. There was lengthy discussion on the topic; the motion was tabled until additional information could be obtained from Public Works at a future meeting.

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Will Messer did not have a report

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – John Roberts reported that the TRUE Commission received recognition for their report on park maintenance; this report was the subject of a Florida Times Union Editorial. Mr. Roberts stated that he feels the TRUE Commission should push that a cost effective study be completed for the sale of JEA. It is important to know what the effect will be on school operations and residential customers alike.

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski inquired how the CPAC would like to conduct the December 2019 GAB CPAC meeting. By a show of hands, the CPAC membership voted to have a brief December meeting followed by a pot-luck dinner. A food sign-up sheet was distributed. The GAB CPAC 2020 calendar was distributed. The Pablo Creek Regional Library is an early voting site, so the months of March, August and October the GAB CPAC meeting will not be held on the traditional second Monday of the month. The March meeting will be held on March 25, 2020; the August meeting will be held August 31, 2020 and the October meeting will be held on October 5, 2020.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 904-255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair Salem thanked the membership for their support over the past three years that he has served as the CPAC Chair. Chair Salem informed the CPAC that he attended the CPAC Chairs quarterly meeting with the Mayor's Office on Friday, November 8, 2019. Chair Salem stated he has enjoyed working with the new Neighborhoods Department Director Bryan Mosier and the new Operations Director Chiquita Moore. At this time the Mayor's Office is looking to re-organize the CPAC's and this may be accomplished by adding a seventh district. At this time they do not have any finalized plans, nor do they know if it will change any of the current CPAC boundaries. Chair Salem stated that the length of CPAC meetings was also discussed and the CPAC Chairs were encouraged to keep the CPAC meeting to an hour and a half in length. The Mayor's Office also shared a report that identified resurfacing projects and the additional of sidewalks in a number of areas throughout the GAB District.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Public Comment – Member Pete Miller announced that there is a new safety campaign called *All in Duval*. The campaign is geared to bicyclists, pedestrians, motorcyclists and drivers and serves as a reminder that we all share a responsibility to contribute to safer roadways. Mr. Miller also announced that Santa Claus will be at the Pablo Creek Regional Library on December 19, 2019 from 4 to 6 pm. Everyone was encouraged to come and get a free picture taken with Santa. Mr. Miller shared that on December 14, 2019 everyone has the opportunity to watch the Army vs. Navy Football game at the TIAA Bank Field. There is an entrance fee of \$1 per person and parking is free.

Member Nell DeCoursey stated that she thinks the CPAC meetings should last as long as needed to get the work done.

Member Kirk Armstrong stated two hours for a CPAC meeting is too long.

Member Patti Sanders stated the meetings should go as long as it is needed to cover everything the CPAC needs to accomplish, but we need to be mindful to stay on time.

Vice Chair Shacter announced that tonight will be her last night on the CPAC, she will no longer be the Clifton Civic Association representative. Vice Chair Shacter announced at the Old Arlington Inc. meeting on Tuesday, they will have Times Union columnist Mark Woods speak on his walk through Arlington and have copies of his book, Lassoing the Sun available. The meeting/presentation will be held at the Arlington Women's Club on Arlington Road at 6:30 pm.

Motion to Adjourn

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Pablo Creek Regional Library, 13295 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL, 32246