

**Greater Jacksonville Association, Inc.
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 20, 2011**

GJA met on the above date in the Jacksonville Elementary School. President Doug Oakley called meeting to order at 7:35 pm. In attendance were approximately 20 persons. Mr. Oakley introduced the board members who were present.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as submitted. Treasurer Glen Thomas reported a balance of \$14970.27 as of August 31.

Mr. Oakley reported for the Baltimore County police that ShopRite in Jacksonville had a night-time break in recently and money was stolen from the ATM and computers damaged.

Mr. Thomas reported that a sink hole had developed at the Four Corners intersection. It was caused by a broken sewer box, was repaired and apparently was not related to the Exxon issue.

Invited guests speakers present were State Senator for District 7, JB Jennings; State Senator for District 5, Joe Getty; and State Delegate for District 7, Kathy Szeliga. Senator Jennings spoke about upcoming septic tank legislation, which may prove expensive both for new developments and for replacement of older septic systems. This is a move aimed at better controlling nitrogen and other pollutants flowing into the bay. Senator Getty spoke about redistricting as a result of the recent census. Delegate Szeliga introduced herself and asked the community to call her with any area concerns.

Ms. Connolly-Bailey raised the issue of background checks on volunteers serving with children's sports and activities sponsored by Baltimore County Rec and Parks. Senator Jennings commented upon the statutory requirement for background checks for employees working with children but not for volunteers, primarily because of the high cost of such checks. Senator Getty noted that there exists a sex-offense registry and noted that because of the high cost of these background checks, self-policing of volunteers is the current recommendation. Senator Jennings will discuss community concerns with County Councilman Todd Huff and the new director of Rec and Parks.

Senator Jennings noted that he is serving on a task force on the formation of the Baltimore County School Board, currently appointed by the governor with little community input. There is a desire by many that the school board be elected instead of appointed, a view which Senator Jennings supports although the recommendations of the task force are non-binding. He noted that 55% of the state budget goes to education.

Another issue discussed was a move by the state to handle zoning issues across the state through statewide zoning regulations thus taking zoning regulations out of the hands of individual counties.

Mr. Oakley reported that the 2012 Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) began on September 1. He reported that the board met with Third District Community Planner for Baltimore County, Jessie Bialek, who explained the CZMP process to the board and discussed steps in the planning process. She pointed out that a zoning issue to be reviewed is the possibility of old zoning that might allow gas stations to be located in the area. After reviewing area maps, the board decided to file down zoning requests on two sites on behalf of GJA:

1. Much of the Manor Center site is still zoned BM CR, and the board has filed to have it all down zoned to BL CR, which would limit the type and size of commercial development at the site.
2. The board filed to have the entire parcel at 14345 Jarrettsville Pike returned to RC5 zoning. It is now for sale after being partially up zoned out of cycle at the owner's request to accommodate their then existing use. The property's current zoning leapfrogs the residential zoning of other properties in that area against the recommendation of the GJA Community Plan previously accepted by the county.

The following web sites are helpful:

- Information on the CZMP, how it works and the time schedule, etc. is located at:
<http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/zoning/2012czmp/index.html>;

- A Citizen's Guide to Planning and Zoning, which explains all of the zoning classifications in more concise and easy to follow manner, is available at:
http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/zoning/download_plan_parts.html
- www.myneighborhood.com, which has maps of Baltimore County areas.

Mr. Oakley opened the meeting to comment and concerns. One member noted that she preferred monthly meetings rather than the planned meetings every other month.

Mr. Oakley noted that proposed bylaws changes may be reviewed on the web site. These are mainly "housekeeping" changes to allow for modern communication – email vs. telegrams, etc. Voting on the bylaws changes and election of officers and directors for 2012 will be held at the next meeting on November 22 at which Congressman Andy Harris has been invited to speak.

There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Lehmann, Secretary