

## **Washington Shores Vision Task Force Meeting Minutes, February 24, 2010**

A meeting of the Washington Shores Vision Task Force was held on Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at approximately 2:10 p.m. at Hope Church, Founder's Chapel.

### **Members Present**

Alexander Smith  
Ezzie Thomas  
Michael Arrington  
Mylika Morton  
Diann Mills

### **Staff Present**

Jason Burton, Chief Planner, City of Orlando  
Michaëlle Petion, Planner, City of Orlando  
Holly Stenger, Project Manager, City of Orlando  
Doug Gaines, Code Enforcement Manager, City of Orlando  
Norma Viserto, Code Enforcement Supervisor, City of Orlando  
Celveta Lewis, Code Enforcement Officer, City of Orlando  
Kea Council, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, City of Orlando  
Janice Rahill, Green-Up Manager, City of Orlando  
Tamaya Huff, Housing Planner, City of Orlando  
Charles Brown, Transportation Planner, City of Orlando  
Cynthia Wilson, Aide to Commissioner Samuel B. Ings  
Commissioner Samuel B. Ings

### **Guests**

Corey Mcknight  
Melvin Felton

### **GreenUp Presentation**

Janice Rahill, Green-Up Orlando Manager, discussed the Green-Up program's purpose and some events that they've held in Washington Shores as well as other City of Orlando neighborhoods. Should the task force choose to use the resources of this program, events would be designed based on the needs of the community and assistance picking appropriate trees would be provided if necessary. Green-Up's work can only be done on public property, such as streets, parks, etc, where it can be enjoyed by all city residents. One of the big events held by Green-up is an annual Martin Luther King Jr. Seedlings for Civil Rights event. The event is held on MLK Day. Washington Shores was encouraged to consider nominating a project for next year's event. After discussing options, the group's general consensus was leaning toward the possibility of either dressing up neighborhood entrance features or possibly doing something at Gilbert McQueen Park across from the Lake Mann Homes. A Green-Up event could be considered as early as the May/June 2010 time frame.

## **Code Enforcement Presentation**

Code Enforcement staff conveyed that they try to answer all complaints within twenty-four hours of receipt. Code Enforcement officers focus on certain primary issues, such as structure safety and abandonment. Officers said that they enjoy hearing from the community directly since it's the residents' neighborhood and residents can function as the eyes and ears of the enforcement officers. A recurring issue for the neighborhood is the parking of large trucks in the neighborhood. Parking tickets are issued at any time; but citations, which come with a larger fine, can't be given unless the violator is on-site at the time of the citation issuance. Either way, the fees for both of these reprimands are cheaper than the truck owner renting a storage area or unit to house the vehicle and so the owner simply continues to repeat the offense. Commissioner Ings stated that an ordinance might be needed to address this issue. It was also suggested by the Commissioner that the Task Force incorporate tougher sign regulations in the Washington Shores Vision Plan with regards to graffiti versus signage.

## **Neighborhood Watch Presentation**

Kea Council stated that the Neighborhood Watch program is very flexible and can be suited to meet the specific needs of the neighborhood. The program can involve residents as well as businesses. A new program about to be launched is called Crime Free Multi-Housing. It would form an alliance with apartment complex managers and the Orlando Police Department to address habitual crime offenders that are damaging apartment communities. Crime offenders would get reported to apartment complex managers and can then be evicted for breaking a requirement to stay "crime free" in the individual's lease agreement.

## **Growth Management Plan update**

Staff handed out copies of the proposed changes to the Growth Management Plan (GMP) relating to the Washington Shores area; included were draft maps and text changes. Staff stated that it wants to hold a community meeting in conjunction with the Task Force to inform the neighborhood of the proposal for the Vision Plan and these proposed GMP changes.

Commissioner Ings invited the Washington Shores Vision Task Force to attend the Orange/Michigan community meeting being held on March 31, and requested that the Washington Shores' community meeting be held thereafter. The group agreed upon a proposed date of April 7<sup>th</sup> with the location to be determined as the best option leading up to an April 20<sup>th</sup> Municipal Planning Board meeting, where the GMP amendment will be considered.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm**