

NEFRC

Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

October 2010

New Leadership Announced

At its October meeting, the Northeast Florida Regional Council transitioned leadership from Commissioner Michael Griffis of Baker County to Ms. Elaine Brown of Duval County. Ms. Brown is NEFRC President until October 2011. Other officers and committee chairs also began their duties during that meeting. The 2010-2011 officers and committee chairs are as follows:

- President - Ms. Elaine Brown
- 1st Vice-President - Mr. Bob Sgroi
- 2nd Vice-President - Commissioner Kenny Eubanks
- Secretary/Treasurer - Mr. Hugh Fish
- Personnel, Budget and Finance Policy Committee - Mr. Larry Williams
- Strategic Regional Policy Planning Committee - Commissioner Ken Bryan
- Planning and Growth Management Policy Committee - Mr. Bob Sgroi
- Legislative Policy Committee - Commissioner Kenny Eubanks



Clockwise from top left: President Brown, 1st Vice-President Sgroi, 2nd Vice-President Eubanks, Secretary/Treasurer Fish

2010 Class of Regional Leadership Academy Graduation

The Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) graduated its fifth class at the September 23rd meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Community Institute, Inc. The Academy's mission is to build a strong, diverse regional network of leaders with a shared commitment to collaboration and to connecting our communities to make Northeast Florida a better place to live and work. The program covers regional history, demographics, growth management, equity, environment, resources and the full range of issues affecting the Region. The following 25 regional leaders graduated as part of the 2010 class:

- Sidney Ansbacher, Attorney/Shareholder, GrayRobinson, P.A.
- Michelle Barth, Regional Director, Office of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson
- Wyatt Bowers, Senior Project Manager, PBS&J
- Lt. Daniel Chitwood, Planning and Research Commander, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office
- Jason Cleghorn, Planner III/DRI Coordinator, St. Johns County Growth Management Department
- G. Todd Cottrill, Attorney, Pappas Metcalf Jenks & Miller, P.A.
- Brenna Durden, Attorney/Shareholder, Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.
- Dawn Emerick, Executive Director, Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida
- Broderick Green, Senior Manager - Business Development, Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Glenn Hettinger, Principal / Architect, Asset Solutions Consortium
- Michael Kirwan, Counsel, Foley & Lardner, LLP
- Lola Kress, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration
- Bill Lazar, Executive Director, St. Johns Housing Partnership, Inc.
- Alexander McCoy, VP of Economic Development, Putnam County Chamber
- Sarah Owen Gledhill, Planning Advocate, Florida Wildlife Foundation
- Ed Randolph, Business Development Coordinator, JEDC
- Bob Rhodes, Counsel, Foley & Lardner, LLP
- James Robinson, Principal, Leadership Management Institute
- Ameera Sayeed, Senior Regional Planner, NEFRC
- Allen Skinner, Project Manager, Genesis Group
- Alicia Somers, Vice President Consumer Sales Manager, Regions Bank
- The Honorable Cynthia Stevenson, County Commissioner, St. Johns County Commission
- David Strickland, Vice Chairman of Community Banking, EverBank
- Stephen Tocknell, Principal, Tocknell Planning Services
- Denise Wallace, President, BCM Services, Inc.

The Regional Leadership Academy is now accepting applications its 2011 class. For more information on the Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida or the Regional Leadership Academy, please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at 904-279-0885 x104, or jhewettapperson@nefrc.org.

Riverside-Avondale Named 1 of 10 "Great Neighborhoods" in America

On October 13th, Jacksonville's historic Riverside Avondale neighborhood became the first place in Florida to be designated by the American Planning Association (APA) as a Great Neighborhood. Great Places in America is APA's flagship program that recognizes excellence in planning and outcomes in communities across America. The program is designed to recognize places of exceptional character, quality and planning. Other great neighborhoods selected for 2010 include Denver's Lower Downtown (LoDo) and Boston's Back Bay. Congratulations to Riverside-Avondale on this prestigious designation! For more information on this designation, please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at (904) 279-0885 x104 or jhewettapperson@nefrc.org.

JCCI Study Kickoff

On October 20, 2010, the Jacksonville Community Council kicked off its latest Study Committee, "Recession Recovery and Beyond". Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) President Elaine Brown was tapped to chair this critical and timely study. Following this initial meeting, the study meetings will rotate to all seven counties in the Region. Beginning in January, the study committee will meet at the offices of the NEFRC for the remainder of the study period. You can follow the progress of the study by going to <http://jccirecoverystudy.blogspot.com/>. For more information, please contact Brian Teeple at (904) 279-0880 or bteeple@nefrc.org.

Bob Rhodes Named Outstanding Planning Advocate

The First Coast Section of the American Planning Association, Florida Chapter (FCAPA), has named the Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida Chairman Bob Rhodes as its 2010 Outstanding Planning Advocate. Mr. Rhodes will be honored with other award winners at the FCAPA winter awards luncheon to be held on Friday, November 19th, at the University of North Florida. For more information, please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at (904) 279-0885 x104 or jhewettapperson@nefrc.org.

Century Commission

The Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida, on October 11, 2010 heard a presentation from the Northeast Florida Regional Council's CEO, Brian Teeple, on The State of Regional Visioning in Florida. Highlighted were the nine regional visioning programs in progress throughout the state, including First Coast Vision. Mr. Teeple suggested the Commission take these efforts into consideration as it endeavors to envision the future of Florida. In a related matter Mr. Teeple was invited to advise the Collins Center for Public Policy as it launches its Nautilus Project. The Nautilus Project is a five-year project to "envision Florida's future". For more information, please contact Brian Teeple at bteeple@nefrc.org or (904) 279-0880.

Call for Regional Awards Nominations

Applications are being accepted through November 19, 2010, for the Northeast Florida Regional Council's Regional Awards. Applications are available on our website at www.nefrc.org in the following categories:

- The Harry Waldron Regional Leadership Award
- The Regional Quality of Life Award
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Transportation
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Public Safety
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Economic Development and Tourism
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Education
- The Regional Award for Excellence in Planning and Growth Management

Award winners will be recognized at the Council's **Annual Elected Officials and Regional Leaders Reception** to be held on January 20th at the University of North Florida. Please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at 279-0885 x104 or jhewettapperson@nefrc.org for additional information on the Regional Awards Program.

Jacksonville Environmental Justice Showcase Community Pilot Project

At the invitation of the City of Jacksonville and EPA Region 4, NEFRC participated in the "Reclaiming A Healthy Environment" forum, which included educational kids activities associated with the City of Jacksonville Environmental Justice Showcase Community on Saturday, October 23rd. Staff conducted surveys for First Coast Vision and worked with children to draw their concepts for the future of the Region. For more information on this event or to invite NEFRC staff to speak about First Coast Vision at a community event, please contact Margo Moehring at mmoehring@nefrc.org or (904) 279-0885 x161.

Quarterly Planning Directors' Meeting

The Northeast Florida Regional Council hosted its Quarterly Planning Directors' Meeting on October 27th. Representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation and Kimley-Horn presented the new Airport Compatible Land Use Guidebook to meeting attendees. Council staff provided updates on the Florida Transportation Plan 2060, the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant and the First Coast Consortium. The local government planning directors in attendance provided updates on issues facing their communities and how they are addressing mobility planning and energy efficiency requirements established in Ch. 163.3177, F.S. The next Quarterly Planning Directors' meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2011. For additional information on this meeting, please contact Ed Lehman at (904) 279-0885 x130 or elehman@nefrc.org.