



**MINUTES OF THE CRA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
IN CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
100 E. BOYNTON BEACH BLVD.
BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA 33435
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017, AT 6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Linda Cross, Chair
Robert Pollock, Vice Chair
Allen Hendricks
Thomas Murphy, Jr
Rick Maharajh
Cindy Falco-DiCorrado

Michael Simon, Director, CRA
Theresa Utterback, Development Services
Manager
Sergeant Henry Diehl
Bonnie Nicklien, Administrative Services
and Grant Manager, CRA
Officer Jivanet Rivera
Brigitte Chiappetta, Prototype, Inc.

ABSENT:

James DeVoursney

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Agenda Approval

A. Additions, Deletions, Corrections to the Agenda - None

B. Adoption of Agenda

Motion made by Ms. Falco-DiCorrado, seconded by Mr. Maharajh, to adopt the agenda as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

IV. Information Only

A. Financial Report Period Ended October 31, 2017

Mr. Simon advised that the annual report and audit have to be done by March, and work begins in January.

B. Neighborhood Policing Program 4th Quarter Reports for FY 2016-2017

Mr. Simon stated that there is a budget for out-of-pocket expenses paid by the officers.

Sergeant Henry Diehl reported that he donated 100 book bags full of supplies to the Unity in Community Festival to hand out to children. After the hurricane, he distributed ice in the Heart of Boynton. He said that Hurricane Irma interrupted their “Sweat with a Cop” program since FEMA has taken over the facility. They are mentoring students one-on-one at various schools.

Chair Cross asked if the board should know about any particular program or initiative. Sergeant Diehl replied that they are assembling a list of “S.M.A.R.T. goals” and the new hire, Officer Jivanet Rivera, will present it to them with a “Shot Spotter” program, which triangulates shooting calls. They are studying the program with the help of the Riviera Beach Police Department and are hoping to get grant money to acquire the program.

Sergeant Diehl said he was looking into handing out stickers or badges, since the Crime Prevention Unit will not provide that any more. Mr. Simon suggested that it would be easier and quicker for him to get the funds from the CRA.

Vice Chair Pollock mentioned that Sergeant Diehl has already made plans for 20 and maybe 22 families to have a complete turkey dinner for Thanksgiving. The recipients were suggested by the principal at Galaxy Elementary School. He said he raised enough money to do the boxes already. He mentioned that many families from Houston and Puerto Rico came into the Galaxy Elementary area, so this service will be very helpful.

In response to a question by Mr. Hendricks, Sergeant Diehl said he had not reached out to the Community Caring Center regarding the turkey giveaway. Mr. Hendricks suggested coordinating with them, as they have a similar program. Sergeant Diehl said he has been working with Home Depot and the Heart of Boynton Council as well as residents.

Mr. Hendricks also mentioned that the Forest Park neighborhood did a backpack drive, and he thought maybe they could be a partner to increase the scope of the project. Sergeant Diehl said that St. John’s Church, the Unity in Community Festival, and Metro PCS all handed out backpacks, about 1,000 altogether. Mr. Hendricks invited Sergeant Diehl to speak at the Forest Park group.

Mr. Maharajh commended Sergeant Diehl for his good work.

C. 2017 Florida Redevelopment Association Report

Mr. Simon talked about the Florida Redevelopment Association (FRA) annual conference in Daytona Beach, noting three staff persons and two board members (Ms. Falco-DiCorrado and Mr. Murphy) attended. He commented on the mobile tours of the International Speedway in Daytona/the CRA waterfront area, and the Smyrna Beach CRA.

Mr. Simon mentioned that Florida Senator Jack Latvala gave a keynote speech in which he spoke to the organization regarding the proposed legislation by the Florida State House Speaker and others in opposition to the way CRAs operate. They are presenting new bills in both the House and the Senate that could alter the way CRAs operate and expend Tax Increment Revenue dollars in the future. Mr. Simon stated he is now serving on the Legislative Committee for the FRA to try to follow along with the House bill and the Senate bill (which are both in committee).

Mr. Simon elaborated that the House bill is considering sunseting CRAs by a date certain and making CRAs unable to obligate or bond funds into project years past the sunset date. The Senate bill is a less extreme version of the House bill, mostly to require lobbyists to register with regard to CRAs, submitting annual report to the County, etc. The FRA is trying to work with the City's lobbyist to also represent the CRAs. Mr. Simon and Lori LaVerriere will travel to Tallahassee to represent the local CRA on Palm Beach County Day.

Mr. Simon announced they won the Best Development Project for the 500 Ocean Project at the conference. Mr. Simon and Chair Cross thanked Ms. Falco-DiCorrado and Mr. Murphy for attending the conference.

Discussion ensued on the legislative process and what people and groups can do to influence bills. Mr. Simon mentioned that the Florida League of Cities is supportive of the CRAs and has a lobbyist. He advised board members to send letters/emails to Representatives and Senators for the area and also to County Commissioners informing them of the benefits of CRA and request that they set aside funding for them. Chair Cross emphasized that the legislators may not know what the CRAs really accomplish.

D. 2018 CRA Advisory Board Meeting Dates

Chair Cross said the meeting dates are all first Thursdays:

January 4
February 1
March 1
April 5
May 3
June 7

July 5
August 2
September 6
October 4
November 1
December 6

Motion made by Mr. Hendricks, seconded by Ms. Falco-DiCorrado, to approve the meeting dates. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

V. Public Comment - None

VI. Consent

A. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes - October 5, 2017

Motion made by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Vice Chair Pollock, to approve the Consent Agenda (minutes of the Advisory Board meeting for October 5, 2017). In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

At this time, Sergeant Diehl introduced Officer Jivanet ("J") Rivera and said she is already involved with the community policing. Officer Rivera said she is enjoying working with the young people in the community.

VII. Assignments

A. Pending Assignments from April 11, 2017 CRA Board Meeting

1. Special Events Vendor Policy Regarding For-Profit and Non-Profit Vendors (Tabled 6/1/2017)

Mr. Simon explained that the policy in the backup was a newly drafted policy, and the CRA Board is asking for feedback from this board. He reviewed why this policy was created - should a high school band raising money for a band trip have to pay for a tent?

The proposed policy is that no more than two nonprofits would be approved for a monthly event and no more than four for large special events. Also under consideration are the location of the vendors, the theme or type of the event, fundraising solicitation, space available, and amount of fees.

In the past, nonprofits had to sell something pirate-related at the Pirate Fest. However, exceptions have been made at the event, which complicate the matter. A firm policy would eliminate that confusion.

Food vendors at events such as the Pirate Fest do not have to pay for their tent because they are taking money away from their brick and mortar locations. They try to provide a walk-in setup for the food vendors so that the attendees will try the food and then hopefully go to the brick and mortar location later on. The reason for the vendor tents is to draw attention to local businesses. Mr. Simon spoke about the high cost of putting on an event.

Chair Cross thought that if a nonprofit could provide proof of their status, that they should have a reduced rate/cost. She also thought local businesses could pay a reduced rate. Regarding free versus reduced rate, Mr. Simon said that nonprofits that provide social services help stabilize a neighborhood, but the local businesses could possibly benefit more.

If there was a group raising money for hurricane relief (for example), Chair Cross did not think they should get a free tent, but should pay for the cost of the tent. Mr. Simon suggested having a certain amount of tent sites and a proportion (perhaps half) of those reserved for local businesses. He noted that tents are mandated, and there are increased safety measures that are costly.

Further discussion ensued with the following points being raised:

- Liked two to four ratio (nonprofits per event)
- Keep fees uniform for all nonprofits (at cost)
- Certain number of local businesses get free tents?
 - Maybe \$100 or \$200 over cost?

Motion made by Ms. Falco-DiCorrado, seconded by Mr. Maharajh, to take the item off the table. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Susan Oyer, 140 SE 27 Way, recommended a flat \$100 for the nonprofits and limiting the number. She wanted to separate businesses in the CRA (below cost), within City limits (at cost), and then everyone else ("quite a bit more"). She said vendors should be required to sell something theme-related.

Mr. Simon stated that the tents are all 10 feet by 10 feet. With the generator and lights, the overall cost for a tent is about \$300-\$400. The pirate vendors were charged around \$550. The fees could be changed according to the costs for that year. He spoke about the benefits the CRA gives businesses throughout the year.

More discussion points were:

- 50% cost for nonprofits?
- Give CRA businesses and local businesses a break
- Have the same fee rates and prioritization for nonprofits and businesses according to location

Chair Cross reviewed that they favored charging 50% of the tent price tag (that businesses outside the City pay) for businesses and local nonprofits within the CRA. Businesses within the City - but outside the CRA - could pay the cost. If a group leaves the event early, they would not get their deposit back.

Motion made by Mr. Hendricks, seconded by Mr. Maharajh, that with respect to the vendor policy, the only recommendation that this board makes is that the fee for local CRA businesses and local 501(c)3 charities would be 50% of the rate that is charged for businesses and nonprofits (vendors) outside the City. Businesses and nonprofits within the City limits but outside the CRA would be afforded at cost (the vendor price). All others would pay the full vendor price set by staff. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

B. Reports on Pending Assignments

1. None

C. New Assignments from October 10, 2017 CRA Board Meeting

1. None

VIII. CRA Board Items for CRA Advisory Board Review & Recommendations

A. Old Business

1. None

B. New Business

1. Consideration of Purchase for Lot 13 on NW 10th Avenue

Development Manager Theresa Utterback reported that the CRA approached the owners of this property one year ago about selling, and they called recently to express interest in the sale. The appraisal came in at \$81,500, and they agreed to sell at the appraised value. There is no commission due, just closing costs. She said the property is just north of Sara Sims Park on Martin Luther King Boulevard and is a 12,000 square foot lot.

Motion made by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Vice Chair Pollock, to buy the property. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

IX. Future Agenda Items - None

X. Adjournment

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.