

**MINUTES OF THE
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2005 – 3:00 P.M.
CITY HALL
CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM - EIGHTH FLOOR
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

Present/Absent

Pamela Adams	P
Brad Fitzgerald	P
Steve Glassman	P
Eileen Helfer	P
Ina Lee	P
Al Miniaci	A
Judy Scher	P
Linda Gill	P
Henry Sniezek	P
Mel Rubinstein	P

STAFF

Bob LaMattina, Beach CRA Manager
Ronald Hicks, Economic Development Director
Earl Prizlee, Project Engineer
John Hoelzle, Director of Parking & Fleet Services
Lindwell Bradley, Code Supervisor
Al Lovingshimer, Code Officer
Patricia Smith, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ina Lee called the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 p.m. and roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Steve Glassman and seconded by Judy Scher to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2005 special meeting of the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board. Board unanimously approved.

OVERLAY DISTRICT UPDATE

Bob LaMattina stated that he had spoken with Marc LaFerrier, Planning & Zoning Director, on this matter, and he was advised that the Beach Redevelopment Board should possibly consider getting a consultant on board to assist with this project due to the workload facing staff. He continued that he would like to pursue that option.

Henry Sniezek asked if the CRA should pay for the consultant.

Bob LaMattina stated that it would be up to this Board to make such a recommendation.

Chair Ina Lee stated that they needed to know the cost for such a consultant, and then preliminary costs could be presented to the Board at their next meeting.

Pamela Adams arrives approximately 3:10pm.

Eileen Helfer asked if this Board could set a limit as a basis for their approval so the matter could be expedited.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the only problem was that they did not know how much money was available, and how much had already been allocated.

Mr. LaMattina stated that he would check on the cost with Marc LaFerrier.

Steve Glassman stated that possibly some side streets could be reviewed in connection with the zoning issues, and possibly there could be some mixed-use. He continued stating that if they wanted to view this as a "seaside village," then they needed to begin looking outside of the existing boundaries. He stated that some of the "mom and pop" establishments could possibly incorporate a sidewalk café or small store.

Chair Ina Lee stated that would be part of the overlay district to incorporate uses other than what already existed. She further stated that the Board and staff would need to review some creative financing for such establishments.

Henry Sniezek asked how long it would take to get someone on board to work on this matter.

Mr. LaMattina stated that it was possible that the Planning Department already had a consultant under contract, and this project might be within the scope of such contract. Otherwise, the contract would have to be put out for bid through the normal process which could take 30-90 days.

Chair Ina Lee further stated that a consultant was also being hired in connection with the preparedness plan. She asked if this would be a different consultant for this project. Mr. LaMattina stated that it would be a different one.

Mel Rubinstein asked if there was already a plan in place concerning the Overlay District. Chair Ina Lee stated that the plan consisted of various categories, but the plan had to be expedited and the Planning Department could not do that work at this time. Mel Rubinstein asked if the consultant would serve as a facilitator.

Mr. LaMattina explained that the foundation already existed, but it now had to proceed to the next level. He advised that he would get further information from the Planning Department, and then pass it on to this Board.

Mel Rubinstein reiterated that "time was of the essence" regarding this matter.

Chair Ina Lee suggested that Mr. LaMattina speak with Paul Costanzo, former Beach Redevelopment Projects Manager/Principal Planner about the work that had already been done, and what was necessary to get to the next level. Mr. LaMattina stated that he would speak with Mr. Costanzo and get all the information necessary.

Judy Scher stated that it was her impression that the plan was ready to be expedited. Chair Ina Lee stated that the work that had been done in connection with the research had been forwarded to the Planning Department, but they had some issues regarding some of the information. More work was necessary and major issues were involved. Therefore, staff recommended the hiring of a consultant to expedite the matter.

Linda Gill stated that even though a consultant would be hired, the City would still have to tackle the project and review the consultant's work. She asked if the hiring of a consultant would actually speed up the process.

Mr. LaMattina stated that he would seek further clarification from Planning staff as to what work had already been completed. He further stated that he had been informed that an expertise hand was needed, but staff did not have the time to work on such a project. He stated that Marc LaFerrier advised that possibly his department would pay for the consultant.

WATER TAXI

Chair Ina Lee stated that the individual who was to be present at today's meeting to give their presentation was ill. She stated that the issues which had been raised were non-existent at this point in time because approval had been denied by the State.

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

Mr. LaMattina advised that the RFP had been put out.

Linda Gill asked if many organizations normally responded to such an RFP. Mr. LaMattina stated that about 15 pages of consultants had received the RFP. He further stated that it was difficult at this time finding a contractor because FEMA was absorbing them, and also might be absorbing such consultants. He stated that responses should be received within 30 days.

Chair Ina Lee stated that she wanted this Board and the City aligned so that a plan could be put in place. She stated that this Board wanted a timeline and asked if that could be provided at the Board's next meeting.

Chair Ina Lee stated that in the past the Board had received back-up materials with their agenda, and she asked if that could be continued. She requested that a copy of the RFP be provided to the Board.

Mel Rubinstein asked if Glen Margolis, head of Broward County's Emergency Management Agency, should be invited to one of the Board's future meetings.

Chair Ina Lee stated that she had spoken with the Chamber of Commerce and what was presently being done would fall under that umbrella. She explained that all major players would be invited. She stated that Miami was going to hold a major symposium at the highest level of their government, including private sectors, to deal with all aspects of this issue. She continued

stating that this Board would be invited to that meeting, but she did not have a schedule as of this time.

Chair Ina Lee stated that Jack Latona had a monthly meeting at FAU, and the one held last week was about this subject. The head of the City's Disaster Emergency Management Agency had spoken. Chair Ina Lee stated that she was very impressed and she had been unaware of the depth of the work that had already taken place.

Linda Gill asked if they could be asked to attend one of this Board's meeting. She was advised that the person's name was Don Druitt.

Chair Ina Lee stated that he would be able to hear feedback from individuals on the Beach, and what they had to deal with in regard to this matter.

Mel Rubinstein stated that the Sun-Sentinel had a large article on this subject. He felt such individuals would be good to have present at the Board's meeting to answer questions.

Brad Fitzgerald entered the meeting at approximately 3:18 p.m.

Pamela Adams stated that the County and the Sheriff's Department were responsible, and possibly a representative from each organization should also be present to discuss the matter.

Mr. LaMattina advised that Don Druitt was the liaison to the County and were in constant contact.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Business Façade Improvement Program

Mr. Lamattina stated that staff had done research as to what was taking place in other locations. He advised that the NW CRA had such a program. He suggested that they target various areas and draft a design concept.

Chair Ina Lee stated that there are certain areas of the Beach that do not resemble a world-class destination and have been left to their own devices. She stated that previously some discussion had been held with some individuals whereby a public/private partnership was suggested to be formed to create a façade program, particularly for the areas that were not looking so great.

Earl Prizlee, Project Engineer. stated that while they were engaged in the streetscape project, they wanted to make sure that everything was coordinated. He stated they were not isolating areas, and were looking at a broad view. He stated there had to be oversight regarding this project. He added that he did not believe that the logistics were overwhelming.

Steve Glassman reiterated that design was a very important feature of this program, and grants were available for such types of projects.

Henry Sniezek asked if someone could check with the City Attorney's office as to whether the CRA could apply for grants independently.

Eileen Helfer asked if the CRA applied for such grants would that not limit what the funds could be used for and the areas involved. Henry Sniezek explained that sometimes the grants and programs did permit work outside of the named boundaries.

Sidewalks

Judy Scher stated that a tour by this Board had been taken regarding parking and sidewalks. She asked if an update could be provided on those issues.

Earl Prizlee stated that they were doing a conceptual refinement of the plans. He advised that they were attempting to expedite the process. He added that the first phase would take place in the Las Olas area.

Judy Scher stated that during their tour of the area, the consensus was that the sidewalks and lead in area should be redone with pavers. Mr. Prizlee stated they were studying the issue of placing pavers in the roadways. He reiterated that pavers would be used on the sidewalks.

Mel Rubinstein asked about the time frame. Mr. Prizlee stated that the renderings were needed and he hoped to have a meeting soon.

Chair Ina Lee reiterated that the renderings were to be brought back to this Board. She asked if they could be presented at the Board's next meeting.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the City Manager and staff have been focusing on the Beach as the main focal point. She stated that had not been the case for a long time.

Commissioner Trantalis' Trees

Mel Rubinstein asked about the status of the trees that were to be planted as a result of Commissioner Trantalis' birthday party.

Linda Gill stated that there would be a groundbreaking on October 14, 2005 in the Sebastian handicap parking lot. She believed that it was to be held around 10:00 a.m.

CIP Budget

Mel Rubinstein asked when the complete budget would be presented to this Board. It was stated that CIP was not yet finished with it.

Chair Ina Lee asked what the CIP Budget had to do with the Board's 5-year plan. It was stated that the monies went into the CIP and the City decided what projects would receive the funding. Chair Ina Lee reiterated that they needed to figure out how much money was going to be available, and then the Board could recommend how such funds should be used.

Chair Ina Lee asked if the 5-year plan could be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Mel Rubinstein asked if this Board was still to decide on the uses for the funds. It was explained that this Board made recommendations to the City Commission, and then they decided how the

funds would be spent. Mel Rubinstein asked if a copy of last year's budget could also be provided in order to make some comparisons.

Linda Gill stated that it was wonderful that the City Manager was focusing on certain projects.

Holiday Lights

Ronald Hicks, Economic Development Director stated that this Board had recommended that no more than \$45,000 be spent on holiday lights. Chair Ina Lee corrected the statement and explained that the Board did not want to spend more than \$45,000 on transformers. It was stated that the transformers had been delivered and that no CRA monies had been used. It was further stated that the goal was to have the lights put up this year. Public Works stated that they could not do the work, and the City Manager redistributed some of the City's workers and the transformers would be installed. It was stated that this would go before the City Commission at their next meeting.

City Manager

Linda Gill asked if comments could be made in the minutes of this meeting reiterating what a wonderful job the City Manager and his staff have been doing. She felt there had been a tremendous turn around in the last year.

Chair Ina Lee stated that she believed it would be nice if the Board wrote a letter to the City Manager. Linda Gill stated that due to all the negative feelings and comments in the past, she agreed it would be nice to write and let the City Commission know how things were turning around and how pleased everyone was, and that people were feeling proud to be part of this City once again.

Judy Scher stated that it was great that the City Manager came to their Association meeting and spoke with the residents in the area. She felt he was very cooperative and understood the concerns of the residents.

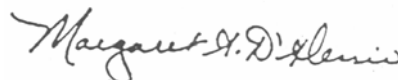
Restrooms/Beach

Chair Ina Lee stated that this matter was still being reviewed.

Motion made by Eileen Helfer and seconded by Judy Scher to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret A. D'Alessio