

Approved
MINUTES OF THE
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 20, 2006– 2:30 P.M.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	2006 Cumulative	
		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Brad Fitzgerald, Vice Chair	P	7	3
Eileen Helfer	P	10	0
Ina Lee, Chair	P	9	1
Miranda Lopez	P	8	2
Al Miniaci	A	5	5
Carlos Molinet	P	6	0
Amauray Piedra	P	6	4
Judy Scher	P	10	0
Shirley Smith	P	9	1
Henry Snizek	P	7	3

Staff

Bob LaMattina, Beach CRA Manager
 Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom
 Ron Hicks, Economic Development Director
 Mario Sotolongo, Code Enforcement Officer
 Michael Schiff, Bermudian Project
 Mona Laventure, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Approval of October 2006 Minutes

Motion made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Helfer to approve the minutes of the October 2006 meeting. Board unanimously approved.

Ms. Smith noted that on page 4, paragraph 2, the \$15 million mentioned was available for the 3 Plus 2 project only, not citywide.

3. Presentation of Bermudian Project

Michael A. Shciff, AIA, NCARB

Mr. Michael Schiff, project architect, showed the Board photos of the area where the project would be located. Mr. Schiff explained that they had tried to provide a view through the building via an opening in the building approximately four stories high, allowing passers-by to see through to the Intracoastal. Landscape on the building's sides were kept to a minimum to preserve those views as well. Mr. Schiff stated that the building would be 10 stories tall, with 26 units. Parking would be accomplished via valet/elevator.

Mr. Schiff explained that the unit prices ranged from \$1.7 million to \$3.5 million. Unit size ranged from 2,700 square feet to 4,500 square feet. Mr. Schiff stated that the building was designed to interfere as little as possible with views from the nearby buildings.

Ms. Scher informed Mr. Schiff that she lived in the Birch Crest Condo, across the street from this project. She told Mr. Schiff that even though the project would not block Birch Point's views, there were other buildings in the neighbor whose views would be obscured. Ms. Scher said the Central Beach Alliance would not vote in favor of Mr. Schiff's project. Mr. Schiff confirmed that the Central Beach Alliance voted 10 in favor and 137 opposed to his project. He assured Ms. Scher that "there will be something here... and isn't it better that I do it?" Mr. Schiff stated he was interested in being a good neighbor and would not build the maximum allowed, as some other developers would.

Mr. Hicks felt the project's pedestrian and motorist experience was not very attractive or friendly. Mr. Hicks described one view of the building as a "back of a warehouse." Mr. Schiff assured him that this could be addressed and agreed to do so.

Mr. Schiff confirmed that no cars could be seen from outside the building. Mr. Hicks advised Mr. Schiff to vent the garage to the roof. Mr. Schiff advised Ms. Helfer that the sidewalks were standard City sidewalks.

Mr. Schiff listed a few other projects he had designed and reiterated that he was sensitive to comments and would incorporate them.

4. Update Streetscape Phase 1A & 1B
Phase 1A

Bob LaMattina, CRA Manager

Mr. LaMattina noted that the Boat Show had temporarily slowed the project, and the contractor would submit a revised schedule for review. He agreed to advise the Board of the new schedule and estimated completion date at their next meeting. Keith & Schnars had informed

Mr. Prizlee that the travel lanes between Seabreeze Boulevard and A1A could be opened the week of December 18. Mr. LaMattina reported that they were working on an information booth for the Travel/Tourism Trolley on the south side of Las Olas.

Chair Lee hoped the project would be completed by February 4, 2007 in time for the Super Bowl. She noted that an additional 120,000 visitors would come to the area for the Super Bowl and there would be international exposure for the destination. Mr. Hicks thought the bulk of the project would be completed by then.

Phase 1B

Mr. Hicks reminded the Board that there were questions as to whether or not the funding was available. Once the budget was confirmed, the City Manager would meet with the Phase 1B consultant and the project would go forward.

5. Update Restroom Discussion

Bob LaMattina, CRA Manager

Mr. LaMattina said they had been researching site location restrictions in the beachfront area. Once the final site was approved, Mr. Prizlee would order a Survey Task Order, hopefully by January 1, 2007. Mr. LaMattina had asked Exeloo about charging for use of public toilets and Exeloo had replied that there were other funding mechanisms, such as advertising and vending machines, as well as special taxing districts. Exeloo had noted that the advertising option had been largely unsuccessful, but a design including some form of vending machine would be more viable. Chair Lee thought that there was an ordinance prohibiting advertising on the beach and asked Mr. Hicks to research this.

Mr. Hicks described the prospective site for the automated toilet on Sebastian, and said the City Manager must first visit and approve the site. If this site proved successful, they would move on from there.

Regarding funding of the new bathrooms' maintenance, Chair Lee said they should consider funding through the CRA budget as a capital improvement, or through the Parks and Recreation Department as maintenance.

6. Revised Five-Year Budget Projection

Bob LaMattina, CRA Manager

Mr. LaMattina said he needed to know if the estimate of the anticipated expenditures received from the new hotels was accurate. Mr. LaMattina distributed updated copies of the five-year budget information to the Board.

Chair Lee said the new Doubletree project and Trump Las Olas were within their CRA and these should be added into their budget.

Mr. LaMattina drew the Board's attention to the \$15 million budget figure for bonding for the Aquatic Center. He felt that for the type of facility they all desired, past costs estimates would not come close to the funds they would need.

Chair Lee noted that the Board wanted to be included in the process for the Hall of Fame project.

7. Old/New Business

BRAB Members

Old Business:

[This item was taken out of order]

3 Plus 2 Update

Commissioner Rodstrom distributed copies of correspondence from Jim Wolf at FDOT. In October, Commissioner Rodstrom, the City Attorney, Assistant City Manager Kathleen Gunn and City Engineer Peter Partington had met with FDOT and pled the City's case to acquire the funding. Commissioner Rodstrom reported that as of today, the 3 Plus 2 Plan was not feasible and would be terminated by FDOT.

Commissioner Rodstrom had asked FDOT to consider providing the City with some funds remaining from the Joint Participation Agreement for Trolley stops and FDOT felt this might be considered. Some of the funds could also be used for new lighting to address a turtle complaint. In the end, Commissioner Rodstrom reported they had left the meeting with a promise of \$3 million for the beach.

Master Plan Update

Mr. Hicks said he had spoken with Mr. LaFerrier, Planning Director, who informed him that the Master Plan was enforceable: aspects of it could be included in City code, but the other documents were concerned with their future vision of the City and would set the stage for the Master Plan. Chair Lee said she had been proposing to the Board that they revisit Vision 2020 to provide that vision to be incorporated into the Master Plan. Chair Lee feared that "all this work is going to be done without a united vision first, without the input where we all get together." Mr. Hicks agreed to ask Mr. LaFerrier what the process was; he thought that meeting with different groups in the City might be part of that process.

Chair Lee asked for an update regarding the condo emergency preparation template. She also wanted to begin meetings with the condo managers now and begin implementing this project. Chair Lee suggested the Beach Disaster Committee reconvene after the holidays to consider the next step toward preparedness.

New Business:

Ms. Scher commented that the insurance crisis could eventually force the residents and small businesses from the beach. She wanted the Board to discuss some actions they could take. Mr. Fitzgerald remarked that this was a "State of Florida issue," not a Beach CRA issue, and it was affecting everyone. He stated there were many people working on this issue at the present time.

Chair Lee announced that the Holiday Lights event would be held at Trina's on November 30, 5:30 – 7:30.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.