

**CORRECTED APPROVED MINUTES
MINUTES OF THE
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 16, 2007– 2:30 P.M.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room**

Attendance has been revised to reflect the correct Board appointment year.

| <u>Board Members</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Cumulative</u> <u>Feb 2007 – Jan 2008</u> | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---|---------------|
| | | <u>Present</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
| Ina Lee, Chair | P | 3 | 0 |
| Eileen Helfer | P | 3 | 0 |
| Miranda Lopez | P | 3 | 0 |
| Carlos Molinet | P | 3 | 0 |
| Amauray Piedra | P | 2 | 1 |
| Judy Scher | P | 3 | 0 |
| Shirley Smith | P | 3 | 0 |
| Henry Sniezek | A | 2 | 1 |
| Aiton Yaari | A | 1 | 2 |

Staff

Freddie Zelaya, Office of Emergency Management
 Karen Reese, Office of Economic Development
 Al Lovingshimer, Code Enforcement
 Russ Hanstein, Fort Lauderdale Police
 Diane Alarcon, Parking
 Earl Prizlee, Engineering Design Manager

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m.

The meeting was delayed for a lack of quorum; those present discussed the update on the streetscape until a quorum was present.

Mr. Prizlee reported the Streetscape Project was close to completion and operational. The final walk through was completed and a punch list for the contractor was made. Those minor items will be handled during the next week. The irrigation inspection will be on April 18, 2007; FPL will hook up the electrical system and perform a 5-day burn-in once the lights are operational. The thermoplastic stripes will be installed on April 21, 2007, as the asphalt must cure for 30 days before the thermoplastic can be installed. Broward County will inspect the traffic lights on May 2, 2007. The County will maintain the lights.

Mr. Prizlee added the pavers should be cleaned and sealed before the Air and Sea Show or wait until after the event; the work would be scheduled for evening hours.

There will be a revised schedule from Groundwork's Nursery, for trees and shrubs. Many of the trees and shrubs ordered were limited sized due to heavy losses sustained in the hurricane; also the project specified "hundreds" of plants. A meeting with the contractor will be scheduled to discuss what other options are available for additional mature plants. The contractor will maintain the plantings for one year with replacement of any plantings that die.

Mr. Yaari asked what had been done with the old trees that were removed in the Streetscape Project. Mr. Prizlee reported that the old trees were removed and re-planted at the DC Alexander Park. The addition of trees had caught the eye of some people; requests for using the Park for functions had increased, and even the Air and Sea Show is considering using the Park in the future.

Chair Lee stated the medians needed to look fabulous since they were the first thing a visitor would see entering the City. She noted a litter problem developing on the medians and hoped that once the plantings were completed pedestrians would be deterred from littering. Mr. Prizlee added that when the plantings were fully grown there would be less room to walk on the median. Mr. Yaari reported that the pavers on the sidewalk were full of cigarette butts. Mr. Lovingshimer stated Mr. Hicks was working on that problem. Chair Lee stated citing people for an offense is one thing but she felt it would be more productive to educate the people about the changes taking place and planned for the future to bring the people into partnership with the new vision for the Beach.

Plans need to be made when Mr. Hicks returns, on how to educate and enlist the people of the area. There is no need to discuss the press event until streetscape is completed. It is on the agenda but it is too early to discuss it. Once it is completed and beautiful then a press release will be in order. Ms. Smith asked about the water used for irrigation for the new plantings. Mr. Prizlee reported new plantings are allowed by Code.

Ms. Smith inquired about the two lots and parking spaces on Las Olas Circle that had been used for storage for tractors and cement rubble. Mr. Prizlee stated meters were always planned for the areas. The lots belong to the City and are being studied in the Master Plan. In the interim Parks and Recreation will discuss what to do with the lots.

Chair Lee stated a quorum was now present and suggested returning to the agenda.

II. Approval of March, 2007 Minutes

Motion made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Piedra, to approve the minutes of the March 2007 meeting. In a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

RETURN TO STREETSCAPE DISCUSSION

Ms. Smith addressed the traffic problem with no right turn lane available onto Sea Breeze from Las Olas. It was promised in 2000 that 5th Street would be returned to two way, but that has not happened. Chair Lee suggested continuing with the Agenda and traffic issues could be addressed under old business.

III. Update on Streetscapes

Mr. Yaari reported an issue with parking for Police Officers on duty in the area. Mr. Hanstein, from the Police Department, reported complaints received at City Hall stated the first thing tourist saw entering the City over the bridge was Police Cars. With the construction in the area officers had to park the patrol cars in unsecured areas and vandalism became a problem. With limited parking available, it was difficult to keep the patrol cars safe and have the vehicles close enough for the Officers use. Mr. Yaari suggested designated parking for patrol cars. Mr. Piedra agreed that Tourists should not see Police as their first impression of the City. Mr. Hanstein suggested speaking with John Holsworth in parking to discuss a solution to the problem. Ms. Lopez stated the new trees in the parking lot were too thin and short. Mr. Prizlee agreed and said the problem was being handled and the trees would probably be replaced.

Chair Lee requested the Board to be notified when the lights are functional, and to be updated on replanting or additions to the central median.

IV. Press Event for Streetscape Finalization

Chair Lee stated the press event for the finalization of Streetscape would be tabled until the project is completed.

V. Beach Walking Tour Results/Action Steps

Chair Lee stated the Beach walking tour had been very informative. A list of

notable items had been generated and sent to Board members. Mr. Prizlee stated a full staff meeting, dealing with those issues will now be augmented, the entire office would take the tour covering every nook and cranny, adding to the Board generated list and breaking the list into categories. Some items noted were FDOT jurisdiction, some are County, or City, and others are Parks and Recreation. The list must be categorized in order to get the proper people to produce work orders. Some items may require a contractor to perform the needed work. Chair Lee asserted everyone realized there was a lot of work to be done, and although they are not huge items, they are added details.

Walking from the Hall of Fame to Bahia Mar pointed out everything, some items are on private property, some are public; the Board must make sure nothing falls through the cracks. Chair Lee acknowledged two distinct lines, things that need to be repaired and beautified and a vision for the next few years to wisely spend the money available. Some members were at the EDAB meeting where the Hall of Fame was discussed, that is a long term project, and this Board needs to be involved in that process. Twenty eight million dollars of that project is BRAB money. Brainstorming on that project is necessary now, in addition to CIP what can be done. Someone should look at Hollywood's Arts Park with the creative children's feature; research other community's playground areas to see what creative ideas can be utilized. It must be "spectacular."

Other than the list of repairs, what can be created to draw interest and people to the area. Ms. Lopez stated the Hall of Fame will be so large, the park out front could be landscaped, and benches, tables, and rest areas installed. Mr. Yaari suggested the park would be part of the Hall of Fame project. Chair Lee affirmed the Park, the Hall of Fame, and the Swimming area would be combined. Mr. Piedra suggested median landscaping along A1A and Chair Lee stated it was a CIP project, recently passed and fast tracked. Mr. Yaari questioned who would walk the beach on a regular basis in the future since the Beach continually changed. Mr. Prizlee stated there is always an upcoming season, with a pictorial list of items it would be easy to see what has been accomplished.

Chair Lee suggested planning should be in place before the boat show each year, and the Board should take the tour every year. New Board members arrive in February and taking the tour would familiarize the new members with the area. Mr. Snizek suggested integrating the public spaces South of Las Olas with a thematic plan. Chair Lee suggested a water park, visible from A1A and DC Alexander Park would tie into the Hall of Fame. The water park could be the icon, the Hall of Fame must be a world class facility, and the park would have to be an interactive area. Parking and covering were discussed at the EDAB

meeting, and the use of the Intracoastal area for high end events. Mr. Yaari suggested using the corner lot as a three level parking area, landscaped, with a promenade on the first level, a welcome center, small offices, restrooms, a small police station, restaurants, and shops, designed so that it would not look like a parking facility.

Chair Lee agreed and commented the work done on the South Beach lot was amazing, a three level parking facility has been created and the landscaping totally hides the fact that it is a parking facility. Ms. Lopez suggested researching the restrictions for the Oceanside lot and discussing options for utilizing the lot at the next meeting. Mr. Yaari stated more people could come to the Beach if sufficient parking was available. Something must be done with the Intracoastal as it is valuable land. Ms. Scher added that it was being discussed but the property was still in the courts (Palazzo). Mr. Prizlee stated the matter would hopefully be resolved soon. Chair Lee advised that the original RFP (Palazzo) came from the Board to deal with that property and once the case was resolved, it would come up for discussion again. Chair Lee inquired about the toilets at Sebastian and Mr. Prizlee stated the design for restrooms at Sebastian included two module units, two unisex bathrooms, and one handicapped. The proposed site is located at the Sebastian parking lot where there is a lot of pedestrian traffic.

Chair Lee summed up the discussion stating all members liked the concept of a themed water park at DC Alexander; the Oceanside lot would be on the agenda for the next meeting with restriction information. Mr. Prizlee was instructed to report on the upcoming walk and the items on the sorted list.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Chair Lee extended thanks to the CBA and Mr. Glassman for the recent Condo Disaster Preparedness Plan Initiative meeting. Mr. Zelaya was introduced from the Office of Economic Development and he explained his role of domestic preparedness. Mr. Zelaya will handle the Condo Initiative Project, handling questions, phone calls, and setting up meetings with Condo Associations to educate them towards preparing disaster plans. Chair Lee suggested a follow up article in the CBA newsletter about the recent meeting including Mr. Zelaya's contact numbers for easy reference.

The Board discussed the need of passes for managers, commercial property owners, and residents to be allowed back on the beach area after a hurricane. Ms. Scher stated some residents would not leave the area for fear of not being

allowed back after the storm. Chair Lee informed the Board that there was some misconception on the matter. The City Manager has a specific plan for storms that can not be altered; people go check for damage before anyone can be allowed back on the Beach. The Police will not allow anyone back into the area until it has been determined to be safe. It must be explained to residents so they can understand why/when they can return to the Beach. Chair Lee stated as the disaster preparedness with the hotels proceeded more knowledge would be gained to implement the program for Condo's. The City website contains a presentation about disaster preparedness that is very informative. Most people do not know that when the winds reach 39 mph, all emergency vehicles stop on the Beach.

Mr. Zelaya stated he was available to attend condo meetings, make the presentation, and answer any questions. Chair Lee recommended the Central Beach Alliance handle the organization of meetings between Police and Emergency Departments, stating the Board was no longer the forum for that. Officer Hanstein stated no one would be allowed back on the beach, even if they had a pass, until it had been determined that the entire Beach area was safe. Two years ago, a construction crane was not secured and no one was allowed back into the area until the crane was secured and safe. The area would be open to residents, not sightseers, once the area is determined to be safe.

Chair Lee stated the BID contract would be considered by the Commission on April 17, 2007, in May the resolution goes to the Commission about the composition of BID. BID will start meeting and deal with the Budget beginning in October 2007. The first phase will be strictly clean up. Ms. Smith suggested 5th Street should be returned to two directions. Chair Lee stated that when 3+2 was lost the City made a commitment to ease transportation in other ways, research will be done to find out what those plans are and it will be on the next agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.