

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2007 – 2:30 P.M.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room

Cumulative
Feb 2007 – Jan 2008

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Ina Lee, Chair	P	8	0
Eileen Helfer	P	7	1
Miranda Lopez	P	7	1
Carlos Molinet	P	7	1
Amauray Piedra	A	5	3
Judy Scher	A	6	2
Shirley Smith	P	8	0
Henry Sniezek	P	5	3
Aiton Yaari (arrived 2:33 p.m.)	P	5	3
Karen Turner (arrived 2:35 p.m.)	P	2	0

Staff and Guests

Jeff Modarelli, Director, Economic Development
District Commissioner, Charlotte Rodstrom
Kevin Sheehan, Fort Lauderdale Police Department
John Hoelzle, Parking and Fleet Services
Matt Little, Public Information Officer
Earl Prizlee, Engineering Design Manager
Karen Reese, Economic Development
Silver Lee, Secretary, Beach CRA
Alexandra Grant, Recording Clerk, Prototype, Inc.
Kevin Kennedy, Law Student

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

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

II. Approval of August 20, 2007 Minutes

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Ms. Smith corrected the minutes as follows: Under "Budget Update", her comment was that there are 40-50 parking places in front of the W that cannot be used for the beach. Each parking meter generates approximately \$3500 per month; if the Board does future projects with large buildings, it should account for parking places that the Beach will lose.

Motion by Ms. Helfer, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the August 20, 2007 minutes as corrected. In a voice vote, all voted unanimously in favor.

III. Master Plan Update

Mr. Modarelli advised that at large meetings on the Master Plan are being scheduled, with the location to be announced. The meetings will be held in November, December, January, March and May. The public can attend any of these presentations, and the dates, places and times will be announced at the October meeting.

Chair Lee asked if advisory boards can provide input at these meetings. In response, Mr. Modarelli stated anyone can give input as these are public meetings.

Mr. Sniezek asked if the consulting contract has been signed. In response, Mr. Modarelli advised that the consultant is on Board and will do the update alongside Planning and Zoning.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked whether stakeholder meetings have taken place. In response, Mr. Modarelli stated that he will have to check with Planning and Zoning.

IV. 07/08 Projects Update

Mr. Modarelli deferred to Earl Prizlee.

Streetscape: Mr. Prizlee stated the uprights are being completed on the streetscape project.

Chair Lee commented that the Board has spent a lot of money updating this area yet maintenance issues remain a concern.

Mr. Yaari voiced concern about a new "epidemic" of undesirable characters on the beach. He stated that the police department has to be called frequently to clear people out of the beach showers. He added that the police department can do nothing to resolve this; additionally, Mark Almy of City staff, has to be cleaning out the beach showers. Mr. Yaari commented that the City cannot move to the next level with this kind of problem.

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Mr. Modarelli suggested contacting the police department's homeless coordinator.

Captain Sheehan stated the department recognizes this problem and conducts sweeps and arrests every night; however they are unable to remove individuals from the beach during the daytime unless they are doing something illegal.

Chair Lee commented that the Beach Improvement District's contract with Prizm does not include cleaning the area from AIA and Las Olas Boulevard to the bridge.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked if the City can get a quote from Prizm to clean this portion as well. In response, Chair Lee stated the Board will look into this.

Ms. Smith commented that each morning there is someone sleeping on the sand or individuals walking dogs without scoopers. She added that residents are not walking on the beach at night lately because of perceived danger and poor lighting.

Chair Lee stated the Board will get a quote from Prizm to clean the additional portion along Las Olas Boulevard.

Mr. Prizlee reported that staff had gone to the CIP Board and asked for a transfer of funds for 2007 CIP projects including: the AIA medians, the south beach wall repair, restrooms; and the Master Plan streetscape

AIA Medians: Mr. Prizlee stated plantings are being purchased and installed by City Force.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked if the money from FDOT for landscaping has come in. In response, Mr. Prizlee advised that the CRA had given \$1.5 million and \$500,000 will be given by FDOT, along with \$500,000 from the General Fund. These funds will also cover lighting.

Chair Lee asked about the final date when all medians will be done. In response, Mr. Prizlee stated the plantings will be finished in the next month or two. Also, electrical designs are in progress. Once these are finished, bids will go out for the electrical work.

Chair Lee requested having much of the medians finished by the Boat Show. Mr. Prizlee stated City staff is working very hard on this project.

South Beach Wall Repairs: Mr. Prizlee reported that staff has teamed up with Parking Services and both groups met the previous week with a consultant.

South Beach Playground: Mr. Modarelli advised staff is still working with Parks and Recreation on the concept and funding for the playground.

Chair Lee suggested looking at the City of Hollywood's playground for creative, out-of-the-box ideas.

Restrooms: Mr. Prizlee explained that the funds transferred will also be used to start the design process and hire a consultant.

Mr. Hoezle advised that the contract is being finalized with the legal department. He commented on the good work being done by the Public Works department.

V. Fiber Optics Lighting Update

Chair Lee spoke on the history of this project and stated the lights are going out at a rate that causes concern because of the amount of money spent on them.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked if the warranty had been voided during the time of the pressure cleaning. Mr. Modarelli stated that the warranty was still being honored

Ms. Turner asked how much it had cost to revamp the fiber optic lights the last time. In response, Mr. Modarelli stated he is unsure of the actual amount. He advised that currently, there is a warranty. He stated the best option is to repair the lights as fast as possible by using a contractor, as the City wants to get the best value out of the five-year warranty. Mr. Molinet asked if they are breaking because of technologically what it needs to be or there's a defect somewhere. Mr. Modarelli, stated that he was unsure and that it could be both or one or another. Mr. Molinet stated that we should find out from the company.

Chair Lee requested that the Board review this contract and invite an expert in this area to speak at the next meeting.

Turtle Lights

Mr. Prizlee explained that the City is mandated by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to shut off the lights.

Ms. Smith commented on the length of time the beach has to remain dark as it affects area businesses.

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Chair Lee asked if the City needed to deal with this at a legislative level. Mr. Prizlee stated this is all governed by FDOT permits.

Ms. Lopez commented on the thousands of turtles have died over the years.

Ms. Turner asked why this has suddenly become an issue. In response, Mr. Modarelli commented that the state had raised this issue.

Commissioner Rodstrom stressed that the City is working very hard on resolving this.

Chair Lee stated it is important to let people know the City is working diligently to address this issue.

Mr. Sniezek suggested educating the public on why the turtles need to be protected.

Ms. Lopez suggested that the City emphasize that the beach is an environmentally protected area because it is an intense ground for turtle nesting.

VII. Holiday Lighting

Mr. Modarelli reported the Beach Improvement District (BID) has come to a consensus on holiday lighting. He advised that the BID will pay for the holiday lights; the RFP is being issued. He added that staff is still working with the CRA to pay for transformers.

VII. Old Business

Regarding the search for a new CRA Director, Mr. Modarelli advised that good responses have come in. The City has conducted two interviews and is hoping to make an offer soon.

▪ Beach Walk Upgrades Update

Mr. Modarelli reported that the estimate for completion of the AIA paving is 2010. He advised that staff had done 5 beach walks in different sections. He advised that staff will work with the County on stop signs and signals. Also, the City is working to replace the trash cans on the beach. Mr. Modarelli added that in conjunction with the AIA repaving, the crosswalks will be upgraded. Finally, staff will also work with FPL on the light poles that need upgrading.

Chair Lee commented that the area from the Hall of Fame to the Sheraton Yankee Clipper needs to be upgraded. Also the stairs going across from the Bahia Mar need to

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be upgraded. Mr. Modarelli stated staff had noticed this too and will go to some private owners and hoteliers to see how they wanted to address this.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked who handled City signage. In response, Mr. Modarelli advised staff is also looking into future signage improvements.

Chair Lee asked that when this is addressed, the City use friendlier language as current signage is very negative.

Mr. Modarelli advised that the power washing is finished and the sidewalks should begin to look better gradually.

Chair Lee commented on a lot of garbage at the Las Olas Beach Club area. Mr. Modarelli indicated staff will address this.

New Business

Ms. Smith asked if anyone had heard discussion about moving the fire house to the Las Olas lot. She advised that letters have gone out and meetings have been held on this topic. She voiced concern that discussions are going on without the Board's input.

Mr. Hoesle advised that because of the Palazzo lawsuit, the Las Olas site is not in contention. He explained that there has been talk about a temporary relocation of the station to the U-lot across from the International Swimming Hall of Fame, until the new station is built. Mr. Hoesle advised that Public Works is handling this under the direction of Albert Carbon.

Chair Lee requested that the City include the Board in any discussions about proposed plans for the Las Olas lot.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.