

APPROVED

**SPECIAL MEETING
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010 – 2:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS	ATTENDANCE	CUMULATIVE	
		PRESENT	ABSENT
Bradley Deckelbaum, Chair	P	5	1
Ramola Motwani, Vice Chair (arr. 2:18)	P	5	1
Jordana L. Jarjura (arr. 2:09)	P	5	1
Chuck Malkus	P	6	0
Dan Matchette	P	4	2
Melissa Milroy	P	3	3
Mel Rubinstein	P	2	1
Judith Scher	A	2	1
Tim Schiavone	P	4	2
Aiton Yaari	P	5	1

As of this date there were 10 appointed members to the Board, which means 6 would constitute a quorum.

Staff

Don Morris, Beach CRA Director
Stephen Scott, Economic Development Director
Earl Prizlee, Engineering Design Manager
Eileen Furedi, Economic Development Representative
David Miller, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation
Mark Almy, Parks and Recreation Department
Barbara Hartmann, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Guests

Dan Barnett, Wizard Entertainment

Communications to City Commission

- None

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chair Deckelbaum called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll was called and it was

determined a quorum was present.

He thanked the Board members for making the effort to attend this special meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes, June 14, 2010

Motion by Mr. Malkus, seconded by Mr. Matchette, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2010 meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes, July 19, 2010

Motion by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Ms. Milroy, to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2010 meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Deckelbaum announced that since Mr. Morris cannot stay for the entire meeting, he would like to take Agenda Item VII now.

IV. Follow up on Beach Items (postponed until later in meeting)

V. Proposal to Purchase Playground Equipment (postponed until later in meeting)

VI. FY 2010-2011 TMA Funding Request (postponed until later in meeting)

VII. FY 2010-2011 Proposed Budget (taken out of order)

Mr. Morris opened the budget discussion by asking Board members to direct their attention to the spreadsheet (the Budget Summary). He noted that tax increment revenue was down about \$1.18M this year, which is a sign of the times. The rest of the expenditures remained relatively the same.

He commented that the Board should look at how much they want to put aside for special events, and he remarked that there is a proposal from the TMA to help fund their operating budget.

CIP Fund

He explained that the Beach Streetscape Project Phase 1B is in the Central Beach Master Plan, and \$4M is proposed for that. It is a blanket amount for projects resulting from the Master Plan.

For the Wave Wall Decorative Lighting, they are partnering with the Engineering Department to look at necessary improvements that can be made so there are not issues where lights are not operating and colors are not changing. The total CIP funding is at \$4.279 M.

Mr. Morris explained that the CRA and the City Commission did not feel comfortable setting aside monies last year for the Aquatic Center, so that was not done. Those monies, instead, were put into the Capital Improvement Project Reserve Fund. That fund can be used for capital improvements after necessary fund transfers are made. The proposed amount shown on the spreadsheet in the Blanket Fund will change depending on how much the Board chooses to fund special events, or the TMA will be taken out of that number.

Next, Mr. Morris directed the Board's attention to the Funding Request document from the Beach Improvement District (BID). He highlighted a matching funds request from the BID for \$80,000 for Saturday Night Alive. Dan Barnett of Wizard Entertainment contributed that the event would have from 10-14 events.

The second matching funds request is for Holiday Lights. The Beach Improvement District is asking for \$58,000 to fund an iconic symbol at the Las Olas Gateway and extend the period of the lights from February to March.

The Beach Council requested additional activities for the Independence Day Event, and asked for \$40,000, a figure which is negotiable for events on the day before and after July 4th.

A sum of \$50,000 is requested for a Memorial Day Event, similar to Where the Boys Are.

The Beach Council proposed a Beach Concert in February, and it was reported to the BID that there is interest already in this event.

Mr. Morris asked David Miller, Superintendent of the Parks and Recreation Department, to explain the concept of Cinema by the Sea. Mr. Miller detailed that it would be a six-week film series on Saturday nights on the beach, running from October 23 to November 27. They anticipate a budget of around \$32,000 - \$35,000. He said that the Parks and Recreation Department has an event fundraiser on contract and they just learned that they have received a title sponsor for the event, so they will not need as much money as they originally thought. He added the request was amended to \$7,500 as a result.

The next item was an Arts Fair on the Funding Request document, and Mr. Morris

asked Ina Lee to comment. Ms. Lee explained that it would be a Sunday event at the DC Alexander Park, once a month to start. It would be an opportunity for locals to come to the beach, and also give the hotel guests something to do. Events would range from antique shows to “starving artists.” Each event would cost \$1,000, but they are planning to put out an RFP to a promoter, so there would be no cost involved. The first year would be a wash, but they would hope to make money the second year. She clarified that the event could be held once a month, or once a week.

Mr. Morris explained that there needs to be accountability insofar as the money for special events, and the document they are reviewing only establishes a placeholder for the dollars for those events. Any proposed event will need to come back to the Board for recommendation.

Chair Deckelbaum recalled they had set up an application process for when people want the funds. Mr. Morris said that they did not get much use out of it and nobody actually used the applications. He continued that it would be a good idea to have a process where they request the funding, explain what they want to do and why they need the funding. He emphasized that the dollar amounts on the requests that they have been looking at are merely placeholders, and that anyone wanting an event will have to come back and apply for the funds.

Mr. Morris confirmed that the CRA is not an event planner. Even though they will help organize and so forth, it will be someone else who will “steer the ship.” He added that there are some such requests on the table: Cinema by the Sea, Saturday Night Alive, and Holiday Lights.

Mr. Malkus asked about the action to be taken at this meeting. He wondered if they are supposed to come up with a given number and once that number is approved, then there would be a process established for any group or organization to come forward. Chair Deckelbaum remarked that they have to approve the budget and if they want to use monies for a specific purpose, they have to set it aside in that line item in the budget. Mr. Yaari added that if the money is not used, it goes back to the reserve.

Ms. Jarjura asked if the money would come out of Capital Improvement Blanket Project, and Mr. Morris answered affirmatively. Mr. Schiavone was curious if the events have to take place within the CRA, and Mr. Morris said that was true. Mr. Schiavone continued, wondering if the core of the event was in the CRA, but the event spread out to the entire beach, if that would be a problem. Mr. Morris replied that the CRA should never be the sole source of the funding, and the CRA would pay for the portion that stayed within the CRA, while either funding sources would have to pay for portions of the event that spilled out of the CRA area.

Chair Deckelbaum remarked that if the event benefits the CRA and brings people into it, then if it overflows a little bit then that should not be a problem. Mr. Morris stated that he would be more comfortable in reviewing each event one by one.

Mr. Yaari mentioned that they only have a few more years on the CRA and it is "time to shine." He said they must get the biggest bang for their buck, and he thinks that they should approve or not approve the requests one by one.

Mr. Matchette asked if there were any other potential uses for the Capital Improvement Blanket Fund that might be conflicting. Mr. Morris responded that none are currently scheduled, although there are three or four projects in line for the next few years. Mr. Matchette and Ms. Jarjura were curious if they used 50% of the reserve fund now, would that impact something in the future that could have been done better if they had the money. Mr. Morris replied that he was not sure.

Chair Deckelbaum mentioned that the redevelopment of the Aquatic Center, additional parking garages, and lights were not listed on the budget page.

Mr. Morris then directed the Board's attention to the next page, the Capital Improvement Projects Summary, which shows what funds are available as of the end of the current fiscal year. He pointed out there will be a balance of \$24.6M for capital improvements. Upcoming projects are the Fort Lauderdale Beach Park Improvements, SR A1A Light Replacement Project (turtle lights), SR A1A West Side Streetscape Improvements and Wayfinding Signage. These are projects within the CRA.

Chair Deckelbaum asked for clarification on the projected cost of Phase 1B of the Beach Streetscape Project. Mr. Morris responded that Phase 1B for \$4M is money they are putting in the bank to fund future master plan improvements. He reiterated that the fund balance was for \$24,615,000. While those funds are currently designated for different projects, the City Commission has said that they want to examine priorities from now until 2019, when the CRA sunsets. Depending on the results of that meeting, the project priorities may change.

Mr. Morris added that one of the priorities that is certain, however, is the master plan. Staff is moving forward on those projects that they feel can be done in the short term. Other major improvements are awaiting the results of the lawsuit concerning Las Olas. The projects listed as Upcoming Capital Improvement Projects will not be impacted.

Chair Deckelbaum inquired if any of the projects had dedicated sources within the \$17M. Mr. Morris asked Earl Prizlee, Engineering Design Manager, to address that question. Mr. Prizlee remarked that the \$24M is essentially cash in the bank. Chair Deckelbaum asked why there is a distinction between the \$7,606,763 and the

\$17,008,855. Mr. Prizlee answered that the \$17M represents what the City Commission has allocated over the years towards those services specifically. He remarked that he could provide more a detailed breakdown at a later time. Mr. Morris added that the \$7.6 M is a non-allocated reserve fund.

Ms. Jarjura wondered if the \$17M would be used for the \$10M in future improvements. Mr. Morris replied that some of that money would be used for the improvements.

Chair Deckelbaum asked about the Westside Streetscape project and what it would fall under. Mr. Morris said it would fall under the overall Central Beach Master Plan blanket.

Ms. Jarjura asked for clarification on the total money available. Mr. Morris replied that the capital improvements are taken away from the \$24M. After these projects (\$10M) are finished, there will be \$14M left.

VI. FY 2010-2011 TMA Funding Request (taken out of order)

Chris Wren, of the Downtown Development Authority, announced he was present as Executive Director of the Transportation Management Association (TMA), which oversees the orange and yellow trolleys. He introduced the TMA Chairman, Alan Hooper, and Managing Director, Patricia Zeiler. Mr. Wren stated that the TMA is requesting a partnership with the BRB.

He said that the TMA went through some major changes in the past year and he has been volunteering to help them out. They have solved some significant financial problems and also recreated the agency's vision.

He said the TMA has two routes they would like to partner with in the amount of \$60,000. These two routes will cost a total of \$400K. Currently there is the Convention Connection route from Harbor Shops down 17th Street just past Beach Place and back, operating Fri-Sun. There is also a Downtown route that connects the Performing Arts Center and Museum of Discovery Science, Las Olas, and circles around Beach Place as well, operating Fri-Sun. They would like to have these routes continue the connection of downtown/beach but extend the beach line to the Galleria. They are also working on the Galt Ocean Mile, connecting to the Galleria. In addition, Tri-Rail RTA is looking at a northwest route to connect areas of the northwest as well as the Tri-Rail 95 stop into the downtown.

TMA is asking for \$60,000 to fund the portions of the routes that occur only in the CRA. That would enable them to move funds around to finish the connection to the Galleria. He explained that the added connectivity would come with an additional trolley so there would be improved 20-minute headways. The Port has created a way for them to start bringing in Port passengers on Fri-Sun into the Beach, Galleria or downtown.

Hollywood CRA put up \$300,000 and is “mining” those same people for tourist dollars.

Mr. Wren stated that ridership is up 15-20% this year, and they need to broaden their financial support to expand. Ms. Zeiler added that their future projects seven-day service and it is the interim plan they presented today. There are potential partnerships in the mix, one with a cruise line and one with Gray Lines. She remarked that one of the missions of their agency is to reduce congestion around the beach.

[Ms. Zeiler explained a map of the trolley routes.]

Mr. Yaari expressed his approval of connecting everything via the trolley. He hopes that they can use the trolley service to bus more people into the special events.

Stephen Scott, from the Economic Development Department, commented that there are a lot of moving pieces in this project, with the TMA being a major player. He stated that he could not give a set timeline. He also commented that it's something they are working on and know how urgent it is and hope to have something more tangible in a month or so.

Mr. Yaari hoped they can contribute even more than \$60,000 to this worthy cause. Mr. Wren remarked that are broader plans to try to get additional funds, but they have to start somewhere and want to start up in October. More resources will be needed to get to the seven-day goal. Mr. Wren emphasized that their attitude is cooperative building of the community.

Mr. Schiavone was curious where the Galt Ocean Mile trolley goes. Ms. Zeiler responded that it begins at the Galt Library and takes travelers to the Community Center, then west on Oakland Park Boulevard to Coral Ridge Mall and north on Federal Highway to Holy Cross Hospital and then turns around. Mr. Schiavone also asked what will happen now if they give \$60,000. Mr. Wren said the route will open October 1st and will run Friday, Saturday, and Sunday only. To clarify, he added that the \$60,000 would extend the route to the Galleria instead of Beach Place, and it would add one more trolley for additional frequency. Ms. Zeiler added that the hours of operation are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Mr. Schiavone was curious if someone at the new hotel wanted to go to the Galleria, could they cross A1A and get picked up. Mr. Wren said they could, noting that the trolleys function as “flag” stops. Riders can get on anywhere and get off anywhere.

Vice Chair Motwani asked what the current frequency is, and Ms. Zeiler said they run every 30-35 minutes. With an additional trolley, they could shoot for every 20 minutes.

Vice Chair Motwani commented that is a step in the right direction, and she asked how they could accomplish seven-day service. Mr. Hooper responded that the committees are pushing hard to go to seven days a week, noting that they are moving forward faster than they had originally thought. As far as branding as partners, they want to give the CRA opportunities to brand itself as a partner. They are also working with the Northwest CRA. Mr. Hooper said his fundraising committee is looking towards businesses downtown and at the beach. They are working with the Galleria, and he hopes they will participate when they go to seven days.

Ms. Milroy mentioned that The Galleria had talked to Ms. Zeiler and Mr. Wren about them possibly being a hub for the trolleys, and at some point the TMA could give up their lease at their current location and save money. This solution would also keep more traffic off the beach. Hotel employees could park at the Galleria and take the trolley to the hotels.

Mr. Wren said the charge is 50 cents a ride, but they are working on day passes. There are no specific stops right now, as the ADA requirements for such stops are very significant and would create a capital investment need.

Mr. Rubenstein expressed his praise for the project, particularly as it reduces traffic in the beach area. He commented that if people can get on and off wherever they want that can create a potential for collisions and traffic. People who do not live in the area will not know where to get on and off. He said that clear-cut signage and convenient stops are needed to be efficient. Mr. Wren said they are working towards an interim solution with a sort of signage in store-front windows and so forth.

Mr. Matchette wondered if their routes overlap with the County bus system. Mr. Wren said that the Bayview Drive line was cut by the County. The County is one of their other partners, and they have asked the TMA to help fill some of their gaps. He thinks the Tri-Rail route is very important for special events.

Mr. Malkus was curious if there are dollars available to TMA similar to what the County does with the Community bus service. Mr. Wren replied that those are community bus funds. Mr. Malkus then asked if there is potential additional federal funding for state gas dollar funding. Mr. Wren responded they are working with the City and the County and there is that potential, but they need to come up with more sustainable funding than they had in the past.

Mr. Hooper contributed that the TMA Board is made up of 2 County Commissioners, 2 City Commissioners, 2 members appointed from the DDA, and Greg Stuart. He noted that the partnership is well rounded from a public funding standpoint. The DDA is the cheerleader for private funding.

Chair Deckelbaum thanked the speakers and returned to a general discussion on the budget.

VII. FY 2010-2011 Proposed Budget (resumed)

Mr. Rubenstein stated that the events discussed are all positive, but he wondered about the needs of the residents of the Beach area. He noted they pay taxes and are very important, as they also patronize businesses in that area, and have friends who visit. Secondly, he remarked that he was under the impression that CRA monies ought to go for public usage, not private benefit. He is opposed to using any taxpayer money for private concern or something that will directly benefit private concerns as opposed to public usage. One of the biggest items coming along is the latest version of the Master Plan. It requires a lot of money and he felt most of the money should go towards implementing it.

Mr. Matchette agreed with Mr. Rubenstein, commenting that he does not want to see monies used directly for private interests, but he did not see anything on the list that is directed toward private interest. He thought that private interests will certainly benefit from the projects, and that is all right but that is not the main objective. He thinks the projects will create Fort Lauderdale as a destination town, not a retirement town. He did not think that a big event on the beach one day a year would be a huge thing for a beach resident to deal with. He believed that these events are necessary to keep the City a vibrant place. He thought it was money well spent, but wondered about the accountability, and how to measure the return on their investment. He speculated about measuring by head count, money, or impact on beach businesses.

Chair Deckelbaum commented that he agrees with Mr. Rubenstein about the importance of residential input. Their goal as a Board is to relieve the blight on Fort Lauderdale Beach and increase the quality of life both for residents and visitors as well as business owners. He noted that it is not the goal of the Board to increase business along the beach per se.

With respect to accountability, Chair Deckelbaum remarked that their primary goal is the long-term revitalization of the beach. It is not for a big weekend for the hotels every now and then. They have to create a sustainable environment for the residents and the businesses. When looking at these events, he stated that it is one thing to fund one-time events, but it should be done in the hopes of getting them off the ground so they can be successful and grow on their own. That sustainability should be part of their evaluative process.

Ms. Jarjura remarked that if there is surplus money after the capital improvement

projects are done, she has no problem committing funds to promoting events and marketing the area. She felt the lack of infrastructure on the beach to be a negative once the people are there. She thought that a priority should be on infrastructure (like dirty beach, cracked sidewalks) since the CRA sunsets in 2109. She pointed out the tenfold increase in funds in one year. She thought that there are too many events and they need to prioritize. Her position is that instead of putting money into a flash in the pan, they ought to put their money into capital improvements.

Mr. Yaari commented that the events on the list are on a “wish list,” and probably will not all happen. With the events, however, there will be increases in bed tax, and more money coming back to the City. That revenue can help bring the area to the uphill, helping revive residential values. He said that all their events have been tasteful and relaxed, attracting the right kind of people. He mentioned that this is the fourth Master Plan in 20 years, and wonders when that will actually be implemented. He did not want the CRA to sunset before their monies have a chance to be spent.

He also reported that he was very happy to see many local people having fun at Saturday Night Alive and the Memorial Day weekend. It is good for tourists to see the locals having fun. He said he just returned from the West Coast, and even though they have good beaches, they do not compare to Fort Lauderdale.

Vice Chair Motwani thought this is an excellent conversation. She said it is also important to get exposure while they are improving the infrastructure. The beach is about the destination, and it is refreshing to see families having fun. There is a lot of work that needs to be done getting sponsors and seed money to get these events moving. She believed it would be a good investment.

Mr. Yaari mentioned they also need money for security and busing for events.

Ms. Milroy expressed her opinion that up until now they have not done a lot of the capital projects that need doing, but they still have a beautiful beach. They need to invite the locals to see the beach – they are the bread and butter that is here all year round.

Mr. Schiavone said everybody has made good points. In a perfect world, everything would be fixed and then there would be a party. However, the CRA monies are going to go away if the Board does not do something. He said that a half million dollars spread over all these events is not a lot of money in the event world. As they have the events, they will improve them and there will be increasing public interest. He stated that they are now in a situation where they are having fun events, but not doing it at anyone else's expense. It is a work in progress, but it is good.

Public Comments:

Chair Deckelbaum asked the public to keep their comments to three minutes apiece and to identify themselves.

Ina Lee, current chair of the Beach Council's Marketing Committee. She stated she is thrilled with the direction the Board is taking. She recounted how she walked the Saturday Night Alive and met many foreigners as well as locals. The website component of that was very important, as the site traffic increased substantially. She encouraged the Board to keep the momentum going in creating events for the beach. She related that Hollywood got on the map by using their CRA dollars to create many ongoing events. The BID has spent money for years cleaning up the beach. Now it is time for the CRA to step up. She also said that improving the trolley portion of the plan is a good thing.

Art Seitz stated that the reason Tampa is ready to connect to Orlando is that is "shovel ready." He expressed his frustration trying to talk to his Commissioner and said that the Board has to ensure the Commission is reading their minutes. Mr. Seitz commented on the Barrier Island Library and asked the Board to read articles he had sent to Chair Deckelbaum, Mr. Prizlee and Mr. Morris. Mr. Seitz continued that he wants to see \$200,000 in the budget to get things shovel ready for the Master Plan. He said the City missed the opportunity for federal money four or five times, and nothing is in the budget to do anything south of Oakland Park on the Greenway. He said the MPO has \$13B to allocate between now and 2035. He mentioned a Red Bull event that was held in Miami and drew between 80-100,000 people. He suggested asking Red Bull to come into Fort Lauderdale in conjunction with the Centennial. He urged the Board members to ask their Commissioners for money.

There were no more public comments.

There was a short discussion on the new website owned by the BID (<http://www.thenewfortlauderdalebeach.com/>), but not funded by the BID. Ms. Lee commented that perhaps this group could continue the website, as it will go dormant after Saturday Night Alive is over. Mr. Morris said that staff is developing a new website, and he would prefer holding off until the staff website is done.

Chair Deckelbaum reminded the Board that they have to determine two things: one is how much to allocate to the trolley system and the other is to determine an amount for general funding of events. He noted that those funds will not be committed today.

Motion by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Malkus, to approve \$405,500 under the line item of the special events budget which is currently listed as To Be Determined. In a voice

vote, the motion passed 7-2, with Mr. Rubinstein and Chair Deckelbaum opposed.

Mr. Schiavone confirmed that this money is contingent upon approval through the application process.

Motion by Mr. Malkus, seconded by Vice Chair Motwani, that under the Sun Trolley, a total of \$60,000 be put in under where it is currently indicated as TBD. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the budget itself, it was pointed out that a note of clarification was needed at the bottom of the page that the Capital Improvement Project Reserve Fund will be reduced by \$465,000, bringing it to \$601,411.

Mr. Rubenstein asked about the wave wall. Mr. Prizlee answered that it is a CIP item and that half of the wave wall is in the CRA, and half is not. It is a budget item for them to have monies for when they come back to the City Commission with an alternative to what is out there now. He continued that the current light sources are failing due to weathering, they are outside of warranty and staff is looking for an alternative that will be solid state. Mr. Rubenstein asked if that was enough money to do the entire beach, and Mr. Prizlee said it is the CRA portion and it would match the City portion.

Motion by Mr. Matchette, seconded by Mr. Schiavone, to approve the budget. In a voice vote, the motion passed 8-1, with Mr. Rubenstein opposed.

Chair Deckelbaum announced he would like to Address Agenda Item V, as Parks and Recreation has been waiting patiently.

V. Proposal to Purchase Playground Equipment (moved from earlier in the agenda)

Mark Almy, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, noted that several major swing sets at the beach have deteriorated rapidly and have been removed. They propose to replace the sets with equipment of approximately the same footprint, but half the size of the Memorial Playground that is now there. It will be for the 2-5 year age group. They are asking for an allocation of \$75,000, although he noted they still have a lot of permitting to go through.

Mr. Prizlee explained that this was not in their budget because it was part of the \$24M that is already banked. Originally \$250,000 was allocated towards that new playground, but when the bids came in, they were only for \$60,000, so there is \$193,000 still there for the playgrounds.

[Mr. Almy passed around a schematic showing the layout of the playgrounds.]

Chair Deckelbaum clarified that the money was dedicated but not yet allocated, and Mr. Almy is asking the Board to allocate and approve it. Mr. Almy reiterated that the City Commission approved \$250,000 for playground equipment. They completed what is out there today for \$60,000. There is \$193,000 left for beach playground equipment.

Mr. Rubenstein requested that they get a line-by-line breakdown of the \$24M by the next meeting.

Mr. Malkus wondered if \$75,000 would be enough or would there be another piece of playground equipment or surfacing (such as rubber) that will be needed. Mr. Almy said surfacing would not come up, as it is so difficult to get permitted through environmental protection. They would not allow a base like that, as it has to break away in a hurricane. The sand itself would be the base. Mr. Malkus was curious if there is another element that potentially could be added if it was \$20,000 or \$30,000 more, to accommodate more children. Mr. Almy said that would not be likely during this phase, because the DEP is concerned even about that proposed swing set due to its taking up turtle nesting space.

Mr. Yaari wondered if they approved the monies today, how long would it be until it would be ready for children to play on. Mr. Almy replied that is the big question. The first step is looking for a funding source (which they are doing at this meeting); the second step is to consult with DEP, then through the building permit process and the Building Department and Engineering. He added it has to be done by March, when turtle season begins again.

Ms. Milroy commented that she thinks the current equipment is boring and she would like to see state of the art playgrounds. Mr. Almy responded that the current system out there was appropriate at that time, and it is generic. Because the new set will be close to the current one, they want the new set to accent the old one. New styled sets are difficult to keep working properly, and whatever they use has to be able to break away in a storm. Mr. Almy estimated that the proposed sets should last a minimum of 20 years.

Motion by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Matchette, to approve \$75,000 that is already dedicated and allocate it so that Parks and Recreation can proceed and hopefully get the equipment installed by March 31. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Milroy brought up the Holiday Lights, noting it was not an event per se, and wondered how they would go about getting an RFP out. Chair Deckelbaum answered that the BID is doing that project, and they are looking to this Board for additional

funding. Ms. Milroy declared that if they are giving money for it, they should have a say in what goes up. She said she does not agree with what is being proposed for this year. Chair Deckelbaum reiterated that the money is not allocated, and they would have the opportunity to make requests when they come to the Board for funding. He said the Board can put conditions on a form just as they would with any other funding request. Mr. Prizlee clarified that they have to put out an RFP very shortly to do at least a minimum of what they did last year. The additional monies will be up for discussion on what they need to do and will have to be included in that RFP. The money that the CRA contributes will add towards soft costs associated with lighting the Las Olas portal.

There was consensus to defer the Follow up on Beach Walk Items to the next meeting.

VIII. Communications to the City Commission

Mr. Yaari brought up a drawn-out street construction project and delays on a parking lot. Chair Deckelbaum explained the reason for a Communication to City Commission to Mr. Rubenstein.

IX. Old/New Business

Mr. Yaari also mentioned it had been seven months since they had asked the City for information on building a pier. Mr. Morris mentioned that there is a meeting being set up with the City Commission to set priorities and the pier is one of the things to be mentioned at that meeting.

Motion by Mr. Rubenstein, seconded by Mr. Yaari, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]