

COMMISSION CONFERENCE

January 22, 2003

<u>Agenda Item</u>		<u>Page</u>
I-A	Alternative Site for Park Purposes - Downtown Fort Lauderdale 1	
I-B	Economic Development Business Plan	8
I-C	Citizens Board of Recognition	10
I-D	Broward Urban River Trails, Inc. (BURT)	11
I-E	Parking on Swales - "Two Wheels On, Two Wheels Off" - Riverland Civic Associations	11
I-F	Installation of automatic Entry Control Arm - Idlewyld Improvement Association	12
I-G	Public Safety (Fire-Rescue and Police) Capital Plan	13, 15
III-B	Advisory Board Appointments	15
	1. Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board	(Deferred)
	2. Board of Trustees, Police and Firefighters Retirement System	(Deferred)
	3. Budget Advisory Board	16
	4. Cemeteries Board of Trustees	(Deferred)
	5. Code Enforcement Board	(Deferred)
	6. Community Appearance Board	16
	7. Community Services Board	(Deferred)
	8. Economic Development Advisory Board	16
	9. Education Advisory Board	16
	10. Insurance Advisory Board	(Deferred)
	11. Marine Advisory Board	(Deferred)
	12. Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Redevelopment Advisory Board	(Deferred)
	13. Nuisance Abatement Board	(Deferred)
	14. Urban Design Core Steering Committee	(Deferred)
III-C	Sunrise Intracoastal Neighborhood Security District	16
IV	City Commission Reports:	16
	1. Hardy Park Straw Ballot	16
V	City Manager Reports	19
	1. Turtle (Restriction on Lighting) Ordinance	19
	2. City Hall Garage Renovations	19

COMMISSION CONFERENCE

1:30 P.M.

JANUARY 22, 2003

Present: Mayor Naugle
Commissioners Hutchinson, Katz, Moore, and Smith

Also Present: City Manager
City Attorney
City Clerk
Sergeant Martin

CLOSED DOOR SESSION - 1:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE MEETING RECONVENED AT 2:30 P.M.

I-A – Alternative Site for Park Purposes - Downtown Fort Lauderdale Near the Riverwalk and Historical Stranahan House

The meeting was moved to the First Floor City Commission Chambers for discussion of this item.

The City Manager stated that at the Commission's previous meeting, Commissioner Moore presented a concept calling for consideration to be given to an alternative site in order to provide park and open space near the historical Stranahan House in downtown Fort Lauderdale. At his request a resolution, which would enable the Commission to request this to be placed on the ballot, had been prepared in anticipation of this meeting.

The City Manager further stated that the City Attorney, following the direction of the City Commission, prepared this resolution which offered the site as an alternative and not a substitute for the item passed in Referendum previously in which the voters had approved the allocation of up to \$8 Million for the acquisition of the Hyde Park Market Property.

Mayor Naugle stated that the Commission wanted to hear from the public. He further stated that when this item had appeared on the ballot, the citizens had given instructions to get the park. There had been difficulties in obtaining that park and the case had been presented before a Judge. The first Judge dismissed the case due to a possibility of an attempt of bribery. Another Judge reviewed the case and ruled against the City. He explained that there were very few times when cities were turned down and judges had been able to substitute their opinions for the elected body. He felt the City should continue to purchase the land next to the Stranahan House as instructed by the voters in 2000, and he did not want to substitute other land. Mayor Naugle stated that since this proposal had been presented, they had learned that some of the property owners on the substitute parcel were not in favor of selling their land. He stated that the other properties mentioned did not give a riverfront park as described on the ballot, and the proposal also did not protect the Stranahan House from having a building towering over the site.

Mayor Naugle continued stating that he felt every time the City showed they were uncertain the case was weakened. He hoped this was not being done to weaken their legal position, and reiterated that he felt they should continue onward to purchase the property as instructed by the citizens.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she was not interested in changing course at this particular juncture. She explained everyone had voted for this in 2000, and due to all the e-mails and phone calls she had received on this matter, the public evidently agreed with her. She further stated that she realized there might come a time that alternatives might have to be looked at, but she was not convinced now was the time. She reiterated that she was not interested in a referendum at this time because she was not convinced that they could not win.

Commissioner Smith stated that he also felt now was not the right time to have a referendum, but he wanted to thank Commissioner Moore because he felt Commissioner Moore had done a bold thing by bringing this issue to the forefront by trying to find an alternative. Commissioner Smith stated this issue

was very difficult, and they had been told by the City Attorney that this was an extremely difficult case. He believed no one wanted to have this case hang around like the Yardarm Case in Pompano, and 20 years later the case was still an ongoing battle. Commissioner Smith further stated that he did not want this to be the "Lawyer's Relief Act of Fort Lauderdale" because this could be millions of dollars being spent on attorneys' fees. He felt they did not have a viable alternative at this time. He further stated that it was his understanding that the parcels were not for sale. Commissioner Smith stated that rather than having a flawed plan placed on this ballot, he did not think it was appropriate at this time for a referendum.

Commissioner Smith stated that if this battle was still going to be fought and if there was a slight chance of winning, he felt they should try harder. He, therefore, proposed that they discuss other options such as a Blue Ribbon Committee or panel looking at possibly transferring development rights or a land swap. He continued stating that possibly they needed a better marketing plan or the need to include more resources in getting the matter accomplished, but he did not want the City and its citizens to lose and the attorneys to win. Commissioner Smith reiterated that now was not the time to change their course of action and they should proceed forward.

Commissioner Moore stated that in listening to the comments of three of the members who were the majority of the Commission, it appeared this matter was fruitless. He continued stating that he felt they were making a mistake in not doing an alternative plan. He stated that when they first began to deal with this matter was when the public came to the Commission through a petition drive stating they wanted open green space connecting to the river which would provide open space on Las Olas Boulevard, the Commission understood their plea. The Commission decided, in the best interest of the taxpayers, that they would construct the referendum item.

Commissioner Moore further stated that the Mayor at that time stated that due to the fact there was such an initiative, the Commission should take lead of the matter and propose a maximum that would be spent for the property. Since that time, the matter had been reviewed by a Judge and the Courts had taken a negative position to what the community desired. He explained that he also had received many e-mails regarding this matter, but wanted to remind everyone that it took the entire voter population to decide to participate in making the decision, and not just the 250 people that e-mailed him. He felt it was in the best interest of the community to have this matter placed on the ballot and let the public make the decision. He believed there should always be alternatives available. He felt they should look at the merits of the situation at the present time, and if the public wanted open green space with a connection to the waterway, they should at least have an option which was not necessarily the one he had offered.

Commissioner Moore stated that the property owners stated they were opposed to selling their property, and in the proposal he had made, he suggested that it was not his desire to use eminent domain in any sense because he felt it would drive up the cost of giving the public what they desired. He stated that the property owners might not want to sell at this particular time, but he knew them to be leaders in the community and if they saw the public voting for an alternative, they might reconsider. He felt they were not allowing the voters to state their opinions and that was very short-sighted. Commissioner Moore also stated that if they were attempting to deliver something to the public, they should be able to look at it in a balance and not say it had to be "one way or no way." He stated further that if the voters said that, then he would back track and he was not afraid to hear what the voters had to say. He felt this was an incorrect move on the part of the Commission.

Commissioner Moore further stated that the connection to the waterway was important and he had met with some individuals who were part of the Stranahan House, and reminded them that they had been spoken to many times in the past regarding accessibility to the waterway. The Stranahan House had never given a favorable answer, and now there was property assembled along the river which cost a lot of bond money to create a Riverwalk, but when it got to the Stranahan House, everything stopped. He stated that during his last meeting with those individuals, he got the impression that they were going to reconsider and give the public access to the waterway.

Commissioner Moore continued stating that due to the fact that the majority of the Commission had spoken, he did not see any reason to continue this discussion. He felt it was a shame they were not willing to put an

item on the ballot which would give the public an alternative to what they wanted.

Commissioner Katz stated that she felt the purpose of the original referendum was to protect the Stranahan House and in doing so provide park space. She felt if the open space was moved, they would not be protecting that site. She further stated that the Stranahan House was now willing to be a partner with the City in the venture both financially and supportively. She stated that Riverwalk also felt the same way and her constituents had stated their concern in forging ahead with this matter. She agreed there might be other options available and she was not against more green space, but she felt it should be in addition to the green space and protection they were looking for at this site. She believed it was going to be a hard fight, but felt they should "fight the fight," and when the time came that they would have to rethink the matter, then they should come back to the public at that point and give them a choice.

Commissioner Katz stated that at this point in time, she felt they should march ahead and stay the course.

Commissioner Smith stated that in reading everyone's e-mails, he did not think the matter was all about the Stranahan House and a possible building dwarfing the site, but to some people the issue was the height of the proposed building. He reiterated that the building had never come before the City Commission and had not been approved. He stated that he wanted everyone to know what the "law of the land" was and felt this was part of the problem. He stated that he wanted everyone to know what was legally permitted to be built in the downtown along Las Olas Boulevard, and proceeded to explain the area being discussed. He explained that in this area, one could build a building with unlimited height in Fort Lauderdale, and presently no height limits existed. He further stated that he had talked to Planning and Zoning and was informed that one could build east of Federal Highway with no height limits. He felt there should be height limitations and wanted everyone to e-mail their officials asking them to change this law and set up reasonable height limits for buildings.

Mayor Naugle stated that the remarks just made were not true. He stated that the laws stated there was unlimited height for the center of downtown, but as the buildings tapered towards the neighborhoods and approached Federal Highway, they were supposed to be lower in height. He felt Commissioner Smith had a misunderstanding and had supported projects that were too high east of Federal Highway, but the Commission did not have to support those projects, and it was not a vested right. Mayor Naugle reiterated that past discussions of the Commission, involving the approving of developments along Federal Highway, had specifically stated that heights tapered down as they reached the neighborhoods. He stated this was the "law of the land," and could show the public in the Development Regulations of the City such law.

Commissioner Smith stated that what he had stated was absolutely true and had checked with the building officials. One project called "The Las Olas Towers" which was far east of Federal Highway on the river was now in Court because the City had stopped the project, and the developer wanted to build a 40-story building. He emphasized to the public that if they did not want such high developments, they needed to press the Commission to change the law.

Mayor Naugle stated that he would be happy to show the public the Development Regulations which showed that this property was restricted because it was located on the New River, and the regulation clearly stated that developments along the New River could not be the height described by Commissioner Smith. He stated further that perhaps Commissioner Smith had been misinformed and might have been encouraging the developers to bring such projects forward, but it did not comply with the laws and he would continue to fight this issue.

Commissioner Smith stated that he had not encouraged such developments, and further stated that the Mayor had not voted against one downtown building in that area in over 10 years. Mayor Naugle stated that was not true.

Commissioner Katz reminded everyone that the public was in attendance to give their comments on this matter.

Commissioner Moore stated that individuals had informed him that they had voted for the bond referendum

because they wanted to save the Stranahan House, and he wanted to clarify that the resolution which had been voted on only stated "property contiguous" to the Stranahan House, and did not specify the Stranahan House itself. He explained that the purpose of the referendum was to have open green space which connected to the river, and this was why he felt an alternative could be considered. He also felt this could be an opportunity to mediate the issue, and the Judge had now ruled that mediation would take place in order to bring closure to this matter. He explained that when you entered into mediation, you needed to have something to compromise with, and today's actions were not giving them anything to compromise with, and he felt this was very poor judgment.

Commissioner Moore further stated that the majority of the Commission did not agree about an alternative, and he felt the alternative was not the proposal placed on the table, but was the fact that there should be a way to create open green space along the downtown. He felt that his proposal was a perspective view which could be used. He also felt there was no reason for public input because the majority had given their indications, and evidently no one was present that would speak regarding an alternative site. He stated that the Commission had given their clear thoughts that they did not want to place this issue on the ballot, and asked the public if they would be insulted if they were not given the opportunity to speak, since the majority of the Commission were not in favor of this alternative.

Mayor Naugle asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this matter.

Dick Ryder, President of the Edgewater House Condominium Association, stated that their building was across the river from the historical site. He felt there were two things which had to be recognized. He stated that he was concerned that the City was going to use taxpayers' money similar to the Yardarm case in Pompano which was still not settled.

Commissioner Moore left the meeting at approximately 3:08 p.m.

Mr. Ryder stated he was in support of a park in the downtown area and wanted to protect the Stranahan House, but felt an alternative should be considered. He reminded everyone of the property which had been neglected by the City and the County located across the river. He stated it had taken years and years to develop a downtown community park on both sides of the river and they still did not have it. He stated that the County Commission had failed miserably, and the City Commission had not done anything about it either, and finally a plan had been developed and things were beginning. He felt this would be an excellent trade.

Commissioner Moore returned to the meeting at approximately 3:10 p.m.

Mr. Ryder stated that a ferry could be used to go across the river to the property and provide an alternative and move away from what they were presently fighting.

Gary Hecker, Brown County Green Party, stated that he applauded the Commission's decision made today, but found the Commission in the last year to have been deficient in the acquisition of green space. He asked about the status of Hardy Park and South Side School. He further stated if more money was required to purchase the Hyde Park Market, then they should ask for additional money. He reminded the Commission that the public had clearly stated they wanted green space and were willing to pay for it.

Mayor Naugle stated that they had toured the facility at South Side School last Friday and grants were being put together so they could acquire the site, and repair the historic structure.

Christopher Eck, Administrator and County Historic Preservation Officer for the Broward County Historical Commission, stated that he wanted to compliment Commissioner Moore for offering an alternative, even if there had been a difference of opinion. He stated that the Stranahan House was the one exquisite jewel the City had and its safety should be insured. He stated that creating a park by this site was actually creating the setting for the jewel. He reiterated that this was something the community had been asking for and wanted.

Mr. Eck stated that he had recently been speaking about historic preservation for Florida and the rest of the United States. He stated that in 1816 the people of Philadelphia were faced with the question of whether to save or tear down Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence had been discussed, and the First Continental Congress had met. The State of Pennsylvania had surplused the property and was going to sell it for the building of townhouses. He explained that the citizens had come forward and petitioned the government and said "enough was enough." If they could not preserve Independence Hall, which was the founding cradle of liberty for the nation, what could be preserved. Christopher Eck stated that he was petitioning the Board today regarding the Stranahan House which was where the City had begun. He stated if this house could not be preserved, than what could they preserve in the City. He stated that the people should petition the government and do the right thing. The people had asked the government to fight, and therefore, they should fight.

Gene Ingles, referred to himself as the "Dark Horse" for Mayor, and stated that he felt Commissioner Moore had done a great job in attempting to provide an alternative, and he felt the City was coming together to make a decision to preserve the historical markers which was very important. He felt that two of the City's officials were not understanding or were in conflict with what was happening in the City, and he felt they needed to organize and decide what should be done for the downtown. He felt they did not know what was on the playing field. He suggested that there be a moratorium which would give them time to make a plan.

Ned Stone, Sierra Club, thanked the Commission for the action they had taken today. He stated the citizens had voted for the park, and he hoped they would continue to fight for it because it was an important element of the downtown and future of the City. He further stated that the County had passed a \$400 Million parks initiative with more than a 2-1 margin. He stated that in Coral Gables only the Commissioners who fought heavy development were retained. He further stated that park space added to property values and tax rolls and benefitted everyone. He asked the Commission to continue fighting for the property.

Mr. Stone further stated it had been 10-15 years since a visioning had been done for the City, and he felt it was time to look at the Riverwalk guidelines and possibly codify them and withdraw the generosity that had been shown to developers in order to promote development in the downtown area during the high interest rate years. Now, he felt it was time to come up with a vision of what they wanted for the City's future.

Susan Peterson, local history writer, stated that she wanted to talk about the magic of the Stranahan House, and continued stating that she felt the walls did talk. She stated that early business people in the City had donated land for parks and were public spirited. She felt the developers nowadays were not public spirited. She felt they should continue to fight.

Bill Sidnore, Educator in Broward County and historic writer, stated that he felt this argument was not about the Stranahan House, but about starting a trend towards historic preservation. In 1971 the King Cromartie House had been relocated and permanently damaged and was no longer what it used to be and parts of it were missing. He stated that the New River Inn, one of the City's first hotels, was irreparably damaged. He further stated they needed to look at the Stranahan House in its environment, and he proceeded to remind everyone that few historic buildings were left in the City. He felt they had to decide, as a community, if historic preservation was important. Mr. Sidnore stated that it was important to teach children the history of the community, and he further stated that this City was one of the few districts that did not require children to learn specific local history.

Austin Keller stated she was 8 ½ years old and lived in Fort Lauderdale. She further stated that she had been to the Stranahan House many times which held a lot of history. She also stated that if there was a park next to this house, children would be able to learn more about history, including the Seminole Indians. She explained the Indians had lived on the river and there was a lot to learn. She also stated that when her parents went to Las Olas there was no where for children to play. She said that the City should do what the people wanted. She stated that she was not old enough to vote, but she knew that what she was doing was the right thing.

Bill Smart proceeded to distribute a letter he had written to the editor of the newspaper. He stated there was a need for green space for all the new buildings in the "dense canyon" downtown. He also stated that people

were concerned about where the taxpayers' dollars were going, but he had not seen anything about the money coming into the City for the new buildings. He felt this should be balanced and they needed to see how many new buildings had been built in the 5-mile radius of the park, and what the potential income would be from those buildings. He stated those figures would show that money needed to be spent on this matter.

Mr. Smart also stated that Hyde Park Market was unsightly and had been vacant for a long time consisting of a lot of concrete and asphalt. He reiterated they did not know what was underneath it and there could be something more outstanding than what had been found in the Circle along the Miami River. He felt they needed to pursue this and move forward.

Commissioner Moore left the meeting at approximately 3:25 p.m.

Mr. Smart continued stating that there was an opportunity for a referendum, and he felt this would be a good forum to see who believed in this and where people stood, and determine if a referendum was necessary. He did not think anything should be placed on the ballot, but people should vote for the candidates giving them an opportunity to represent the people.

Paul Zawonica, Co-Chair of Friends of the Park at Stranahan House Political Action Committee, thanked everyone for their decision today. He stated that this committee had a vision which was opening a large green space on the river to preserve the integrity of the Stranahan House, and also to preserve the entire historic site.

Commissioner Moore returned to the meeting at approximately 3:28 p.m.

Bob Benson thanked the City Commission and everyone involved who proceeded to move forward on various items on the agenda. He stated that he wanted to clarify that there was no unwaivering in regard to their support in connection with access to the river. He continued stating that this had not been on the agenda for quite some time. He also stated that they were in support of the City in regard to this case and 50% of the money had come from the citizens and they wanted this battle pursued.

Nick Sakhnovsky, Commission candidate for the district where Stranahan House was located, stated that he was in support for the decision being made today, and felt the issue was symptomatic of a problem that the City was going through, and that the interplay between the Commissioner and the Mayor at today's meeting was a good example. He stated the development rules were not clear and needed to be reviewed. They needed to prevent problems from happening in the future, and historic sites needed to be protected and green spaces acquired universally. He stated that unfortunately homes like the Graves House had been torn down which were historic, but the current Commission did nothing to protect it. He believed everyone needed to be more pro-active because these problems were not going to go away until issues were addressed appropriately.

Sharon Zamojski, architect and member of the Board of the Stranahan House, stated that many of the lands donated throughout the City had been donated by the Stranahans. She further stated that in 1913 Frank Stranahan provided the athletic fields for a new baseball team in the City which was now part of the

old Fort Lauderdale High School. She also stated that in 1916 the Stranahan Park and the new Women's Club Building was donated, and in 1923 the first hospital site was donated by Mr. Stranahan on E. Broward Boulevard near 15th Avenue. Ms. Zamojski stated that in the '30's, Ivy Stranahan was instrumental in acquiring and promoting the site for the first black elementary school. She continued stating that there were numerous properties in the City where the Stranahans had been involved. She explained they were visionaries and philanthropists and didn't just see what was around them, but what could be around. She felt the Commission and the community had a vision to see what could be done, and she urged the Commission to continue their endeavor to acquire the 1 ½ acres which was far below what the Stranahans had donated to the City. Ms. Zamojski proceeded to quote Ivy Stranahan regarding parks: "A man should have a nice cool place where he can sit in the shade."

Commissioner Smith stated that he wanted to apologize for falling into “the trap of trying to be a candidate,” and stated it was not appropriate. He further stated that they needed to try to “fight this fight” stronger, quicker, and with more resources. He reiterated that he would like to pursue the matter of having a Blue Ribbon Committee where more strength could be brought to the table. He felt they needed to continue discussing alternatives such as development right transfers and land swaps. He did not want this matter to drag on for 20 years and if they were going to continue to fight, then they needed to win the battle and not make the lawyers rich. Commissioner Smith further stated that people had mentioned Hardy Park, and reiterated that the City owned this 5 acre park on Andrews Avenue, and it would be unconscionable to allow the Federal Government to take away park land they already owned five times the site of the park they wanted to build, which they did not own. He continued stating that during the Commission reports at today’s meeting, he was going to ask for a referendum to be placed on the ballot for Hardy Park and not permit the government to take that park away from the citizens. He felt they needed to save the park land they already owned.

Commissioner Moore stated that he wanted to bring this matter to closure, but wanted to state that when this discussion had taken place on January 19, 2000, the strategy was that they needed to address the preservation of the subject site, and that the language was unclear. It was thought it would be better to have language of a bond issue for the purchase of the site, not to exceed \$8 Million, and this had been recommended by Mayor Naugle. In the closure of that conference meeting and discussion of this issue, it was stated by the attorney, George Platt, representing a faction on this particular matter, that he felt individuals who had the petition effort should remove their item from the ballot if they were to give an alternative providing a dollar amount of the taxpayers’ monies in order to make the acquisition occur. He continued stating there was an actual ballot vote where 11,788 people who felt this was prudent. He reiterated that it had nothing to do with the height of the building or construction of a building, and just referenced open green space. He reiterated that 9,439 people opposed this. He did not feel they had made a bad judgment in offering an alternative so they could have open green space, and felt that by not having this option, they would end up with nothing.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that some people had mentioned a visioning session that the Commission needed to do in connection with the downtown, and she stated they were presently in such a process. She explained they had spent approximately \$400,000 for a consultant who was looking to the people and encouraged everyone to be a part of that process. She explained further that it looked at density, height, and what people wanted the downtown to be, and how the step-down method existed as it related to the buildings and parklands. She believed the next community meeting was scheduled for March and encouraged everyone to be part of the process.

Commissioner Katz stated they were being criticized for not having a vision, and she felt the Commission recognized what happened when you did not have a vision. She stated they now had put their “money where their mouths were,” and hired someone to do the master plan, which would give the basis to change the laws and make things what they wanted them to be. She urged everyone to get involved.

ACTION: No action taken.

Meeting recessed at 3:40 p.m.

Meeting reconvened on the 8th floor at 3:50 p.m.

I-B – Economic Development Business Plan

The City Manager stated that a well-developed proposed economic development strategic plan for the City had been distributed to the Commission. He further stated that this item was very high on the City’s priority list due to its extensive involvement of stakeholders. He stated that a successful summit had been held in November, 2002, and the Commission had urged that they not lose the momentum gained at that summit. The City Manager explained that a task group had been formed and developed a document for the Commission to consider. He emphasized that they could not accomplish everything that had been proposed, and they needed

to take an incremental approach regarding the delivering of resources. He continued stating that after the Commission reviewed this document, they could give direction as to where things should be headed, how fast they should move, and what resources should be devoted to the project.

Michael Matthias, Economic Development Manager, stated that this document was the distillation that came out of the input from the Economic Summit. They were then instructed to proceed and develop a plan and an implementation strategy. He acknowledged the hard work of all the members of the Steering Committee.

Mr. Matthias stated this was a strategic plan focused on the near term of a direction to proceed in a number of areas based on input from the Summit. He stated it was not a complete document in the sense it did not go to the future and define future objectives which were in the mid-term or long term, but did provide some short term objectives.

Commissioner Moore left the meeting at approximately 3:52 p.m. and returned at 3:54 p.m.

Mr. Matthias continued stating that the document was a full-scale implementation plan which required phasing. He explained that the timetable included was an ambitious one if the plan was fully funded and significant resources were put into it with potential constraints. He stated this was a working plan and an ongoing document which would be developed and monitored over time. He continued stating that the document did identify some short term processes to balance the development of the economy and address all issues in the broadest ranges involving economic development. He reminded everyone this was a working document which would be modified and revised over time.

Steve Quieor, Chamber of Commerce, stated that the plan contained 16 major action areas broken into four umbrellas of quality organizational and process issues, marketing and sales issues, the system and tools needed to function better, and specific business niches and business environment targets. He felt this was a great framework to move forward on. He stated that State and Federal funding was limited and the balance of the tax base between residential and business assessed valuation were key issues. He felt as this plan moved forward, they could double and triple services and products from the businesses.

Linda Cooke, Work Force Florida, stated it was an honor to work with the Steering Committee and she felt this was an excellent plan. She felt they had some milestones which could be worked on and hoped the plan would move forward.

Pat DuMont, Economic Development Advisory Board, stated that she wanted to thank the Commission for stepping forward with this effort for the community. She also thanked Michael Matthias for his guidance for that Board and wanted to offer their support for this plan.

Mayor Naugle stated that since resources were going to be put into this plan, he asked if there was a method for measuring its performance.

Commissioner Hutchinson left the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m. and returned at 4:01 p.m.

The City Manager stated that this was the key point in their discussions and they were working on a performance-based model that would be brought back to the Commission with specific deliverables, along with available funding information.

Commissioner Katz thanked everyone on the Committee for their hard work and in keeping the momentum going. She felt there was now a list of everything that needed to be done for the future. She stated she did not want everyone to get caught up in the details, but wanted everyone to think about the main issues and prioritize the interests. She explained that she wanted everyone to look at the risks, opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses. She stated that they needed leadership from the staff for this work in order for this all to happen. She was concerned that this matter was going to get dragged out. She also stated that it was important not to redo what was being done by the State, Federal and local governments. She asked if this plan

had been presented to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

Mr. Matthias stated that during the process of development, the plan was presented to the Economic Development Advisory Board who supplied input, and that input had been included in the final document.

Commissioner Katz stated that it was mentioned to her that this should possibly be part of the Comprehensive Plan because some cities did have economic development as part of their plan, but Fort Lauderdale did not.

Cecelia Hollar, Director of Construction Services, stated that economic development was an optional element. She stated that in the past she had participated with Coral Springs in the development of their economic element. Commissioner Katz proceeded to distribute copies of the Coral Springs plan. Ms. Hollar stated that the benefits appeared to help target where the City wanted to focus their redevelopment efforts and guide the development of certain types of industries, and also land development regulations were developed from that as well which identified process changes. Commissioner Katz stated this could possibly help them focus on what they were actually looking to do.

Mayor Naugle stated when the City Manager made his recommendations regarding staffing, he would address this concept listing the pluses and minuses.

Commissioner Katz also distributed an economic strategy from another city. She felt they should review what other cities had done, and emphasized the importance of having staff to make this all happen.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the reports for Coral Springs had been done in 1997 and she wanted to see what they had focused on and what had been accomplished since then. She felt some items were very interesting and mentioned that the City had supplied a timetable of 2010.

The City Manager felt most of the work would be ongoing similar to the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

Kurt Rustigood, resident, asked for clarification about the plan the Commission had mentioned which was due to be presented in the near future.

Commissioner Smith stated that plan was the Downtown Master Plan.

Mr. Rustigood asked if that plan was to be included in the economic plan. Commissioner Smith stated that the Downtown Master Plan was more about design. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she felt it all intertwined. Commissioner Katz agreed and stated they used an economic analysis with the Master Plan.

Mr. Quieor stated they had overlapping people in both processes and there was interplay between business recruitment and serving the existing businesses and planning. Mr. Rustigood stated his main concern was how they were going to deal with all the car and traffic in the City.

Mayor Naugle stated that on February 4, 2003, the DDA was going to meet with the Commission to discuss plans for mass transit and methods for dealing with the traffic.

Commissioner Moore stated that when giving instructions to the City Manager to come up with a process for implementation of this plan, he wanted to reiterate that it would not have to be done in-house and preferred to see a collaborative effort of many entities. He felt it would be short-sighted to make it a governmental department effort. He stated that on page 5 of the individual report, it dealt with the issue of "...improving the access to debt and equity capital particularly for small and minority businesses and those targeted in redevelopment areas. "He asked what was being contemplated for those businesses.

Mr. Quieor stated that they had bank representatives on the committee, and one of the side notes from a Chamber perspective was that they had created six new committees to assist in implementing various things in the plan. He felt important features were communication regarding existing programs, education of the

people, and further exploration of venture capital endeavors.

The City Manager stated they needed to leverage upon some of the City's recent successes with the local lending institutions. He stated that through the CRA they had been able to have the people consider markets which traditionally had not been considered, and they needed to continue with such efforts. He felt it was all of the best practices plus the successes accomplished so far, and the avenues that this Commission could open up either through encouragement, enhancement or whatever to get people to invest in the communities.

Commissioner Moore stated that was why he felt it was important to use a corporate structure for this because bankers had a lot of programs. He felt that another way of addressing this would be to let the individuals who tried to go through the lending program explain the barriers they had encountered. He further stated that he would like for them to deal with possible legislative matters for government which had not been included in the document. He stated that one of the things he had hoped they would consider was the opportunity of exploring governmental entities and seeing how disparity studies could be done county-wide. He stated that the Coral Springs' plan had nothing pertaining to minority businesses or small disadvantaged businesses. He felt they were sending a message that it was not their desire to create such opportunities. He added that the plan from Chicago did not include such issues either.

Commissioner Moore felt some initiative should be taken that would give local preference to business opportunities in the County. He felt if they addressed local participation which gave distinct legislative opportunity for the businesses hiring employees and giving benefits to the work force, they should be given some consideration for such a practice. He felt it would make more sense to have something which would validate a person contributing to the City.

Action: Staff to present a report on February 18, 2003.

I-C – Citizens Board of Recognition

Commissioner Hutchinson asked what was the basis for the Board being all ex-mayors.

Commissioner Moore left the meeting at approximately 4:18 p.m.

The City Manager stated that from the inception it was thought they would be the best group of individuals for this. He stated they had spent a large part of the discussion this time in terms of the future of the Board, which had been led by former Mayor Cox who claimed he did not know how much longer he would be around and would need individuals to replace him. He suggested that this matter could be discussed

further after this year in terms of the Board's composition. He stated that discussion had been held previously as to whether to include former Commissioners to the Board.

Commissioner Hutchinson further asked why it was comprised of former elected officials.

Mayor Naugle asked if Commissioner Hutchinson wanted to receive some background material regarding this matter. Commissioner Hutchinson stated she wanted to see how it was created and why there were no citizens on the Board. Commissioner Smith suggested that it be comprised of former honored founders. Commissioner Hutchinson stated she was opened to suggestions, but did want to see the reasoning behind this Board.

Action: Background information to be supplied to the Commission.

I-D – Broward Urban River Trails, Inc. (BURT)

Commissioner Moore asked if they were requesting an additional \$5,000 or an additional \$20,000 in funding. Mayor Naugle replied they were requesting \$20,000. Commissioner Katz asked if other cities were contributing funds.

John Rude stated that other cities were contributing either financially or with office space and the like. He stated further that the County was also contributing and it would help them finish some of the programs they were working on.

Mayor Naugle asked if a list could be supplied of the cities who were contributing.

Commissioner Moore stated that he would like to know the dollar amounts being offered by the other cities, and further asked if they could receive a breakdown of monetary and in-kind contributions. He continued stating that in reading the back-up materials, a lot of concentration had been focused in Dania and some other areas. He stated that he hoped they would consider placing Norfolk Elementary School into the process who was attempting to work with marine sciences.

Mr. Rude stated that had been an error of omission on his part because most of their efforts had been concentrated on the North Fork of the New River and working with Broward County and the South Florida Water Management District to improve the water flow and quality through the area. Commissioner Moore added that New River Middle School would be good to include also. Commissioner Hutchinson stated it did not make sense to have the Marine Magnet Program at South Broward because it did not feed into the other schools.

Commissioner Moore stated that his district meetings were held on a month-to-month basis and he extended an invitation to Mr. Rude to attend and give a presentation regarding this program.

Commissioner Katz asked if they could obtain matching grants for the money received from the cities.

Mr. Rude replied they were working on this and had received a \$30,000 grant from the State of Florida and South Florida Water Management District for the North Fork Cultural and Environmental Surveys.

Commissioner Smith suggested that Mr. Rude return in the spring and give an updated report on this matter.

Action: Information requested and presentation to be provided in the Spring.

I-E – Parking on Swales - “Two Wheels On, Two Wheels Off” - Riverland Civic Association

Commissioner Moore stated that he kept pushing forward with this program because he felt it made

sense. He stated that the Riverland Civic Association had stated that a number of property owners were damaging efforts made through the swale reclamation. He continued stating that he would like to have a six-month trial period for this program. He further stated that this same request would probably be made from Melrose Manors.

Greg Kisela, Assistant City Manager, stated that if this program was done on a trial or voluntary basis, there would be public education and the posting of signs but it would stop short of any enforcement.

Commissioner Smith stated that this voluntary program would not give a true read of the matter. Commissioner Moore stated that the discussion in Lauderdale Manors centered around having this made as an ordinance, but he was not sure if that could be done with the trial method. He explained they were leaning to getting two readings for the ordinance because a number of individuals felt this could become a safety issue due to the narrowness of the road and the speed of the vehicles in the area.

Commissioner Smith clarified that Commissioner Moore only wanted a trial period at this time. Commissioner Moore stated that he wanted to do a public information period and allow the individuals to see the benefits of such a program, and then they could deal with an ordinance.

Mayor Naugle asked if there should be a public hearing before making the decision to have the trial period.

Commissioner Moore stated that due to the fact that the Civic Association was requesting this be done, he wanted to do what had been done in Lauderdale Manors which involved sending a letter sent to everyone informing them of the program. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if letters were going to be sent to every resident in the area, and continued to ask if a survey had been done of the residents to see if they were in favor of such a program. She further stated that she did not disagree with the program because the only way they could get standing water out of the streets would be to use the swales correctly.

Commissioner Moore stated that with what they had seen of stormwater in the past, they were going to have to correct the individuals who were causing the problems. He felt the best way was to initiate this program and he felt if everyone saw it in practice, they would then learn to accept it. He reiterated that the program was working in Lauderdale Lakes, and he felt this was the only way you could park in some areas. All of the fears they had of what would happen did not happen, and the program was also a great calming device.

Mr. Kisela stated that they were going to do a public education program and it would be strictly voluntary; no one would be cited. He continued to state that a report would be given to the Commission in six months, and they would be advised either of the success or failure of the program. Commissioner Smith suggested that if someone did not follow the program, that possibly a note could be placed on their windshield advising them as to what the community was attempting to accomplish.

Mr. Kisela reiterated that a public information program would be initiated, but he stated that some people were adamant about not doing this because they felt it damaged their vehicles. Commissioner Moore stated that signs describing the program would be part of the education process.

Action: Public education programs initiated and a six-month report supplied to the Commission.

I-F – Installation of Automatic Entry Control Arm - Idlewyld Improvement Association

The Idlewyld Improvement Association, at its own expense, would install an automatic entry control arm in an effort to deter crime.

Action: Approved as presented.

**Meeting Recessed For the Executive Closed Door
Session at 4:32 p.m.**

Conference Meeting Reconvened at 5:31 p.m.

(The below portion of the minutes were not taped due to mechanical difficulties.)

I-G – Public Safety (Fire-Rescue and Police) Capital Plan

The City Manager stated that the next step would be the capital needs of the Departments that were to be met. He further stated that there was no reluctance on the part of the Fire or Police Departments in asking for what they wanted. Discussions were held regarding a possible bond referendum, and intensifying grant efforts.

The City Manager continued stating that the Commission and the Police Department had held a workshop on October 29, 2002 to discuss the current and future capital needs of that Department. A similar workshop was held with the Commission and the Fire-Rescue Department on November 21, 2002.

The City Manager stated that the Police Department had done a preliminary needs assessment, including structural, mechanical, electrical and the need for more space. They had determined that some units should

be housed outside of the main facility. Another issue was security and the need to be set back from the main road, along with the installation of some minor fencing which would cost approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000.

The City Manager further stated that they were looking for guidance from the Commission and then approval by the community.

Commissioner Moore left the meeting at approximately 5:37 p.m.

The City Manager further stated that they had analyzed the issues relative to centralization and decentralization of functions and responsibilities, and were recommending a hybrid approach focusing on appropriate central design supported by satellite facilities. He explained that discussions had been held regarding the modernization of the municipal jail, creating both regional communications and regional training centers, while providing for a higher level of federal, state and local task force participation in light of issues related to homeland security and domestic preparedness.

The next step of the process would evaluate primarily two scenarios:

1. The relocation of all non-police operations to a new location and building the new main police station behind/beside the current jail. This would allow for a smooth operational transition upon completion of construction. Demolition of the current police building, and the other non-police buildings, would then provide a more suitable and secure setback, while allowing for significant green-space along Broward Boulevard and Southwest 12 Avenue, along with needed and inexpensive ground level parking.

Commissioner Smith asked if this could alleviate the parking problem. Bruce Roberts, Police Chief, stated that by relocating Public Services parking would be available both in front and back. Commissioner Katz asked if they had done an analysis as to whether moving would be more profitable. Chief Roberts explained they were still studying the matter and exploring all possibilities, including the cost of real estate in connection with relocating.

Commissioner Moore returned to the meeting at approximately 5:42 p.m.

Commissioner Smith stated that relocating could help the redevelopment effort.

Option No. 2 was as follows:

2. Locating the new police building to a different location such as the CRA for development along the Sistrunk corridor. If this option was to be pursued, Chief Roberts recommended the desired site should be acquired as soon as possible so as to aid in further planning.

Mayor Naugle stated that possibly a panel should be put together regarding this matter such as the one which had been created in 1986 in connection with a bond issue.

Commissioner Smith stated that the question was whether they should rebuild the station, and if so, at what location. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that rebuilding would be a challenge. Commissioner Smith further stated that it was important to receive input from the community.

Mayor Naugle remarked that he felt it was important for the City to retain the jail.

Commissioner Smith stated that they needed to rebuild the jail. Chief Roberts remarked that they were considering two locations, including Broward Boulevard and the CRA area. Commissioner Smith asked if a list of the locations had been prepared. The City Manager stated that had not yet been done. Commissioner Hutchinson felt the Commission should give their input for such a list. Commissioner Smith felt this would be of value for the CRA area.

The City Manager stated that regarding community involvement in this matter, possibly a Blue Ribbon Committee could be created that would represent all segments of the community in developing the bond program. If this concept was agreeable to the Commission, they could refine the concept and provide future recommendations as to the appropriate membership and organization of such a committee.

Commissioner Moore stated that in dealing with the location of a Police Department or jail, such development could either encourage or discourage development in an area. He further stated that they could be missing a point in not looking at the annexation of the central area and going further towards 441, and he felt this could be an opportunity in taking negatively used properties and reclaiming them. He also suggested that another possibility was Sunrise and I-95.

Commissioner Smith suggested that another possibility could be the 7th and 9th Connectors. He also stated they needed to consider how close the building should be in regard to City Hall.

Chief Roberts stated that he felt it needed to be close and that the location at I-95 could be a possible site. He further stated that discussions were held regarding co-locations such as NE 9th Avenue and Sunrise, NW 10th Street and 27th Avenue, the beach, Sunrise Boulevard and the Intracoastal, Powerline and Chateau Drive, and South Federal Highway.

Mayor Naugle asked the Commissioners their opinion regarding the Blue Ribbon Committee.

Commissioner Moore stated they had a committee form of government and he did not know if the jail should be maintained and asked if it was a good municipal service. Commissioner Smith stated that he felt the jail served to address issues such as prostitution and other life safety matters. Commissioner Hutchinson felt this was an important issue and should not be disregarded.

Mayor Naugle stated that this discussion would continue later on.

City Commission Conference Meeting was recessed at 5:54 p.m.

(Tapes resumed at this point of the meeting)

Commission Conference Meeting Reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

I-H – Water Pipe Disinfection Practices - Drinking Water Quality

Greg Kisela, Assistant City Manager, stated that this item was in response to a concern that the practices and procedures used to disinfect and cleanse the water systems were not in compliance with applicable rules and regulations. A letter was received from the Broward County Health Department which ascertained that the City's practices were within compliance, and they suggested some enhancements which the City was exploring.

Mr. Kisela further stated that a representative from the Palm Beach County Utilities Office was trained to do peer reviews and stated that the City's disinfectant processes were acceptable, and suggested some enhancements. He explained that in Palm Beach County they did public notice every time there was a leak and this was a requirement by their Health Department. Mr. Kisela stated they were reviewing whether they wanted to implement such a procedure in Fort Lauderdale.

Mayor Naugle asked if they were going to swab the shorter pipes.

Mike Bailey, Public Services Department, stated that their current practices were found to be acceptable by the Health Department, but one suggestion made was the swabbing of the shorter pipes, and the City was considering this. Mayor Naugle stated that he felt this should be done, and the people had been very concerned. He asked when the department was going to make their decision. Mr. Bailey stated it could be done soon, but wanted the Commission to bear in mind that a policy existed to swab pipes for repairs and the policy had never been rescinded. He stated that Mayor Naugle was suggesting an enhancement to that policy, and therefore, he could make such recommendations quickly.

Commissioner Smith returned to the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Commissioner Hutchinson left the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Mr. Bailey advised that a recommendation could be made by the next Commission meeting.

The City Manager stated that the City had made a wide distribution of this discussion to the media and to the communities who expressed interest in this matter.

Action: Recommendation to be made to the Commission by February 4, 2003.

Meeting was recessed at 7:55 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:53 p.m.

Commissioner Moore stated that this was an important matter.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked how long the agenda was going to be for the February 4, 2003 meeting.

Commissioner Moore suggested that this item be placed first on the agenda for the February 4, 2003, at 1:30 p.m. The Commission agreed.

III-B – Advisory Board Appointments

Education Advisory Board

Commissioner Moore appointed Willie J. Dudley, Jr. to the Education Advisory Board.

Action: Appointment to be considered at Regular Meeting.

Budget Advisory Board

Commissioner Katz appointed Ronald Goff to the Budget Advisory Board.

Action: Appointment to be considered at Regular Meeting.

Economic Development Advisory Board

Commissioner Katz reappointed Cort A. Neimark to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

Commissioner Moore reappointed Sidney Calloway to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

Action: Appointment to be considered at Regular Meeting.

Community Appearance Board

Commissioner Smith appointed Patricia Ruth to the Community Appearance Board.

Action: Appointment to be considered at Regular Meeting.

III-C – Sunrise Intracoastal Neighborhood Security District

Action: Appointments to be considered at Regular Meeting.

IV – Commission Reports

Hardy Park Straw Ballot

Commissioner Smith stated that he wanted to propose that an item be added to the March 11, 2003 ballot. He continued stating that there were people in the City near Andrews Avenue who were concerned about Hardy Park. A position had been taken that Hardy Park was not a location to be considered for the Federal Building. He stated that the residents in the area were not trusting and they did not approve of how the entire process had been handled, and believed that the Federal Government still coveted the park. Commissioner Smith stated that he agreed with them and he had heard that some of the Federal Government officials had stated that even though the City had stated it was off their "game plan," it was not off of theirs.

Commissioner Smith continued stating that there had been a signature drive obtaining 1,000 signatures

requiring the City Commission to consider an ordinance challenging any government agency from taking Hardy Park. He explained that he had this verified by the Supervisor of Elections. He stated that because they could not take up the review of the resolution before the ballot, if no action was taken to satisfy the citizens and bring the ordinance forward, they would be required to hold a special election within the next few months which could cost about \$100,000. He explained that he had spoken with the organizer of the petition drive, and he stated that they would be comfortable if the Commission would pass a resolution adding an item on the ballot, a non-binding straw poll question which would read as follows:

“WHEREAS, the protection of Hardy Park as opened green space in the downtown area is of utmost importance to the citizens of Fort Lauderdale; and

“WHEREAS, 1,002 signatures requiring the City Commission to consider an ordinance legally challenging any move by a government entity

to take possession of the Hardy Park land, and had been verified by the Supervisor of Elections; and

“WHEREAS, the passing of this resolution would allow time for a non-binding straw ballot to be placed on the General Election Ballot on March 11, 2003 and save the City the potential cost of a special election to ask the same question.

“NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Commission of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, that the following non-binding question is hereby placed on the General Election Ballot of March 11, 2003:

“Q: Should there be a City Charter addition to designate Hardy Park as public park land that must be legally protected from encroachment and use by any other government Entities?”

Commissioner Smith stated that this would not allow the government to move in and take the land without a fight. He reiterated that this would pacify the residents, and he felt the Commission should do this.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated they should designate all the parks, and not just one. Commissioner Smith agreed and asked the City Attorney if this could be done.

The City Attorney stated that when this was proposed as a petition, it was to provide for an ordinance which would designate this park as commons. He further stated that initially they were presented with a petition, and if the Commission decided to designate the park and adopt the ordinance as proposed, then everyone would be happy. If the Commission decided not to do this, the petition organizers were required to get 15% of the registered voter signatures in the City in order to have it placed on the ballot without the Commission's approval.

The City Attorney stated that this proposal was to amend the Charter which was totally different from the original proposal. The question was whether the Commission wanted park designations in the Charter itself, which was a policy decision to be made by this Board. He stated it would take away flexibility on the part of the Commission when placed in the Charter, opposed to it being an ordinance.

Mayor Naugle remarked that this was important public policy and that he was a believer in process. He stated that he would like to have something placed on a ballot at an appropriate time which would protect all park land. He continued stating that normally when they amended the Charter or had such an ordinance, they followed a process. He further stated that this should have been placed on the agenda. He felt this was a ploy

to have something put on the ballot so soft money could be used in the election. He reiterated that if they wanted to protect the park land, then they should do it properly. He felt this should not be addressed at the "eleventh hour" when it had not been placed on the agenda. He stated that this government did not operate this way, and he felt it was a reactionary measure. He reiterated that someone could have placed this on the agenda, thereby respecting the process and government of the City.

Commissioner Smith stated that it was apparent that the Mayor was not interested in saving Hardy Park. Mayor Naugle stated that was not true. Commissioner Smith stated that he was appalled because the Federal Government was coming after the park, and the Mayor had not been supportive from the beginning to save the park. He continued stating that this was an opportunity for everyone to band together and save the park for the City. He stated if the Mayor loved park land as he said he did, then it was time to vote for this and let the people decide. Mayor Naugle remarked that this was political and he rested his case. Commissioner Smith reiterated that he was appalled by this attitude, and asked if the

voters could be given the opportunity to decide. Mayor Naugle remarked that this action would not necessarily protect the park.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if the City Attorney could provide a more detailed definition of non-binding.

The City Attorney explained that this would be a straw ballot which was to test public opinion.

Mayor Naugle asked if someone could set up a political action committee and accept contributions if this were placed on the ballot. The City Attorney stated that could be done. Commissioner Moore stated that individuals had done so in connection with the Stranahan House. He stated that was public process, and the way America operated. He further stated that the concerns mentioned about a possible soft money issue were not meritorious in this case. He continued stating that he was concerned because they did not have an opportunity for members of the community to understand that this would be considered.

Motion made by Commissioner Moore that this Commission would not negotiate the use of any park land until a public referendum could be drawn.

Mayor Naugle passed the gavel to Vice-Mayor Hutchinson and seconded Commissioner Moore's motion.

Commissioner Moore stated that he had made that motion as an alternative so the citizens' fears could be allayed.

Commissioner Smith stated that he was not in favor of that due to the fact that this matter could pass over them because a very large government agency was coveting the property. He felt they needed to take a strong position and allow the voters to help them do this. He continued stating that the agency had created a truce until the election was over, and then they would move back in and take over the park. He reiterated that he really believed that and asked everyone to consider what he was requesting.

Commissioner Moore asked if a non-binding vote was obtaining the community's opinion. The City Attorney confirmed. Commissioner Moore asked if they got the non-binding vote, what would that do in connection with the entities that still wanted to acquire Hardy Park.

Commissioner Smith stated that he felt this would send a very strong message saying that the Commission and the citizens of the City were aware of the situation and were taking a strong stand, and possibly they would back off. He felt if something like this was not done, they would not back off and change their minds.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that if this was put on the ballot and it was overwhelmingly in support of a Charter amendment and the amendment was made, what would that do to the Federal Government's case. She asked if the government could still come in and take the land.

The City Attorney confirmed and stated that the impact could affect the ability to negotiate a settlement, and

could require the City at the end of the litigation to go down "with all flags flying." He explained that under the Charter, they would not be able to come to an agreement to exchange properties or do anything different. The City would be required by the Charter to protect the property.

Mayor Naugle stated that this would then be sending a false message, and they really would not be doing anything positive. He felt if they were serious about the matter, something could be put on the ballot to protect all the parks in the City and do it properly. He reiterated that this should be scheduled for discussion to respect the process. He felt having a meaningless straw poll that would give people false hope and did not accomplish anything would be disrespectful to the citizens.

Commissioner Smith stated he moved to place this item on the ballot on March 11, 2003 as stated by the City Attorney.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if after the vote on March 11, 2003, would it come back to the Commission and go through the process for a Charter amendment. Commissioner Smith confirmed. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if it would be an automatic Charter amendment on a non-binding straw ballot. The City Attorney stated it would be up to the Commission to take action upon what was a public opinion poll.

Action: Resolution to be introduced at the Regular Meeting.

V - City Manager Reports

Turtle (Restriction on Lighting) Ordinance

The City Manager stated that the turtle ordinance was necessary in order for the City to obtain beach renourishment funds. He explained that he was going to request that the Commission consider an ordinance at the Regular Meeting on February 4, 2003. He stated that Mayor Naugle and Bud Bentley, Assistant City Manager, were going to Tallahassee for a meeting on this issue and it was important to state that they were going to consider such an ordinance.

City Hall Garage Renovations

The City Manager stated that beginning on Friday they were going to begin replacing the cooling towers at the garage, and therefore, the north lot would be closed through the weekend. Entrance would only be accessible from the south.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Note: A mechanical recording has been made of the foregoing proceedings of which these minutes are a part, and is on file in the office of the City clerk for a period of two years.