

**FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2007**

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CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING 1:30 P.M. DECEMBER 4, 2007

Present: Mayor Naugle
Commissioners Hutchinson, Rodstrom, and Teel and Vice Mayor Moore

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager – George Gretsas
City Auditor - John Herbst
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph
City Attorney - Harry A. Stewart
Sergeant At Arms – Sgt. Ray Hall

I-A – Proposed Ordinances – (1) Prohibiting Members of City Commission From Soliciting Gifts or Donations For Third Parties From Any Person or Entity That is Doing Business With The City, and (2) Requiring Lobbyists To Report Instances In Which They Gave or Were Asked for Donations By Members of The City Commission

Commissioner Hutchinson asked how this would impact the food and toy drives. The City Attorney indicated it would not impact anything that the Commission votes on. It has to do with individual commissioner actions.

Commissioner Teel wanted lobbyists to report solicitations quarterly instead of annually.

Action: The ordinances are scheduled for 1st reading at the regular meeting. At Commissioner Teel's request, there was consensus approval to require lobbyists to report quarterly. This amendment will be incorporated on second reading.

I-B – Downtown New River Master Plan

Wayne Jessup, Planning and Zoning, said when the Downtown Master Plan was developed, certain areas were selected for more specific focus. This plan addresses the New River from Stranahan House to the 7th Avenue bridge. He introduced Neil Kittredge of Beyer Blinder Belle, who also prepared the Downtown Master Plan.

Mr. Kittredge presented and reviewed slides on the Downtown New River Master Plan. A copy of the slides is attached. He noted recommended early actions and next steps. An engineering study should be conducted with respect to a ferry crossing. Redevelopment of the judicial complex has something to do with the river as well.

Commissioner Rodstrom liked the ferry crossings. She was concerned about increased density south of the river in the Tarpon neighborhood. Mr. Kittredge explained that density is already controlled by the existing Downtown Regional Activity Center. The purpose is to allow density to occur in that area so it would not go beyond those boundaries. More urban design guidelines as to how the buildings relate to the streets are suggested.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked about blending in with the existing neighborhood. Mr. Jessup said the goal is to make sure that new development is sympathetic to adjacent neighborhoods, and by virtue of the design guidelines, encourage more intense development closer to the core and taper down toward the edge. There is more of a challenge in the Tarpon River area because the central core is very near 4 Avenue. The guidelines establish the format. The tapering would occur inside the Regional Activity Center.

Commissioner Rodstrom liked the idea of the under-the-bridge development.

In response to Mayor Naugle, Mr. Jessup confirmed that the maritime activity needs to remain along the river because it makes the area richer.

Commissioner Rodstrom commented on other storage options becoming available for boats. Mr. Kittredge noted if the storage is too enclosed, it takes away from the boating experience. It should be made apparent, visible and part of the river.

Mayor Naugle liked the idea of ferries and felt they work better than bridges.

Commissioner Hutchinson commended Mr. Kittredge and especially in working with the Tarpon River neighborhood. She liked the idea of discouraging garages on the river. The ability to go back and forth to both sides of the river and getting the Riverwalk to be more of an active space are vital.

Vice Mayor Moore did not understand why there is no further governmental use along the river. He also did not understand why the report does not discuss redevelopment along Broward Boulevard and the Avenue of the Arts. Mr. Jessup agreed and explained that the Arts and Entertainment Precinct Plan will address that area. Staff is focusing on one area at a time. Vice Mayor Moore questioned why it is acknowledged that Tarpon River into 6 Street and the judicial connection at that point is vital, yet two blocks from Broward Boulevard to 2nd is not. It should include from the Avenue of the Arts to the railroad track. There should draw people from the mass transit center of Broward Boulevard. The City Manager indicated the boundary can be changed. Staff is in total sync with Vice Mayor Moore's comments. If the Performing Arts Center is a draw, Vice Mayor Moore did not think blight should be in front of it.

Vice Mayor Moore liked the idea of ferries or water taxis connecting the river. He wanted to offer canoeing and water recreational options. The City Manager indicated additional ideas will be brought forward.

Action: There was consensus approval. Vice Mayor Moore requested the report indicate there should be no governmental use expansion along the river. He wanted the area of Broward Boulevard and the Avenue of the Arts being addressed as to redevelopment. He suggested water recreational uses.

I-C – Proposed Lien Settlements – Special Magistrate and Code Enforcement Board Cases

No discussion.

II-A – Riverland Road and Melrose Park – Establishing City Zoning Regulations As A Result of Annexation

Donald Morris, Beach Community Redevelopment Agency Manager, reviewed the history, previous Commission actions and public participation workshops on this matter reflected in the Commission Action Report 07-1855. Dickey Consulting Services, Inc. and staff used the Broward County Zoning Code, made changes requested by residents and added other aspects not necessarily reflected in the residential zoning districts in drafting an ordinance. The major changes and criteria were to further limit permitted uses allowed currently by Broward County. In Riverland Road, the only exception was in Group 3, the single family residents wanted the City's swimming pool, deck, and boat dock setback requirements. The duplex and townhouse residents chose the City's boat dock setback requirements. Melrose Park chose to adopt the City's minimum floor area requirements and the City's boat lift requirements. In summary, changes requested by the residents were made to the Broward County Zoning Code, along with reference/format edits. The landscaping and sign codes were added. Other portions of the Broward County Zoning Code pertaining to residential zoning districts were added.

Mr. Morris noted this matter will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Board on December 19, 2007 and to the Commission in February or March.

Commissioner Hutchinson complimented Mr. Morris on the public participation process. Vice Mayor Moore agreed.

Vice Mayor Moore said residents are more concerned about police visibility, garbage pickup, and code enforcement.

Commissioner Teel asked about resistance to any of the grandfathering of non-conforming uses. Mr. Morris indicated that most of the development standards will remain the same. Anything non-conforming in the County will still be non-conforming in the City. The proposal only adopts a few minor development standard differences that will not affect many people. The biggest issues were fences, setbacks and for the most part those did not change.

Action: Consensus approval.

II-B – October 2007 Monthly Financial Report

No discussion.

III-B – Advisory Board/Committee Appointments

Vice Mayor Moore referred to the annual minority appointment report provided by the City Clerk and asked the Commission consider the findings when making appointments.

Audit Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

Aviation Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

Beach Redevelopment Board

Mayor Naugle recommended Amaury J. Piedra and Judith Scher be reappointed to the Beach Redevelopment Board.

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Euridice "Miranda" Lopez and Shirley Smith be reappointed to the Beach Redevelopment Board.

Commissioner Hutchinson recommended Aiton J. Yaari and Ramola Motwani be reappointed to the Beach Redevelopment Board.

Vice Mayor Moore recommended Ina Lee and Carlos Molinet be reappointed to the Beach Redevelopment Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Board of Adjustment

Action: Deferred.

Board of Trustees of the General Employees' Retirement System

Action: Deferred.

Cemeteries Board of Trustees

Mayor Naugle recommended Alfred C. Calloway be reappointed to the Cemeteries Board.

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Susan Telli be reappointed to the Cemeteries Board.

Commissioner Teel recommended Jose Manuel Portela and Larry W. Sherman be reappointed to the Cemeteries Board.

Commissioner Hutchinson recommended Anne Platt and Mark Van Rees be reappointed to the Cemeteries Board.

Vice Mayor Moore recommended Cameron Leroy Mizell be reappointed to the Cemeteries Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Citizens Police Review Board

Action: Deferred.

Code Enforcement Board

There was no objection to reappointment of John J. Greenfield (General Contractor) Full Member and Sam Mitchell (Business Owner) Full Member. Commissioner Hutchinson suggested and there was consensus to move Janice Sheppard (Unspecified Category) from an alternate to full member position. At Mayor Naugle's suggestion, Doug White (Unspecified Category) was also moved from an alternate to full member position.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Community Appearance Board

Action: Deferred.

Community Services Board

Action: Deferred.

Education Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Steve Kirsch be reappointed to the Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Insurance Advisory Board

Existing outgoing members will remain on the board until replaced.

Action: Deferred.

Marine Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

Nuisance Abatement Board

There was no objection to the reappointment of Pat Mayers and David C. Svetlick. Commissioner Hutchinson suggested and there was consensus to move Laurie A. Watkins from alternate to a full member position on the Nuisance Abatement Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Unsafe Structures and Housing Appeals Board

Commissioner Teel recommended and there was consensus to appoint Allan A. Kozich to the Unsafe Structures and Housing Appeals Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting

Utility Advisory Committee

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Robert B. Caine and Raymond Parker be reappointed to the Utility Advisory Committee.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

IV – Commission Reports

Water Districts; Broward County

Action: Commissioner Hutchinson asked the City Attorney to determine Broward County's plans with respect to water districts.

Northwest Commercial Redevelopment; Development Agreement

Vice Mayor Moore referred to the Commission's previous discussion of the Northwest Commercial Redevelopment and that it was indicated it would be discussed today. He wanted the Commission to hear the people on this matter. He reiterated his request that there be a date certain for discussion of this matter. He realized that there are some HUD requirements that have to be put in place that could delay this discussion. He would like to know the instructions and timeline so the community could be informed of the process. The City Attorney said that he would try to provide an answer at tonight's meeting.

Action: Vice Mayor Moore understood that Northwest Commercial Redevelopment's development agreement was to be on this agenda. He wanted a date certain in advance so that the community could be notified.

Planning and Zoning Board

Commissioner Rodstrom attended the last Planning and Zoning Board meeting. They are concerned about how to get things to the Commission. They thought there would be workshops at the Planning and Zoning Board level with the community and the ad hoc committee. Changes were sent directly to the Commission, bypassing the Planning and Zoning Board. In response to Commissioner Rodstrom, Commissioner Hutchinson said she asked for the matter to be on the conference agenda. She believed they are going back to the Planning and Zoning Board with the amendments.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Commissioner Rodstrom said she would like to be appointed to the Metropolitan Planning Organization when the position is open.

Business Plan

Beach Renourishment

Commissioner Rodstrom asked if the City Manager could develop a business plan, focusing more on the environment, especially beach renourishment. The plan would not take away from the goals set by the Commission.

Mayor Naugle suggested a status report on beach renourishment could be provided at a conference meeting in January.

Mayor Naugle felt the City should insist upon a quality of sand. He commented about the appearance of the Hollywood beach. Commissioner Rodstrom thought it would be helpful to present a sample of the sand. She wanted to take a proactive approach.

With respect to a business plan, the City Manager said during the goal setting session the list presented to the Commission is a conglomeration of his thoughts and staff's thoughts and the Commission's thoughts. An inventory is put together and then it is prioritized. A decision is reached as to how many to do. The budget is then put together which in essence is a business plan. Commissioner Rodstrom wanted to know which ideas are those of the City Manager.

Action: Commissioner Rodstrom wanted the City Manager to develop a business plan with focus on the environment, beach renourishment. The City Manager explained that the budget, which is developed after goals are set, is a business plan. Commissioner Rodstrom wanted to know which items are the ideas of the City Manager. Mayor Naugle concurred with Commissioner Rodstrom's request for a status report on beach renourishment and suggested a January conference meeting. The quality of sand material is important.

Calypso Pipeline; Coast Guard

Commissioner Teel referred to information furnished by the Coast Guard regarding the Calypso Pipeline. The Galt Presidents Council is totally unaware of this. The City received information on November 27 and a public meeting was held on November 28. She understood the City Attorney's Office attended that meeting. She asked if the City Attorney's Office could provide a report on the subject.

Mayor Naugle felt the City should take a position on this. He asked what is the opinion on the Galt as far as visual pollution. A brief discussion ensued about the visual and noise impacts.

Mayor Naugle suggested a presentation be given to the Galt residents and Lauderdale-By-The-Sea residents could also be invited.

Commissioner Rodstrom did not feel enough information has been supplied.

Mayor Naugle asked the City Manager to request a community meeting.

Commissioner Teel commented that possibly the meeting could be held at the Beach Community Center.

Mayor Naugle commented that three of these facilities have been planned in the Bahamas, but they have not been able to obtain permits. This may be a way of putting

pressure on the Bahamas. He was not comfortable having a industrial facility off a residential area. Commissioner Teel agreed that residents are concerned.

Action: Commissioner Teel referred to information from the Coast Guard concerning the Calypso Pipeline provided to the Commission and requested a status report from the City Attorney. The Galt Ocean Mile residents have concerns. Mayor Naugle asked the City Manager write to the Coast Guard, requesting a community meeting. Commissioner Teel suggested the Beach Community Center as a venue.

V – City Manager Report

None given.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION WAS HELD AT 2:59 P.M.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3 p.m.