

**FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING
JUNE 2, 2009**

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CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING 1:32 P.M. JUNE 2, 2009

Present: Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler
Vice Mayor Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioners Charlotte E. Rodstrom,
Bobby B. DuBose and Romney Rogers

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. Hector Martine

I-A – Value Place Plat – 2100 State Road 7 – Sovereign Development Group IX

Greg Brewton, Director of Planning and Zoning, explained that this plat is designed to house a 124-room hotel. He noted the zoning and zoning for property across the street. The Commission has received information from the City Attorney (Memorandum 09-0448). The associated site plan must be approved by the Development Review Committee and meet all applicable Unified Land Development Regulations' (ULDR) requirements. The plat meets subdivision requirements of the ULDR.

In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Attorney explained that the issue was whether there was competent substantial evidence to support the finding of the Commission, who denied the plat based on the testimony of neighbors of increased traffic. The court found that not to be sufficient evidence since they had expert testimony stating that traffic problems would not be created. The court order states that all requirements for plat approval have been met. It was sent back to the Commission with a writ of mandamus for approval. Mayor Seiler reiterated that the court decided that all legal requirements had been met by the applicant, and approval of the plat by the governing board is a ministerial task. The City Attorney concurred.

In response to Commissioner Rogers, the City Attorney indicated that he did not believe sign off by the Planning and Zoning Board is needed.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked for an outline of the problem with access from Highway 441. Mr. Brewton noted that 441 is a state road; access would have to be approved by the State. He understood they were seeking to achieve was to create access from the subject site, as well as the site to the north to alleviate traffic issue as it relates to entering the property from the residential area. The applicant will grant an easement, providing access from the site to the north. Access from State Road 7 has not been granted. He did not know whether the County or State would allow it.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked if there was any application made for the access. Peter Partington, City Engineer, stated that it is standard practice for the Department of Transportation to not allow direct access except to the most major activities or roads from their roads. He was not sure whether the applicant had pursued that issue, but the City could check into it on their behalf. The usual process is for the developer to request

the access arrangement. He felt it is unlikely that the Department of Transportation would consent. Commissioner Rodstrom wanted the City to make the inquiry.

Paul Ergon, property owner, stated that he met with Broward County and Department of Transportation. The road is under state and federal jurisdiction because of the ramp. They will not grant permission.

In response to Mayor Seiler, Mr. Brewton outlined the remaining process for this property.

I-B – Aquatic Complex Redevelopment – Action Plan

Cate McCaffrey, Director of Business Enterprises, noted that a conceptual master plan was presented on May 5, 2009 by LARC (Leisure and Recreation Concepts, Inc.) for redevelopment of the Aquatic Complex. A number of issues were raised, which she highlighted. Staff is confident that the top ranked proposer (Falkanger Snyder Martineau & Yates) could answer all of the questions and provide an action plan to move forward.

Commissioner Rodstrom did not think this is an investor type of RFP. She questioned why there is no mention of using Community Redevelopment Agency or Tourist Development funding. Ms. McCaffrey did not understand reference to the CRA but she thought part of the task was to examine financial aspects of the project and how various components of the project could be financed.

Commissioner Rogers felt the City should let the market dictate what to do. An RFP could be written along those lines. This appears to be an unnecessary step.

Mayor Seiler pointed out this was done before the current Commission was elected; the current Commission did not request this second RFP. He agreed with Commissioners Rodstrom and Rogers. He thought with the LARC proposal, the City would go to the market and ask for proposals to include the Swimming Hall of Fame, the Aquatic Center and a water theme park. He added that he has become doubtful about an aquarium. He questioned the current course of action, but noted it has nothing to do with the highest ranked proposer. Ms. McCaffrey clarified that this is a conceptual plan reviewed by the prior Commission, and that Commission directed staff to move forward on. Any developer would need to understand what would or would not work on the site.

Mayor Seiler pointed out that the developer will be partnering with the City on this. In essence the developer has to decide what will work and come up with a proposal, knowing the City has some funds for the public portion of the project. He questioned whether expenditure of this \$300,000 to bring the City any closer to its end goal. Ms. McCaffrey explained that the RFP was designed to come up with an action plan to refine the vision, while maintaining some control over the vision, and find out what would work financially. Mayor Seiler felt that is the developer's role, to convince the City that their proposals would work.

Commissioner DuBose had the same concerns. He also had doubts about the viability of an aquarium. He questioned expending \$300,000 to develop an action plan to look at an action plan.

The City Manager explained that the concern has always been that if the City wants to control the vision for this site, the City needs to be sure that the vision is viable. The concern about the feasibility study being done before developers are involved is that if the City does not know if the vision would work, the developers could steer away from that vision and go with their ideas. Mayor Seiler felt the developers will know better than the City what would work because that is their business. He did not think the Commission should make the vision but rather to evaluate the proposals that are presented. He believed that traffic and parking would be the two significant issues.

The City Manager clarified that a developer could see a more profitable idea that might not include the visionary ideas of the Commission. The recommendation is for the City to control the vision.

Commissioner Rodstrom suggested a letter of interest be sent to investors to see what ideas might come forward. The developer will tell the City what will work because they will be investing their money. The motivation will be profit, not the City's vision. Mayor Seiler agreed if the City is a partner, they will also profit with them.

Commissioner Rogers felt it has to be what will work even though the City has cast the vision. The site is a jewel, but it is losing money. The market will determine. He did not want to spend the \$300,000.

Commissioner DuBose agreed.

Mayor Seiler referred to the Falkanger (Falkanger Snyder Martineau & Yates) proposal and indicated that he agrees with five of the six components; a swimming facility, water park, Hall of Fame Museum, real estate and structured parking. He did not agree with an aquarium.

Commissioner Rodstrom noted the City would then decide what components it would do and whether CRA funds would be used.

Ms. McCaffrey responded to questions about citizen outreach.

The City Manager asked how staff should proceed. Mayor Seiler noted his vision includes a swim facility that could host competitive events, a water park, a Hall of Fame Museum, and sufficient parking for events including the boat show. He hoped that the Hall of Fame would meet with all proposers. He was confident that City staff know what is needed to continue being a world-class competitive swim facility.

Commissioner Rogers wanted to see the RFP components. He agreed with the Mayor's outline.

Commissioner Rodstrom questioned if lifeguard facilities along with restrooms would be considered.

Ina Lee, former Chair of the Beach Redevelopment Board, requested that the Beach Community Redevelopment Agency and the Beach Redevelopment Board continue to be allowed to be involved with this process. For at least ten years, the majority of CRA funds have been dedicated to this project. Also, the Aquatic Complex generates

between 60,000 and 100,000 room nights a year which is a tremendous economic impact.

Mayor Seiler reiterated that Commission wants the Aquatic Complex to be even more successful.

Susan Peterson liked the idea of soliciting ideas from around the world. The swimmers put Fort Lauderdale on the map. She appreciated the idea of having public input on this.

Bruce Wigo, President of the Swimming Hall of Fame, stated the City needs to resolve the issue as to what is the role of the Swimming Hall of Fame in the process. There is a misconception among some City staff about the Swimming Hall of Fame. He distributed copies of articles about the facility. He commented about the caliber of individuals in the industry worldwide who visit the Swimming Hall of Fame.

Mayor Seiler clarified the Commission has just indicated that they want the Swimming Hall of Fame at this location, that it is a significant component and every proposer is directed to meet with the Hall of Fame.

Mr. Wigo referred to difficulties between the City and his organization. He wanted their lease which expires in 2015 to be renegotiated. Also, he believed the facility should be known as the Swimming Hall of Fame, which is one of a kind versus another aquatic complex of which there are many.

Commissioner Rogers commented that for marketing purposes around the world "international" should be used.

Mayor Seiler felt the Commission understands the Hall of Fame's value and role and will make sure that is properly reflected moving forward. He noted that the lease would be tied to the use of the facility.

I-C - Property Purchase – River Oaks and Edgewood Drainage Improvements – 1950 SW 23 Court and 2323 SW 19 Avenue

Albert Carbon, Public Works Director, noted the property location and that it is a little over one acre. There have been four appraisals; the latest are \$1.2 million and \$1,340,000. Staff made an offer of \$1 million and received a counter-offer of \$1,190,000. The City has two state grants with a 50% match, each \$500,000. The City's match would be from the City's Storm Water Enterprise Fund. The funds have been budgeted and are available.

Commissioner Rogers emphasized the need to address this and in a timely manner.

Commissioner DuBose was concerned with the cost; he felt the purchase price is too high.

In response to Commissioner Rodstrom, Mr. Carbon clarified that the grants are for two neighborhoods: River Oaks and Edgewood neighborhoods. This parcel is located in River Oaks. The funding can be used for property purchase or drainage improvements. Because of low lying areas and lack of grade, this specific property is where the water

goes now. The property could be used as a retention – detention area. The last appraisals conducted in March, 2009, were \$1,293,000 and \$1,225,000.

Commissioner Rodstrom recognized there is a need that should be addressed, however she questioned how much property is actually needed to resolve this problem. She was not willing to go higher than \$1 million and wanted it to be even lower.

The City Auditor noted that the appraisals did not take into account the significant decline experienced from 2008 through 2009. He noted an index that show a 28.9% decline for the Miami-Dade area. The \$1 million offer made by the previous Commission was based on the value at that time, but the value has significantly declined. Using 29%, the value would be \$850,000 to \$900,000. The City would be buying out a developer for essentially what has been invested in the property, much of which was acquired at the peak of the market. He did think that makes good business sense.

Commissioner Rogers indicated that he had come to the same conclusion, but the focus has to shift to the City's needs to address the flooding issue. He questioned what is the correct amount when one does not know what the market will do. He noted the grant has a deadline and he did not want to put that at risk.

Commissioner DuBose stated that he agreed with Commissioner Rogers, but had concerns about the value and wanted to make sure the City does its due diligence. He referred to the Auditor's statement about dropped values of 29%.

Commissioner Rodstrom asked whether the storm water issue could be managed with one parcel as opposed to two. Mr. Carbon noted the two analyses conducted on this issue. Also, it is addressed in the 2009 storm water master plan. In summary, the analyses have not gotten into that detail. It could be done with one parcel, but it would be better with two parcels.

In response to the City Auditor, Gene Schlanger, Real Estate Division, advised that the offering price of the other parcel, 5.72 acres, is \$3 million.

Mayor Seiler did not want to lose the State funding of a million dollars because of disputing over a hundred thousand dollars. Historically, if dollars are not spent after two years, the Legislature pulls the money back. Mr. Carbon noted the grant has a thirty-day written termination clause. There has not been any notice received nor any inquiries. If there is no activity to report on the next quarterly report, the City would be in jeopardy.

In response to Commissioner DuBose, Mr. Carbon indicated the grant funds may be used for improvements or property purchase. Improvements would be less expensive if there is a place for surface storage and retention. Purchase of this property is a benefit to the overall drainage plan.

George Platt indicated he is working with the Telli's and Redington's, property owners of adjacent property in River Landings, 9.1 acres, contiguous to the subject site (owned by Paul Allen). They have been in negotiations with the City for over one year relating to another grant. He elaborated upon the flooding in this area and the history around the causes. The City has offered to purchase a portion of their property, 5.72 acres, for \$12 per square foot and the Telli's and Redington's have offered a little under \$16 per

square foot. The price being offered for this property (1950 SW 23 Court and 2323 SW 19 Avenue) is \$26.80 per square foot. The Telli's and Redington's are ready to sell.

In response to Mayor Seiler, Mr. Carbon indicated the River Landings property would be very beneficial to drainage improvements in River Oaks. The project could be accomplished with just the Telli and Redington property. The more acreage available, the better the project would be.

Mr. Platt thought that all of the property could be purchased at a reasonable price under the appraised values.

Mr. Carbon clarified the use stipulations on the two grants.

Mayor Seiler wanted to move forward with the lower priced property as they are ready to go and he did not want to jeopardize potential loss of the grant funds.

Mayor Seiler wanted to assign a value to this property and extend a final offer to them and move forward with the adjacent property so as not to jeopardize the funding. He recommended staying with the \$1 million offer and giving the property owner fifteen days to accept. Mr. Carbon noted this evening's regular meeting agenda item will be removed. The River Landings property would be presented at the June 16 conference meeting.

During further discussion on the price, Commissioner Rogers noted the smaller the property size, the higher the per square foot price will be. Commissioner Rodstrom wanted to walk away from the higher priced property. She wanted the prices to be the same. She reiterated that it is not certain all of the property is needed.

In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Manager indicated staff cannot articulate at this point in time why the appraisals assigned more value to one property. Mr. Carbon indicated that he offered the property owner 73% of the appraised value. Commissioner Rodstrom thought the City is in a wonderful negotiating position to get the best value for its money. The City does not know whether the property is needed and it is over-priced to start with. She thought the City would be foolish to offer \$1 million. She also did not want to jeopardize the grant funding.

Mayor Seiler summarized that the property owner (Paul Allen) should be advised that the \$1,190,000 offer was not accepted. Both properties should be presented on June 16 and staff will provide a price offer recommendation.

I-D – Regional Water Supply Solution – Feasibility Study

Albert Carbon, Public Works Director, read a press release issued on June 1, 2009, concerning Broward and Palm Beach water resource task forces to jointly meet to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the development of a regional alternative water supply project on June 5. He noted that he and Commissioner Rodstrom represent the City on the Broward County Task Force. He presented slides concerning this topic. A copy of the slides is attached to these minutes. He noted the plan to address the demand not met through stormwater capture (C-51 Reservoir) and reclaimed water. He elaborated upon the thinking on reclaimed or reuse of water and intention to use water in the C-51 that has not been used.

Mayor Seiler thought the capital cost of \$2.70 per gallon was high. Mr. Carbon indicated these figures are consistent when speaking about reclaimed water and Floridan Aquifer water.

Continuing in the presentation, Mr. Carbon discussed the Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan completed in 2007 and slated to be updated in 2010. It indicated what utilities would need up to 2025. With the alternative water supply projects, excluding the C-51, the City would develop about 85% of its future water needs through 2035. With all alternative supplies identified in the plan, there would be excess water. He referred to the ocean outfall slide and noted that Fort Lauderdale is not one of the utilities mandated by the legislature with respect to ocean outfall.

Mayor Seiler asked about the current source of funding. Mr. Carbon indicated the interlocal agreement of a little over \$400,000. There are eight agencies. Fort Lauderdale has two shares. The sharing is not evenly distributed. He believed there are fourteen shares total and Fort Lauderdale has two.

Mr. Carbon continued in the presentation, discussing presentations made to the various task forces and development of a phase two scope.

In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Attorney advised that outside counsel is assigned to this.

Mr. Carbon noted \$10,000 has been budgeted (City's share of about one-seventh) and allocated in a contract.

In response to Commissioner Rogers, Mr. Carbon outlined the time line including implementation at ten years. The City Manager advised that staff is not requesting any action from the Commission today. Mr. Carbon indicated this is an update; staff will be moving forward with the feasibility portion.

Commissioner DuBose was pleased to see this as water is a critical issue. In response to Commissioner DuBose, Mr. Carbon expanded on wellfield locations and saltwater intrusion potential. Fort Lauderdale wellfield locations are one to two miles west of Interstate 95. The study takes this into account. The State and South Florida Water Management District water planning practices consider a one in ten year drought; this is probably a one in twenty-five year drought which is not anticipated. The C-51 would not go dry in the worst one in ten-year drought.

Mayor Seiler was concerned if an entity pulls out whether everything is contingent upon the coalition staying together. He wanted to provide for the City to stay committed, as long as all of the others do the same. Also he wanted the City to be reimbursed for planning and start-up costs as others want to join when this proves successful. The City Attorney noted the latter part has not yet been addressed, but they have discussed the partnership with respect to planning. Escape clauses are included. If an entity does not contribute, there is a stop, review and determination of whether to go forward. The idea of selling shares at a later date will be addressed.

In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Attorney advised that terms of governance is being discussed. It will be determined when they reach the point of a project that requires expenditures other than planning dollars.

Mayor Seiler did not want to be contingent upon South Florida Water Management District once a significant investment has been made. He wanted a seat at the decision making body table and be involved in the governance. The City Attorney indicated it will be a difficult job to put all of the parties in a form of governance with which all are happy. The goal is to make sure everyone has an equal say based upon a pro rata share of their usage of water.

Annual Water Quality Report

Commissioner Rogers complimented Mr. Carbon on the City's water quality report. He asked the information be simplified in terms of showing the City's ranking. Mr. Carbon noted this is an annual state requirement.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION WAS HELD AT 3:12 P.M.

The City Commission shall meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute 768.28 regarding evaluation of the following:

Ronald Mauldin – WC-86-3793

Timothy Sarko v. City of Fort Lauderdale – PP L 04-833

Note: At approximately 4:10 P.M., the City Commission convened as the Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors

MEETING RECONVENED AT 4:20 P.M.

II-A – Fire Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee Report

Commissioner Rodstrom was concerned that a representative from the committee and a member of the Commission are not present. Mayor Seiler indicated some items were deferred due to the Vice Mayor's absence. Albert Carbon, Public Works Director, indicated he spoke with the Chair and he was unable to attend today. Although the committee knew the item would be on the agenda, staff did not make any contact until yesterday. Discussion ensued with regard to informing the Committee and the Commission being very open to its advisory boards in general.

There was a consensus approval to defer this matter to June 16, 2009.

II-B – Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2008

Michael Kinneer, Director of Finance, noted the purpose of the report, thanked all those who worked on it and introduced the external auditors, Ernst & Young. The report provided an unqualified opinion on the report.

Tom Bradley, representing Ernst & Young, noted the City is responsible for preparing this report and Ernst & Young is responsible for performing the audit. An unqualified opinion has been furnished, which indicates the financial statements fairly present the financial position of the City at the end of the year and results of operations for the year ending September 30, 2008. An audit of state and federal grants was also done. Findings will soon be presented to the City. A management letter was also provided. They have presented results of the audit to the Audit Advisory Board along with these other documents. The single audit on state and federal grants will be presented to the Commission in two weeks.

Mayor Seiler complimented the work and the staff that worked on it.

In response to Commissioner Rogers (page 96), Mr. Bradley indicated that their scope did not include review of minutes or memoranda of the Fire Rescue Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee, but they audited expenditure of the funds.

In response to Mayor Seiler, Mr. Kinneer indicated that the current auditing firm contract was for a three-year term. He concurred that there is a best practice recommended to change auditor every three years using auditors for a fresh set of eyes and another possibility is for the Audit Advisory Board to have a role in the selection process.

Mayor Seiler requested an update on auditing firms used historically and how long the City has engaged Ernst & Young.

III-A – Communications To City Commission and Minutes Circulated For The Period Ending May 28, 2009

The City Clerk advised that comments were provided to the Commission from the Board of Adjustment, Cemeteries Board of Trustees and the Marine Advisory Board.

Cemetery System Board of Trustees

In response to Mayor Seiler as to whether the Commission's role with respect to private estates, Cate McCaffrey, Director of Business Enterprises, stated that historically the Commission has approved private estates at three of the four City cemeteries and it is shown as a process in the Cemetery System. Proposed sites will be presented at the June 16 meeting. Mayor Seiler requested that the board be apprised. If there is a communication coming before the Commission from a board, he wanted to make sure the board be made aware. Ms. McCaffrey agreed to followup.

Board of Adjustment

Commissioner Rogers referred to Mr. Sniezek's comments about the Riverland rezoning. He commented about the many community meetings conducted. It is significant and he wanted to make sure everything is clear, therefore this evening he planned to request a thirty-day deferral. He offered some history on the topic. Mayor Seiler concurred and added insight about promises made during the annexation process concerning zoning.

Greg Brewton, Director of Planning and Zoning, indicated that staff is going about notifying individuals about the anticipated deferral. Even though staff has met with the

community on a number of occasions, he believed there may still be some issues outstanding. He agreed to meet with the residents to make sure everyone is on the same page. More than thirty days may be needed. Mayor Seiler suggested an indefinite deferral (so that it could be brought back when the issues are resolved. The City Attorney noted there are three ordinances needed.

Marine Advisory Board

Mayor Seiler noted that the Marine Advisory Board encouraged the Commission to support the Public Realm Plan.

III-B – Consensus Board and Committee Vacancies

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee – Commissioner DuBose recommended Roosevelt Walters to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

Audit Advisory Board – no appointments at this meeting.

Aviation Advisory Board - no appointments at this meeting.

Beach Business Improvement District Advisory Committee – no appointments at this meeting.

Board of Adjustment – Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Mary Graham to replace Gerri Manning-Udell on the Board of Adjustment.

Budget Advisory Board - Commissioner DuBose recommended Sam Monroe to the Budget Advisory Board.

Cemetery System Board of Trustees - no appointments at this meeting.

Centennial Celebration Committee –

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Dennis Ulmer to the Centennial Celebration Committee.

Commissioner DuBose recommended Lewis B. Tunnage and Beauregard Cummings to the Centennial Celebration Committee.

Commissioner Rogers recommended Cindi Hutchinson to the Centennial Celebration Committee.

Mayor Seiler recommended reappointment of E. Clay Shaw, Patricia DuMont and Kristina Hebert to the Centennial Celebration Committee.

Charter Revision Board – Commissioner Rogers recommended E. Clay Shaw to the Charter Revision Board.

Citizens Committee of Recognition – no appointments at this meeting.

Code Enforcement Board – Commissioner DuBose noted Frederick Allen’s resignation and recommended Joan Hinton. There was consensus approval for Ms. Hinton to serve as a full member, leaving an alternate vacancy. William Lamont’s resignation was also noted.

Discussion followed wherein the need for full staffing of this board was emphasized.

Community Appearance Board – Commissioner DuBose recommended Larry Nielsen to the Community Appearance Board, and the reappointment of Ayisha Gordon.

Community Services Board – no appointments at this meeting.

Education Advisory Board – Mayor Seiler recommended Dr. Magdalene J. Lewis and Maureen Persi to the Education Advisory Board.

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee - no appointments at this meeting.

Historic Preservation Board – Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Andy Cole be reinstated to the Historic Preservation Board.

Board of Commissioners, City of Fort Lauderdale Housing Authority – Mayor Seiler recommended reappointment of Nicholas Tranakas, M.D.

Insurance Advisory Board - Mayor Seiler recommended Steve Botkin to the Insurance Advisory Board. Commissioner Rogers noted interest on the part of Stephen Estler and Mayor Seiler suggested he followup on that as there are other term limited members on this board.

Marine Advisory Board - no appointments at this meeting.

Northwest-Progresso – Flagler Heights Redevelopment Board – Commissioner Rogers recommended John P. Wilkes to the Northwest - Progresso – Flagler Heights Redevelopment Board.

Planning and Zoning Board – no appointments at this meeting.

Utility Advisory Committee

Commissioner Rodstrom recommended Jay Weiss to the Utility Advisory Committee.

Commissioner DuBose recommended Magdalene Lewis to the Utility Advisory Committee.

City Commission Reports

Tracking Report

Commissioner Rodstrom complimented Assistant To The City Manager Julie Richards for her work on the tracking report.

Undergrounding utilities; request of Riviera Isles and Seven Isles neighborhoods

Commissioner Rodstrom conveyed a request from residents of Riviera Isles and Seven Isles to place on a conference agenda the subject of undergrounding utilities, possibly by special assessment. They would like the finance director and bond counsel to attend. The City Manager suggested the July or September agenda. Commissioner Rodstrom agreed to inquire as to their preference of July or September.

South Middle River request and CDBG Program

Commissioner Rodstrom noted as a followup to the town hall meeting she held with South Middle River where their 2006 master plan was reviewed. She wanted to discuss at a conference meeting the items that South Middle River may be able to fund via CDBG program (Community Development Block Grant). At the City Manager's request, Jonathan Brown, Community Development Manager, noted the annual action plan would be brought to the Commission in July. He went on to explain the application process and indicated his belief that the Commission would have a better grasp as to which neighborhood projects they want to support.

Commissioner Rodstrom wanted the Commission to establish a policy as to how the CDBG funds will be equitably distributed. She felt the Commission should receive a presentation on the program in general. The City Manager agreed, but cautioned against individual neighborhood presentations. Mayor Seiler requested that backup be provided in advance so that the Commission will be prepared with their questions.

Mr. Brown responded to Commissioner Rodstrom's question about the funding cycle and timeline. Commissioner Rodstrom did not want to miss any opportunity for the City to receive grant funding.

St. Anthony's Church and School

Commissioner Rodstrom referred to a letter received from St. Anthony's Church and School. A copy of which is attached to these minutes. St. Anthony's has requested assistance with safety, the need for stop signs and their plan for roadway improvements. With respect to traffic control signs, the City Attorney and Peter Partington, City Engineer, explained the process and Broward County's role. For traffic calming, the City is much more involved.

Mayor Seiler asked what needs to be done by the City to put the County on notice. Mr. Partington suggested the request be directed to him and he would coordinate with the County. Commissioner Rodstrom indicated a traffic study has been completed and they do not meet the criteria. Mayor Seiler was concerned about safety and asked the City Engineer followup on this.

Members of City Commission serving on outside organizations

In response to Commissioner Rodstrom concerning members of the City Commission serving on outside organizations, Mayor Seiler suggested that commissioners report as things occur.

Sistrunk Gala

Commissioner DuBose reported on the recent Sistrunk Gala.

Stimulus Program

Commissioner DuBose announced that a town hall educational program will be held this Saturday at Mt. Bethel regarding stimulus.

7th Avenue Post Office

Commissioner DuBose announced that a mailbox was installed at the 7th Avenue Post Office site.

Hortt Nursery; Park Property

Commissioner Rogers noted progress being made with respect to the purchase of property being finalized and the Bill Keith Preserve being in the works.

Poinciana Park and Harbordale; bus tour

Commissioner Rogers thanked staff for the bus tour in Poinciana Park and Harbordale. He discussed issues in these areas and noted there is a forthcoming action plan to clean up the area.

Riverside Park Homeowners Association

Commissioner Rogers announced an upcoming meet and greet event at Riverside Park.

Employee Suggestion Box

Mayor Seiler recommended an employee suggestion box be installed at city hall and other areas and have the suggestions provided to the Commission. Perhaps, an award program could be developed in the future.

Downtown Development Authority – “Inside Downtown 2009” Inaugural Annual Event

Mayor Seiler complimented everyone involved in the Downtown Development Authority event.

Memorial Day

Mayor Seiler was disappointed with respect to advance coordination of the City's Memorial Day event and suggested a thirty-day notice. He thought there may have been a communication breakdown with the contractor. There was no honor guard. Cate McCaffrey, Director of Business Enterprises, explained how the event is customarily organized. The City Manager explained how staff plans to handle coordinating all future events with the Commission. Jeff Modarelli, Director of Public Information, indicated an email was sent to the Commission.

Mayor Seiler noted that there was no advertisement of the event as well; he wanted it to be well publicized.

Mayor Seiler complimented the American Legion event the day before at Lieutenant Alexander Ramsay 'Sandy' Nininger statue.

Parks and Recreation Department and flooding at T-ball field, Coral Ridge Park

Mayor Seiler noted he received many compliments about Parks and Recreation staff when he recently attended a baseball event at Coral Ridge Park. Also in speaking with people at the event, there was general agreement that the City could delay addressing the flooding at the T-ball field.

Fire Rescue Competition

Commissioner Rogers indicated that he also received position comments on the recent Fire Rescue Competition.

V - Manager's Report

The City Manager emphasized the helpfulness of area bus tours and welcomed the Commission making requests in the future.

The City Manager indicated the City has been informed that because of the turtles, there should not be fireworks on the beach in the future. The City has a permit for this year.

IV - City Commission Reports

Thurgood Marshall Academy

Commissioner Rodstrom announced an upcoming event at Thurgood Marshall Academy.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:27 p. m.