

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, March 10, 2005
AutoNation Tower, 110 SE 6th Street
30th Floor, Conference Room

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Charles B. Ladd, Chair
Peter Feldman, Secretary
Jack T. Loos, Treasurer
Douglas P. Eagon, Board Member
Gale Butler, Board Member
John M. Milledge, General Counsel
Chris Wren, Executive Director
Sadie Williams-Panton, Temporary Administrative Aide

ABSENT: Alan C. Hooper, Vice Chair
William R. Scherer, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: Neil Sterling
Paul Carpenter
Patsy Mennuti
Cathy Sweetapple
Dave Marshall
Paul Kiley
Richard Mancusso
Renee Quinn
Bill Thompson
Vicky Agnew
Don Silver
David Orshaw
Michelle Tuggle
Lynne Lawrence
Courtney Crush
Jean-Paul Renard
Jeff Suiter
Brittany Wallman
Bob Van Fleet

PRESIDING: Charles Ladd, Chair

Chair Ladd called the meeting to order at approximately 8:40am, followed by Roll Call.

The Consent Agenda items were motioned for approval. Mr. Scherer, seconded by Mrs. Butler, motioned and all unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

POLICE REPORT

Officer Kiley reported that crime in the Downtown had decreased by eight in February compared to January although there were 68 arrests in February compared to 57 in January. The Vice Squad also wrote 10 citations to under-aged out of town college students. As there were no questions, he was thanked by Chair Ladd and left the meeting.

2nd STREET CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mr. Jeff Suiter gave an update on this project stating that Phase II is about 75 – 80% complete. He also estimated that around March 16, FP&L would energize the lights. He mentioned the turn lane disappearing and that the parking garage project had started. Mr. Wren informed that both he and Cathy Sweetapple were monitoring the project. Mr. Suiter projected that Phase II would be completed in approximately 3 to 4 weeks and start of Phase III would be worked out which should not last long.

Discussion continued regarding the design changes of the Mercedes Building/garage including cost, drawings and brick stone.

Further discussion continued on the electricity and light fixtures and Mr. Eagon requested that an update be presented at the April Board Meeting.

Mr. Wren talked about the 'lights out' count project and mentioned that he would like to offer possibly an FAU student approximately \$12 per hour to complete task. He informed the process to find someone had started.

Chair Ladd inquired of the estimated sealant cost to be used on sidewalk for the dozens of miles projected. Consideration would include using three types, most of which would be brick stone. Chair Ladd also noted that the material used is similar to that on the Bank of America building. Mr. Wren informed that Marc LaFerrier would present on this topic at a later date. Chair Ladd offered to meet with both Mr. Suiter and Mr. Wren for a more detailed discussion.

HYDE PARK

Attorney Courtney Crush, accompanied by Mr. Bill Thompson, Ms. Lynne Lawrence, Ms. Vicky Agnew and Mr. Don Silver presented a brief history and plan of the Hyde Park Market. From a consent judgment for a ½ acre park, a developer would construct or pay to construct on the site. Proposed to be a win-win situation for residents, the building, oriented to SE 5th Street, would house 272 units, 16,000 square feet of retail space with a 1/3 open vista – Stranahan house. Mr. Thompson informed that they welcome suggestions and the intent for the location to be properly maintained. He

added that Las Olas Development co-maintains Las Olas Boulevard and although there was a master plan (without a final streetscape plan), there have been and will still be many changes in the plan as they continue to work on it.

TRANSIT UPDATE

Applications to the **Request for Qualifications** (RFQ) bid are due on Friday the 18th and results from the Technical Committee to be formed, would be presented to the Board in April. A letter was sent to five divisions requesting someone be assigned to serve on the committee. Selection of the bids could result in more than three plans as well as a recommendation to merge companies based on complementing ideas. Ms. Sweetapple added that the scope detail needed to be worked out with the FTA. Also, there'll be a need for the FTA to sign-off before the design phase. She also pointed out the tremendous information/work that will occur between Phase I and Phase II.

Mr. Loos complimented Mr. Wren for getting Ms. Sweetapple on board this project.

Mr. Wren talked briefly about the recent trip to Tallahassee accompanied by Mr. Milledge and Mr. Hooper. He also handed out a letter from FDOT Secretary Abreu in Tallahassee to Chair Ladd regarding the positive meeting that had taken place and the Department's interest in partnering with the DDA to get the Rail Circulator project "on track".

Mr. Wren also handed out an FTA/Congressional Activity matrix on which he explained the grants and monies associated to projects on a yearly basis. Chair Ladd requested the matrix be updated monthly for the Board meetings and to include an 'Intended Use' column. Discussion continued regarding procedures, and Chair Ladd inquired about what is being done with the Bond money. He also requested a summary of available monies at which point Mr. Wren advised of his intentions to organize the office by hiring personnel to alleviate the workload. Chair Ladd noted his awareness of Mr. Wren's workload and Mr. Eagon offered the support of his company's HR department to assist in the hiring process.

TROLLEYS

Mr. Loos gave a brief synopsis of the Trolley operation in the Downtown after which Mr. Paul Carpenter, Executive Director of the TMA presented on the types of trolleys available and possible future direction of the operation. He indicated there is a \$2.4M Federal grant for the 17th Street to the Beach project as well as \$1.5M to replace City Cruisers. Mr. Carpenter gave Board members a packet showcasing the different Trolley manufacturers. He also mentioned the new TMA Board recently appointed in October 2004.

The design of the new trolleys was discussed including ownership advantages and having a model presentation to the Board at some time in the future. The concern of appropriate and effective signage and paint of the Trolley was also discussed.

Mr. Van Fleet noted that the 'shoestring' budget previously used compared to the current proposed budget/monies will allow for better vehicles to be sought and also that there would now be a budget for Marketing and also branding to help eliminate "*Lolly the Trolley*" fears.

Mr. Loos requested Mr. Wren to assist Mr. Carpenter in coordinating the new design.

Mr. Wren reminded there would be a TMA Executive Board Meeting the following week and discussion continued with the inclusion the DDA's support of \$700,000.00.

Motion recommending \$700,000.00 for upgrade of trolleys and looking into design alternatives was entered by Mr. Loos and seconded by Mr. Eagon. All voted in favor of motion.

OTHER BUSINESSES

At this point, Mrs. Butler handed out a list of several **events at the DDA Plaza** that are scheduled to raise money.

It was noted that there were 17 pedestals with **Art** on them and the possibility of having four applicants present new pieces to the Board for selection was also brought up.

Mr. Wren reminded of a few meetings that might interest Board members:
Affordable Housing Event with Jim Carras – 5/5/05
Outreach with Commissioner Hutchinson on the 14th at 5:30pm in City Hall
TMA with Wasserman-Schultz on the 8th

Chair Ladd thanked Mr. Milledge, Mr. Sterling and Mr. Wren for their continued efforts.

As there were no other comments or businesses to come before the Board, the Chair Ladd adjourned the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:
Sadie Williams-Panton
DDA Staff

A taped recording of the proceedings of the March 10, 2005, Regular Meeting of the Board is on file in the DDA offices, 101 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.