

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, November 9, 2006
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
New River Room, East Side

ROLL CALL

BOARD PRESENT: Alan Hooper, Chair
Peter Feldman, Vice Chair
Jack T. Loos, Secretary
Gale Butler, Treasurer
Charles B. Ladd, Board Member

NOT PRESENT: Doug Eagon, Board Member
William R. Scherer, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director
Elizabeth Veliky, Planning & Design Manager
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator
Erin Emmons, Planning Assistant
Phil Smelley
Neil Sterling
Roger Desjarlais
Pete Corwin
Valerie Amor
Irv Minney
John & Donna Zidek
Pamela Adams
Eric Liberman
Richard Mancuso
Carmelita Singh Mayer
Kelly Cabitt
Andy McNeill
Sherry Adams
Gloria Solomon
Ken Ortner
Jonathan Roberson
Frank Adderley
Ron Hicks
Jean Hanna
Henk Koornstra
Andrea Scarborough
Steve Tillbrook

PRESIDING: Alan Hooper, Chair

Mr. Hooper called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. Eagon and Mr. Scherer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item C-6 was pulled from the agenda and postponed until the December meeting.

Mr. Feldman said he wanted to pull Items C-2, C-4 and C-5 off the consent agenda to be discussed.

Chairman Hooper asked if there was a motion approving Items C-1 & C-3 on the Consent Agenda. A motion was moved by Mr. Loos and seconded by Mrs. Butler. The following items were unanimously approved:

- C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow-ups from the October 12, 2006 Board meeting.
- C-3) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Maroon Rotary 5K Run.

REGULAR AGENDA

C-2 Approval of Outdoor Event Application-A Night out with Grace, 12/9/06

Mr. Feldman asked for a brief summary of the details of this event including what it is, where it's been done before and attendance anticipation.

Gloria Solomon said that the event was done previously in Hollywood. The event includes a dance group and a chorus group for the holidays. She indicated there would be a couple of tables set up for sponsors. The estimated attendance would be between 75-100 people. She said they would have two shows.

Mr. Feldman asked how the event was promoted to which Ms. Solomon said through word of mouth. *Mr. Feldman made a motion in approval of the event application and Mr. Loos seconded.*

C-5 Approval of Outdoor Event Application-New River Boat Show & Seafood Festival, 3/8-3/11/07

Mr. Feldman indicated he had just received a packet this morning and wanted details of the event. Andy McNeill of AMI indicated they do events and gave an overview of some they have done. He said this is a new concept and they've had conversations with the City. He said there would be 40 boats or less at this event. He said they are requesting to use Huizenga Plaza down the New River to Esplanade starting down 2nd Street across the Museum of Science. He said details are contained in the packages distributed today.

Chairman Hooper asked if the boats were going to be placed in the middle of the plaza and what kind of boats they would be. Mr. McNeill said they are outboards which will be brought in on trailers. He said they will use boards to protect the grass. Insurance issues were discussed.

Mr. Wren stated that they will be careful so they don't tear any limbs from the trees. Chairman

Hooper asked who will manage the trailers coming in and Mr. Wren said staff will. Mr. Feldman asked if there was entertainment and Mr. McNeill said they are talking to KISS 99.

Mr. Ladd asked what the fee was for the event and Ms. Veliky said \$1,000 per day for 4 days.

Mr. Feldman said the goal the Board should set for events in the park downtown should be the utilization of Riverwalk.

A motion to approve the event was made by Mr. Feldman and seconded by Mr. Loos.

C-4 Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Festival of the Arts, 2/10/07-2/11/07

Mr. Feldman said the plan submitted has improved over the last one. He asked if they had been to the City yet regarding the event or whether it's gone to the City Commission. Mr. Zidek said it had not. Mr. Zidek said the event is an art show that the public can enjoy. The Board asked about the possibility of this being an annual event and Mr. Zidek responded absolutely. The size of the event and parking were discussed. Mr. Feldman asked when the plans would be finalized and Mr. Zidek said in a couple of weeks. Mr. Feldman suggested he work with DDA staff so the Board can be updated on the status.

Mrs. Butler said because it is the first time this event is being held that extra care should be used. Mr. Loos said that they want to work with him so it's a success. Chairman Hooper agreed saying they want to plant the seeds for future annual events.

A motion to approve the event was made by Mr. Feldman and seconded by Mrs. Butler.

R-1 Police Report

Major Adderley indicated that in October, there were a total of 50 reported Part One crimes in the entire downtown area. He said the numbers were consistent with September. He said there have been vehicle burglaries occurring south of Broward Boulevard, East of Federal Highway. He said there were 3 vehicle burglaries at Starbucks and other locations. He said there was an incident last week at the Las Olas Grand where the security guard watched on the video system, bicycles being stolen in the parking lot. He said the person was taken into custody and confessed to others in the area.

Mr. Loos discussed his concern about skateboarding in Huizenga Plaza. He asked if they are permitted on the Riverwalk and feels there should be stronger enforcement. He also asked about bicycles on the Riverwalk. Major Adderley said that skateboards are a violation of the park rule and that park rangers give out warnings the first time giving violators 24 hours to leave the park. If they return, they can take action. He said he doesn't believe that bikes are part of the violation. Chairman Hooper said they need signage and a design feature. He also said it's a community problem until there is a place for them to go. He said that at the Avenue Lofts project, bikes were stolen last year.

Chairman Hooper talked about an incident occurring when a resident had a party. When guests were leaving off N.W. 5th and Andrews, one guest was held up at gunpoint and the car was stolen. He said it would be nice to see a police presence/marked vehicles in the Flagler Village area. Major Adderley said that 10-15 minutes after the incident, detectives were on the scene and that there was a police chase. He said the car was retrieved and that during the chase, when they spoke to the victims, they said they didn't want to prosecute. Chairman Hooper said the response time was good. He said this

was the only major thing that's happened and that they have 2 security guards walking the outside of the buildings. Mr. Adderley asked who the security company was so he can develop a relationship with them to which Chairman Hooper responded O'Brien Security. **Staff will get the contact information to Major Adderley.**

R-2 Courthouse Presentation

Pete Corwin of the County Administrator's Office was present along with Architect Valerie Amor of Cartaya and Associates and Steve Tillbrook. Mr. Corwin said the initiative fell short on Tuesday with 42% of the vote. He said much of the plan is still conceptual. He discussed the details of the courthouse plan. He said the intention is so that the criminal courts can function within one building. He said the current courthouse is old and beyond it's useful life. He discussed the project further. He said that the major project is a \$340 million civil family tower which will be 25 stories high and 800,000 square feet. He said a garage will be needed to support the new space.

Mr. Loos suggested the plan show more information such as what is existing, what they are going to do, what they own, what they intend to buy and what is private property. He said it needs more details. He congratulated Mr. Corwin saying that with no marketing effort, getting 42% of the votes was higher than the other initiatives that had marketing.

Mr. Feldman asked if the potential for the Federal Courthouse site is where the existing courthouse is and Mr. Corwin said yes. Mr. Feldman asked if they would demolish the courthouse and when that's done, whether there was a plan for remedial work so that you wouldn't see the back of the jail. Mr. Corwin said they would not immediately take down the garage so that it would provide a barrier. Ms. Amor added that there are plans to do landscaping.

Inmate activity was discussed. Ms. Amor added that this is a conceptual plan and she's done a more detailed plan indicating the stages. The Board discussed the demolition and rebuilding timeframes.

Mr. Feldman said they are trying to create a mixed-use pedestrian environment that has life on the street and that it's important to include it in the plan.

Chairman Hooper talked about greenspace. He discussed the concept of having vendors occupying space outside office space rather than in the lobby of a building which creates more pedestrian activity.

Mr. Loos discussed the tube and pedestrian activity. He talked about the old courthouse site and said the federal government needs a site offered before the funding cycle.

Mrs. Butler asked about the commercial aspect and whether they are talking about stores of interest. Ms. Amor said offices will occupy the 2nd floor with restaurants and activities on the bottom. Mrs. Butler asked if they've taken terrorist activity into consideration. Ms. Amor said the federal courthouse will have higher security issues but it's not resolved.

Mr. Corwin said the plan is to continue with the property acquisition and continue with the DRI and design.

Mr. Sterling said the result of the polls was encouraging with almost 43% of the vote. He

recommended the committee continue to be in existence and they support the County's efforts. He said the result was a strong result with less marketing than others.

Mr. Feldman said the Board rushed to write a check for \$25,000 and asked if the monies were spent. Mr. Wren said none has been spent and stated it was for educational purposes and that Mr. Desjarlais was present who could answer questions. Mr. Feldman said that the Board took money out of the budget for an immediate use which is not immediate now. The Board discussed and debated whether or not the monies should be given back to the DDA or whether they should be left there pending an educational/marketing plan being developed.

Mrs. Butler expressed concern that if the DDA pulls the money out that others might do that and what it says about the effort. She believes the money should be left there to show the Board's support.

Several motions related to this issue were made and subsequently withdrawn after which the following motion was made:

Mr. Feldman made a motion indicating that Justice on Time has 60 days to come back with a marketing and funding plan and if the Board does not like it, they can get their money back. Mr. Ladd seconded. Roll call taken and all approved.

Mr. Ladd said that Mr. Wren needs to notify the people on the sales tax initiative that they need to come and give the Board an update on what they've spent.

Mr. Wren said he will put this on the next agenda. He said that both parties the Board contributed money to signed agreements indicating the monies would be spent for marketing purposes only and they would provide a written audit account on how the funds were expended.

At this time, a 10 minute recess was taken.

R-3 CIP/Redevelopment Grant

Mr. Wren stated the item will be on every agenda as the Board requested to provide an update. He said Mr. Sterling, Ms. Veliky and himself have been focusing on this and that it's in the County's hands. He said the viability of it is looking good. **He said they are finalizing it so that the Chair can pass it onto the City Manager sometime in January.**

R-4 Portland Trip Synopsis

Mr. Wren stated the trip was successful and they learned a lot about the system. Mr. Smelley showed a PowerPoint Presentation recapping the trip. Brief highlights included were: The Portland Streetcar is a 2.4 mile line opened in 2001, the cost was \$56.9 million with no federal funding, property owners paid 20% of the cost, there is a 30% higher ridership than buses, they have 9,000 riders a day and there is over 7,000 new housing units. Mr. Wren said that once the transit went in, walking increased from 6% to 27%. Mr. Smelley continued the presentation.

Mr. Wren said he will get pictures on discs to the Board. He then asked that the partners be introduced and they give their impression of the trip.

Jonathan Roberson, Senior Planner of BCT thanked the Board for the trip. He said being able to get

on the light rail system close to baggage claim was great. He said it parallels the regional light rail system the County will have eventually. He said it was a great trip and mentioned that other BCT staff came from the New York system. He said development will come and will connect well with the BCT system and he looks forward to it.

Henk Koornstra and Jean Hanna from Broward County Traffic Engineering were present. Mr. Koornstra said he appreciated the opportunity. He said Mr. Hanna will be very involved with the traffic signals. He said the meeting with the local traffic engineering office went smooth and his first impressions were positive. He said one of the differences in the Portland system versus Fort Lauderdale's is the one way system. The timing is simple and they will need to address that. He talked about parking lanes and thru lanes. He said the bridge openings will need to be addressed. He said overall, it was a beneficial trip. Mr. Hooper said the report was excellent. Mr. Hanna said they took nearly 250 pictures.

Mr. Wren asked if the system works better on a one way street and Mr. Koornstra said he believes so. He talked about parallel parking, loading zones and other concerns.

Mr. Loos discussed right turns being more problematic. Mr. Koornstra said some type of traffic study would need to be performed.

Eric Liberman said he really liked the maintenance facility. He said they picked an ideal place, having it under a highway bridge. He said it's a covered facility and there's a storage area at night for the trains.

Ms. Veliky said she was very impressed at the efforts with creating stations and involving the community.

Mr. Loos said he was very glad he went on the trip and he's very enthusiastic. He said their mid rise development was nicely done. He said he's very excited about the project. He said getting off at the airport was great. He stressed the importance of Fort Lauderdale creating moderately priced housing. At this time, Mr. Loos departed.

Chairman Hooper said that at the right time, they need to make a presentation to the County Commission and City Commission showing them how wonderful it can be.

Mr. Ladd said he has been to Portland and other cities with transit systems. He said it's great to see everyone else see it. He stressed the importance of building a consensus and getting everybody in the same direction. He said it's about making this place special and it's frustrating when people don't see it.

Chairman Hooper said they need to figure out how to get the word out. Mr. Wren said they have been working with a lot of neighborhood associations. He said they need to revisit groups updating them in a marketing fashion.

Mrs. Butler said they need to go to the County Commission afterwards.

R-5 Transit – Data Collection

Mr. Wren said the consultant team has done considerable work. He discussed the next steps saying they will bring it back to the Board around January for final disposition and then to the City Commission and County Commission. He said they want to know if there are any elements of the study the Board wants to meet on in an individual basis, through one on one meetings.

Chairman Hooper asked if there were comments.

Mr. Ladd said he didn't read it and he said there is a need for private meetings or a workshop.

R-6 TMA Routes

Mr. Wren said they have been working on changing the current TMA routes and he went through the maps. He said they have to stay within their budgetary constraint of \$230,000. He said the daytime routes were 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and he went through the streets/routes. He said there is one vehicle and the headways are 12-17 minutes. He said the nighttime route is 6:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Thursday through Saturday and 6:00 p.m. to midnight on Sunday. He went through the options. He said they are looking at a lunch time shuttle from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. He said they are \$20,000 over budget.

Chairman Hooper asked if there were comments. Mr. Ladd discussed the loop concerns. Mr. Feldman asked why there is one vehicle and Mr. Wren said because of the budget.

The Board further discussed the routes.

Mr. Ladd mentioned that he sees the lights out inside the vehicles when no one is inside and he's seen them drive down the middle lane versus the outside lane. Mr. Minney said he's spoken to the contractor about this. The Board further discussed the map illustrations about the routes. **Chairman Hooper said he will report back with what the TMA comes up with.**

R-7 Purchase of Speaker Phone

Mr. Wren said he was asked to put the item on the agenda for discussion.

Mr. Ladd said it's not a money issue; he feels it's disruptive at the meeting. Chairman Hooper agreed.

Mr. Wren asked if the Board was comfortable with the phone they are currently using and Mr. Ladd said the phone should only be used in emergencies. Brief discussion was held after which Chairman Hooper asked if there is a motion and there was none. Staff will continue to use the existing speaker phone placing it in the middle of the table allowing for less disruption. Generally, the Board felt that all members should be present and using a speaker phone was only appropriate in emergency situations.

Mr. Feldman mentioned that because the agendas have been running so long, they are losing members. He said it's important that members are present to discuss important issues. He asked if the meetings should be shorter or workshops conducted. Mrs. Butler suggested cutting out the conversation. Chairman Hooper said leaving too early is not the thing to do. He said they are taking on a lot of stuff and they need the members to be present.

R-8 Update on DDA Engineering Support for Future Streetscape Projects

Mr. Wren said he was asked to brief the Board on accelerating the Streetscape projects. He said he found an engineer and sent the contract to John Milledge for review. He said the 3 streets maybe accelerated sooner. Chairman Hooper asked who the engineer was and Mr. Wren said Steve Botek. He further said that Mr. Botek is familiar with the project.

Chairman Hooper than responded on the earlier discussion on members leaving the board meetings early and added that perhaps when there is an important item, they should move the item to the top of the agenda. He said maybe indicating the DDA meetings could possibly go from 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. is the answer so members allow more time on their schedules.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

A taped recording of the full proceedings of the November 9, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Board is on file in the DDA office – 305 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 301.