

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, February 11, 2010
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
Einstein Room

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

BOARD PRESENT: D. Fredrico Fazio, Chairman
Dennis F. O'Shea, Vice-Chairman
Gregory Durden, Secretary
Tim Petrillo, Treasurer
William R. Scherer, Board Member
William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member
John Ropes, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	Stephen Botek
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Renee Quinn
Elizabeth Van Zandt, Planning & Design Manager	Ron Centamore
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Joanne Richter
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	D. Sterner
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	Rebecca Baer
Neil Sterling	Richard Mancuso
Mike Hammond	Mike Ferber
Clay Wieland	Brittany Wallman
Cindi Hutchinson	Megan Purdue
David Wheeler	Jennifer Lee
Tom Miller	Ernie Gorwood
Phyllis Pittman	Doug Jones
Terry Rynard	

PRESIDING: D. Fredrico Fazio, Chair

Chairman Fazio called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Fazio mentioned that item C-3 had been pulled from the agenda and that the applicant will come back at a later date. Chairman Fazio asked whether anyone had any comments regarding the Consent Agenda. Mr. Petrillo discussed whether the Board could be given the right to approve events without going to the City to avoid a two step process. He said the applicants would still need to go through the DDA's application process but said he'd like to see the process work a little smoother.

Terry Rynard from City Park & Recreation stood up and said she would speak to her Director, Phil Thornburg, about this and will report back to DDA staff. After discussion, Chairman Fazio asked if there was a motion approving the items on the Consent Agenda. *A motion was moved by Mr. O'Shea and seconded by Mr. Petrillo. All Board members were in favor.* The following items were unanimously approved:

- C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow-ups from the January 14, 2010 DDA Regular Board Meeting and Approval of the January 12, 2010 Transit Finance Committee Minutes.
- C-2) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Dog-In Movie, 4/24/10
- C-4) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, 10/8/10-10/9/10

REGULAR AGENDA

R-1 Police Report

Captain Wheeler gave a brief update and said there have been significant reductions in crimes, but there seems to be late night issues occurring. He also mentioned the ongoing efforts with the County Judges in trying to get persons charged with disorderly conduct to have a minimum jail stay of 2 days, as opposed to having an almost immediate release.

Mr. Petrillo brought up a recent issue with his restaurant patrons being harassed by the same homeless individual. He said he looked up his criminal background and he had over 100 arrests.

R-2 St. Patrick's Day Update

Mr. Wren updated the Board on the latest developments of the St. Patrick's Day event. He introduced members of the event planning committee, starting with Terry Rynard and Cindi Hutchinson, the parade co-chairs. They gave a brief overview of the parade and he Mr. Wren introduced Sgt. William Schultz and Joanne Richter, who each provided information on the safety committee and the VIP/hospitality committee. Mr. Wren introduced Ernie Gorwood, who volunteers to publicize the event dressed as a leprechaun. Mr. Gorwood spoke about the importance of the event and Mr. Wren implored the audience to attend what is expected to be a major community event. Mr. Wren said the event will take place on March 13th beginning at 11:45 a.m. in Huizenga Plaza.

R-3 City Downtown Master Plan/Arcade Awning Requirements

Chairman Fazio expressed interest in making downtown a more pedestrian friendly environment. At the January DDA Board Meeting, Chairman Fazio requested that staff research the current arcade and awning requirements. Chairman Fazio asked the Board members for their input regarding additional shade requirements for non-residential structures.

Mr. Scherer indicated that he thought this requirement already existed in the current master plan. Mr. O'Shea stated that the existing master plan recommends shade enhancing devices for residential structures, but not for non-residential. He further stated that he thinks it is unreasonable to make it a requirement because it is already so difficult for developers to meet the current code requirements for their buildings. Mr. Scherer indicated that he believed it may be a good idea to allow existing buildings to be permitted to install awnings that would cover the sidewalks, which is not currently allowed. Mr. O'Shea mentioned that Broward County already taxes awnings on buildings because the County recognizes awnings as additional square footage to a building.

After discussion it was decided that Mr. Fazio and Mr. Wren will meet with Mr. Brewton from the City to find out how they can encourage awnings to be allowed to cover walkways.

R-4 Homeless Taskforce Update

Kate Sheffield said she was providing an update and that Cate McCaffrey has been working on this issue on behalf of the City. She said that at the January 6th City Commission recommendations were made to establish a pilot Coordinated Services Center with the assistance of the faith-based community and representatives of the listed social services to provide outreach and access to services, to clarify the City's ability to subsidize, lease and/or acquire property to serve as a location for the CSC (known as the feeding site), and to assess the need for low demand shelters and identify long-term housing strategies. She said Mayor Seiler directed the taskforce to return with a list of proposed sites. Ms. Sheffield said the taskforce met on January 27th and were focusing on recommending sites but since that time, Mr. Hooper found a site and entered into a contract which the City Commission will discuss at their February 16th meeting.

R-5 Tunnel Park Update

Mr. Wren updated the Board on the status of the Tunnel Park project. Mr. Wren mentioned that the DDA gave the City \$500,000 towards the construction of that park. He said the City leveraged that money to complete the southern portion of the Riverwalk. Since then, the project has stalled numerous times. Mr. Wren said that the most current update is that the City issued a building permit, but that it was voided because the project is located in the right of way. He said the City is currently voiding that permit and will allow the contractor to apply for MOT permit. Mr. Wren said the City estimates that construction will start in mid-February and will conclude in late May.

Mr. Wren was requested to coordinate this item with Mr. Scherer and Chad Blue was requested to set up a meeting with Al Carbon at the City to find out who was awarded the contract, the scope and budget of the project and to explore the DDA's past contribution. Mr. Wren was requested to reach out to the District Commissioner and then Mr. Wren and Mr. Scherer will report back to the Board.

R-6 2nd Street Undergrounding Update

Mr. Wren mentioned that the 2nd Street Undergrounding project has been going on for over 5 years. He said the DDA originally contributed \$80,000 to the City for this project. Mr. Wren said the City is currently in disagreement with FP&L over the original agreement between the two. He said that City staff has sent their comments regarding to agreement to FP&L and are waiting to hear back from them.

Mr. Wren said he would put this item on the March agenda and also have staff confirm the status of the commission agenda item regarding DDA monies.

R-7 Transit: DC Trip, FDOT Funding, 2011 Appropriations

Mr. Wren mentioned that he, Mr. Milledge, Chairman Fazio, Mayor Keechl and Mayor Seiler are going to Washington on February 23rd for the Summit. He said they will attend the Summit on the 24th and then are trying to have meetings set on the 25th with the Delegation. He talked about the trip in more detail.

Mr. Wren said in their packages is the updated letter of support from FDOT Secretary Kopelousos and a memo describing our 2011 appropriations requests.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

D-1 New Courthouse

Mr. Durden shared his excitement of the recent County decision to fund the new Courthouse. The Board thanked Mr. Durden for all his work on this important effort.

D-2 News Articles

Mr. Wren said there were various news articles in their packages.

D-3 FEC Corridor

Mr. Ropes went through his vision of making the FEC corridor planning more business and community driven. Mr. O'Shea mentioned a presentation made by EDSA that was demand driven instead of politically driven. He highly recommended the Board see the presentation. Board discussion continued.

Mr. Wren was requested to have FDOT give a brief update at the next meeting.

D-4 DDA Retreat

Mr. Wren said this was a suggestion of Mr. Ropes and that staff is targeting March 19th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and once a location is confirmed, staff will confirm back to the Board. **The Board requested that the time for the retreat be 8:00 a.m. – noon, when scheduled.**

Other

The Board requested staff circulate the DDA history document for the benefit of the new Board members.

Mr. O'Shea brought up utility marking graffiti as an area he is concerned about. The Board discussed the issue and talked about the City's standpoint and possible enforcement.

Chairman Fazio asked Mr. Milledge to look into this issue further including legal rights.

As there was no other business to come before the Board, Chairman Fazio adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.