

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, June 9, 2011
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
Einstein Room

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

BOARD PRESENT: Dennis F. O'Shea, Chairman
Gregory Durden, Vice-Chair
Tim Petrillo, Secretary
John Ropes, Treasurer
D. Fredrico Fazio, Board Member (by conference call)
William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member
Michael Weymouth, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	David Coddington
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Kelly Lawrence
Elizabeth Van Zandt, Planning & Design Manager	Genia Ellis
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Chuck Adams
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	Vivian Kamareddine
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	Doug Tober
Neil Sterling	Dana Pollitt
John Hans Huseby	Laurel Oswald
Dev Motwani	Sergeant Frank Sousa

PRESIDING: Dennis O'Shea, Chairman

Chairman O'Shea called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present with Mr. Fazio participating by speaker phone.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman O'Shea asked if anyone wanted to discuss any items on consent. Mr. O'Shea announced that Mr. Fazio is participating by speaker phone. Hearing no comments on the Consent Agenda, Chairman O'Shea asked if there was a motion approving the Consent Agenda. ***A motion was moved by Mr. Petrillo and seconded by Mr. Durden. All Board members were in favor.*** The following items were unanimously approved:

- C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow-ups from the May 12, 2011 DDA Regular Board Meeting and the Finance Committee Meetings of 5/4 and 5/18
- C-2) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Corporate Run, 3/27-3/29/12
- C-3) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Relay for Life of Downtown Fort Lauderdale, 4/21-4/22/12

REGULAR AGENDA

R-1 Police Report

Sergeant Frank Sousa said the biggest problem which continues is larcenies. He gave updates on Beverly Heights, Cooley Hammock, the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Civic Association and Sailboat Bend's latest crime stats. He talked about larcenies in general. David Coddington with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance asked about the horse patrols and Sergeant Sousa said they are a deterrent. The Sergeant then said they are starting to target hot spots throughout the City. The Board thanked him for his report.

R-2 DDA 2011/2012 Budget Schedule

Mr. Wren said he is recommending the Board sets the public hearing dates in September which are part of the required statutory process. He said he will be recommending Sept 8th and Sept 22nd. He said in July they will set the advertised millage rate which will be the highest they can adopt and then they can go below that rate. He briefed them on the workshops for anyone who was not able to attend. Mr. Wren said that in September they will adopt the millage rate and budget and then they forward the millage rate to the City for adoption and then everything gets sent to the State. Mr. Wren said the budget corresponds with the work plan however there is a shortfall of about \$100,000-\$150,000 after 3 more years of passing an operating budget without raising the millage rate. He said the Board suggested at the workshops to focus on revenue generation for the Huizenga Plaza and the PACA garage. He said they previously discussed hosting events in the park and partnering with the Broward Center. He said they will look to increase events in the park and possibly adjust the fee structure. Mr. Wren said they would also look at ways to lease more parking permits in the garage.

Mr. Wren mentioned a local entertainment consultant that he has had discussions with regarding possibly hiring to run events and bring in profits for the DDA. Mr. Ropes suggested Mr. Wren do some sort of background check on the contact he's talking to about events and check on his experience to make sure he's legitimate. Mr. Wren said he's started that process. Mr. Fazio said for the record that he's opposed to raising taxes.

A motion was moved by Mr. Durden to set the public hearing dates as follows: The regular board meeting on September 8 at 4:00 p.m. with the first budget hearing at 5:01 p.m. and the final hearing set for September 22 at 5:01 p.m. Mr. Bodenhamer seconded and all were in favor.

R-3 Homeless

Mr. Wren said the City has not made any movement on this. He said the Mayor is of the opinion that all four Commission districts should have feeding activity periodically. Mr. Wren said he and Gale Butler met about Stranahan Park and the library and discussed how they can reclaim them for the public to enjoy again. He said they discussed having a skate board park at Stranahan Park to make it an active park and to find ways to make it a family friendly park. Mr. Wren said the Mayor wanted him to talk with Genia Ellis about the Women's Club regarding these ideas and others.

Mr. Wren acknowledged Genia Ellis and congratulated her on her appointment as the Riverwalk Trust Director. Mr. Wren said he would continue to work on this initiative to get activity in the park. Mr. Weymouth asked where the homeless would go if this initiative works. Mr. Wren said they would go where no one bothers them. He said it's the feeding that gathers them there. Mr. Weymouth asked for an update on the Tim Smith feeding program issue and Mr. Wren said he believes it did not

move forward. Chadwick Blue updated the Board on the Tunnel Park progress and indicated it was supposed to be finished by the end of August/September, but it has recently been pushed to November/December.

Discussion was held about the Salvation Army site, after which Mr. Petrillo asked why they can't enforce the same rules on feeding in the parks as the rules that apply in other parks such as Huizenga Plaza within the outdoor event permitting process. General Discussion was held. The Board agreed the Commission needs to resolve the issue by establishing feeding sites.

R-4 Federal Courthouse

Mr. Wren said he was appointed to a task force by the Chief Judge to get the construction of a new Federal Courthouse higher on the Federal list of courthouse replacements. He said they are now 8th on the list after staff came and evaluated the situation. He mentioned officials who came down. He said the Federal Study is the next step, then funding and then rebuilding which could take 10 years. He said they are trying to find a site for the new Courthouse and indicated he hired Mario Cartaya through a 5013C that was funded years ago to do due diligence of the feasibility of building it between the existing jail and the Riverwalk, while meeting federal standards and still having room for some sort of retail activity along the Riverwalk. He said there is another site under consideration that is immediately west of the existing courthouse on Broward Boulevard that is currently a fenced-in lot. He said there is a task force meeting tomorrow.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Other

Mr. Wren recognized Dev Motwani who is a partner in Las Olas Riverfront. He said that Mr. Motwani wants to talk to the Board in the near future about that facility. Mr. Motwani said there are no set long term plans but they will be spending money in the short term. He said they want to keep the entertainment aspect. Mr. Motwani said he wants to activate it but for now they are working on improvements and that he will come back before the Board for input.

Mr. Wren recognized David Coddington with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance. Mr. Coddington said that Mr. Wren spoke at one of their council meetings and that Greg Stuart came yesterday and talked about the Wave in addition to other transit projects in the County. He said the DDA is working with the Alliance regularly and one result has been that the Wave has been presented to three difference councils. He talked about companies that are looking to hire and/or expand their workforce and said over 1000 jobs will be either retained or added.

D-1 News Articles

There was nothing to report.

D-2 DDA Work Plan

There was nothing to report on the work plan. However, Mr. Ropes mentioned that there is a Marketing Meeting on June 20th and urged attendance. He asked if there was any update on the noise ordinance. Mr. Petrillo said it's still under review. He said City staff was directed to present a report in June/July on the issues they are facing with Code.

As there was no other business, Chairman O'Shea adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m.