

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, July 11, 2013
110 SE 6th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

BOARD PRESENT: Tim Petrillo, Chair
John Ropes, Vice Chair
Michael Weymouth, Secretary
Dennis F. O'Shea, Treasurer
Gregory Durden, Board Member
D. Fredrico Fazio, Board Member (Participating by speaker phone)

NOT PRESENT: William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	Don Donahue
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Dave Wagner
Elizabeth Van Zandt, Planning & Design Manager	Shannon Applegate
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Brooke Mooney
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	Adam Hurwitz
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	April Kirk
John Bertino	Scott Barrocas
Peter Agnesi	Major Gregory Salters
Andrew Kirschner	Sergeant Fontalvo
Laura Gambino	Al Battle
Chuck Adams	Dave Coddington
Cindy Calvert	Genia Ellis
Mark Mattern	Dev Motwani
Ron Centamore	Chris Augustin

PRESIDING: Tim Petrillo, Chairman

Chairman Petrillo called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present except Mr. Bodenhamer with Mr. O'Shea arriving a short time later. Chairman Petrillo said he was pulling C-2 from consent. He asked if anyone had any questions regarding the remaining items on the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, a *motion was moved by Mr. Ropes and seconded by Mr. Durden approving all the items on consent. All Board members were in favor.* The following items were unanimously approved:

CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow ups from the June 13, 2013 DDA Board Meeting.
- C-3) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-2013 Florida March Against Cruelty to Animals,

11/16/13

- C-4) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-2nd Annual Merrill Lynch Bull Run, 11/23/13
- C-5) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Lauderdale Live, 12/5-12/8/13
- C-6) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-2014 Fort Lauderdale MS Walk, 2/22-2/23/14
- C-7) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-TeamFootWorks Corporate Run, 4/2-4/3/14
- C-8) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Lauderdale Fest Octoberfest, 9/27-9/29/13

Chairman Petrillo opened comments to the public and hearing none, a motion was made by Mr. Ropes and seconded by Mr. Weymouth to close the public comment.

REGULAR AGENDA

R-1 Police Report

Sergeant Fontalvo said the Part One crimes for May were 32 and 21 for June. He said the majority were larcenies. Mr. O'Shea arrived. He briefly discussed the issue brought up at the last meeting about the parking attendant that was robbed. He said they obtained a picture of the vehicle and he emailed that to Mr. Wren. He said they have a few leads and are working on the case. He said police presence has been increased on the Riverwalk during the evenings and asked if the Board has noticed that. Genia Ellis from Riverwalk Trust said she has not. The Sergeant said he would pass that along.

C-2 Approval of the Financial Audit and Financial Statements as submitted by the DDA's Auditor, Keefe McCullough & Co., LLP

Cindy Calvert said the DDA has an unqualified opinion which is the highest level they can give. She went through some of the highlights and said the balance sheet is steady and that cash and investments went down \$700,000 because of capital outlay and the capital projects fund. She said revenue is \$1.4 million which decreased \$1 million from last year which is a result of receiving more grant funds last year. She continued going through highlights. Chairman Petrillo opened comments to the public and hearing none, *a motion to approve the Financial Audit and Financial Statements was made by Mr. Ropes and seconded by Mr. Durden. All board members were in favor.*

R-2 Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Update

Mr. Coddington first congratulated the Board and staff on the Wave Streetcar assessment approval. He said another technology company will be adding jobs and said mass transit plays an important role. He said a lot of companies are looking at Broward County. He said he has another City meeting today. He congratulated Ellen Rivera of 110 Tower on winning locally and regionally being named "2013's Renovated Building of the Year" by the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA). Mr. Ropes asked about the runway expansion and Mr. Coddington's association with the airport and Mr. Coddington explained. He also discussed an investor in Columbia who is committed to growth here.

R-3 City Economic Development Update

Laura Gambino introduced Al Battle and Chris Augustin. She said they have an exciting initiative called the Quality Target Incentives and explained. She said just this fiscal year alone they have 7 firms taking advantage of the program, which will have an increase of 530 new jobs. She said they identify transportation and business issues. She said they put out an RFP for a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan for the City and received five quotes from five firms. She said they will do reference checks next and then verbal interviews to eventually hire a consultant. She

discussed the other initiatives. She said they recently had a Marine Summit where three groups came together and discussed the overall plan including the beach. She said she encourages the Board to participate as a business voice and there will be a meeting in late September. Ms. Gambino then brought up the lean permitting process. She said there was a meeting last week at the County with municipalities talked about centralizing permitting. She said they have been working on streamlining the process. She said they are participating along with 31 municipalities. She said there is a new business on Broward Boulevard in the Waverly building called Edgemont Bakery. Chairman Petrillo said he thinks the permit process is easier. Mr. O'Shea brought up the Cypress Creek area and said the rent has not changed there in 20 years. He said it's much easier to access that area than Fort Lauderdale because of Broward Boulevard and we need to look at how to make it easier for people to access our downtown. The Board discussed this after which Chairman Petrillo asked where that study was in the process. Mrs. Van Zandt said the Broward Blvd Gateway study is being finalized and will go back to the Commission sometimes in September or October. Mr. Wren said this topic comes up repeatedly. He said there are several issues on Broward Boulevard and brief discussion was held.

R-4 DDA 2013/2014 Budget

Mr. Wren said the budget has two millage rates – operating and debt service. He said the September hearing dates have been set. He said today the Board is required to recommend the proposed millage rates for advertising purposes. **He said another workshop will be scheduled and that the Chair requested they go through each line item and cost.** Mr. Wren said he recommends they do not increase revenue for the operating millage rate so he recommends the rolled back rate. He said they need to be sensitive to the property owners since the Wave Streetcar assessment was just passed. He said he would be looking for a motion in support of a .5080 operating rolled-back rate and a .5366 voted debt service rate. Chairman Petrillo asked if the Board had any questions and hearing none, he opened up comments to the public and there were none. *A motion was moved by Mr. O'Shea in support of a .5080 operating rolled-back rate and was seconded by Mr. Ropes. By roll call, all approved. A motion was moved by Mr. Durden in support of a .5366 voted debt rate and was seconded by Mr. Ropes. By roll call all were in favor.*

R-5 The Wave Streetcar

Chairman Petrillo said today was significant. He said over 11 years ago this project was started by Board members who had the vision of a streetcar in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. He said this is the first meeting after approval of the assessment and he congratulated everyone. He said so many people of opposite parties were brought together and it is a job well done. He thanked those who attended Tuesday evening for the Commission meeting. Mr. Wren also thanked everyone and said there is pride in the community. He said they are getting ready to go to Washington and that the City Manager is a new participant. He said they will meet with the FTA on the Small Starts and remaining funds and that there is more work to do. He said the consultant team was put on hold with the Tiger Grant and that they will start the design process and hold public workshops on the specific station locations and routes. He said the train should be modern and branded to Fort Lauderdale. He said it will be brought back for input from the Board on how it will look and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) will have a say as well. Chairman Petrillo asked when he thought they would break ground and Mr. Wren said it is scheduled for early 2015 with completion by December 2016.

R-6 Projects Update

Mr. Wren said they have streetscape monies in their grant to connect the Riverwalk behind the

Stranahan House. He said that John Ropes and Michael Weymouth make up the committee of two with Genia Ellis as the project manager. Ms. Ellis said it's moving along and they do have a robust design in place which is a linear park from the Carrie B to Laura Ward Plaza. She said they are looking to the DDA for funding and have reached out to the City as well. She said their intent is to put out a competitive solicitation. Mr. Ropes made a motion to be able to fund the project and finish the linear park, not to exceed \$550,000. His motion was not seconded. The Board requested more information.

Mr. Wren explained the funding that is in place and that the amount represents half of those funds. Mr. Ropes then went into more detail of the project description. He said it is his hope to have it finished by January. Chairman Petrillo said he's very supportive but worries about other contributions if the DDA says they are putting in this type of amount without knowing the actual cost. Mr. Ropes explained that they have to go out to bid and the permit process alone can take up to six months. He said construction should take 30 to 60 days and that he'd like to have the ability to exercise a contract. Mr. O'Shea said he would prefer a workshop before voting on this and that he feels the permit process will be much longer because of the waterways. He also said he'd like to know where the City is on the funding commitment. **Mr. Wren said he'd schedule a workshop.** Chairman Petrillo asked if they could put out the competitive solicitation without committing the funds and Mrs. Van Zandt said they could put into the RFP that it is contingent on authorized and budgeted funds. Mr. Wren assured Mr. Ropes that they won't lose ground on the project and that the design would be brought to the workshop.

Mrs. Van Zandt said they did a Request for Letters of Interest (RLI) for the flower basket project and they received one submittal. She indicated that she will request a quote from the company and plan to move forward with a notice to proceed soon based on an agreed upon cost.

Mr. Wren said with reference to the Urban Oasis, they have been working with Ellen Rivera and the owners of 6th street. He said because of the Courthouse construction, the street is in disarray and will be until 2017. He said he is working to mitigate this by installing an urban oasis type wrap along the construction fence and signage at the entrance and along the corridor. He explained his intent to have the County fund these improvements through the project budget.

Mr. Durden asked what the status of the Federal Courthouse was and Mr. Wren said that Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz has made this a priority project. Mr. Wren said they were trying to get interim money which they've done and that they have \$900,000 to spend on interim repairs. He said he will be meeting with the new Director of GSA and that this won't come through the DDA at all, that GSA will issue any notices to do a public-private-partnership (P3). He explained further that the DDA will be a conduit for the local community.

Mrs. Van Zandt said the Downtown Intelligent Transportation Information System (DITIS) project is moving forward with the consultant and depending on the progress made with the information provider's, the item will be brought back in August.

Mrs. Van Zandt updated the Board on the Himmarshee corridor (special entertainment district) and said that a meeting took place with the City Manager and the Police Chief on safety/security concerns. She indicated follow up meetings were scheduled to take place.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

D-1 News Articles

All information was in their packages.

D-2 Federal Courthouse

An update was given earlier.

D-3 New Development

All information was in their packages.

As there was no other business, Chairman Petrillo adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.