

Regular Meeting of the  
Downtown Development Authority  
Thursday, March 13, 2014  
Broward Center for the Performing Arts  
Einstein Room

**ROLL CALL**

**COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION**

**BOARD PRESENT:** John Ropes, Chair  
Michael Weymouth, Vice-Chair  
Dennis F. O’Shea, Secretary  
Tim Petrillo, Treasurer  
D. Fredrico Fazio, Board Member  
William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member

**NOT PRESENT:** Gregory Durden, Board Member

**ALSO PRESENT:**

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	Alexandra Roland
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Tom Meyer
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Genia Ellis
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	Leslie Jablonski
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	Chrissy Cohen
John Bertino	Russ Davis
Glenn Galt	Debra Vogel
Bob Dugan	Alan Levy
Mark Pistiner	Sorin Garber
Ron Centamore	Kareen Boutros
Kelley Shanley	Randall Vitale
Jill Nugent	

**PRESIDING:** John Ropes, Chair

Chairman Ropes called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. Durden and Mr. O’Shea who arrived a short time later. Chairman Ropes asked if anyone had any questions regarding the minutes on the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, a *motion was moved by Mr. Fazio and seconded by Mr. Bodenhamer approving the minutes.* Chairman Ropes then asked if there was a motion approving all the events on consent and a *motion was moved by Mr. Petrillo and seconded by Mr. Weymouth approving all events. 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 February 13, 2014 DDA Board Meeting
- C-2) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-The Race for Research 9/6/14

- C-3) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-South Florida Walk for Farm Animals, 10/18/14
- C-4) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-MEGA Walk to Stop Diabetes, 10/24-10/25/14
- C-5) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Light the Night Walk, 11/14-11/15/14
- C-6) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Walk for the Animals, 2/27-2/28/15

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

Chairman Ropes recognized Mr. Bertino. Mr. O'Shea arrived.

#### **R-1 Police Report**

Lieutenant Galt introduced himself. He said crime went down 3% in 2013 due to a new strategy they are using in the City. He said there have been recent smash and grabs on Las Olas in businesses in the early morning hours. He said two males have been throwing bricks through windows and taking money and he went through the locations. He said they have begun an action plan at Stranahan Park which has so far been successful. He said there are some issues Saturday and Sundays with outside groups feeding the homeless. He said crime was low in November and December but went up in January and back down in February. He said there is a lot of activity at the bus terminal north of Broward, the Las Olas Riverfront area and the Publix. He then briefly discussed various shifts for mounted, motors, etc.

#### **Other**

Mr. Petrillo asked if moving forward they don't have to require applicants for events to attend the board meetings when their event is getting approved. He said if a board member wants to pull an item or has questions to just let Chad know. He said the applicant should be required to attend if the item is being pulled or there are issues. The Board was in agreement.

#### **R-2 TMA Update**

Patricia Zeiler said that January 2<sup>nd</sup> they expanded the downtown route to mirror the Wave route on the south end. She said ridership in December was 5373 and in January it increased to 7962 with 7234 in February. She said they have a pilot program with the airport picking up the extras at the airport where they take them to the history center which acts as a welcome center. She said a lot of those people are not taking the trolley back so they are staying in the area more frequently. Ms. Zeiler said next time she will talk about Speak Up Broward and the social media taking place. **Mr. Weymouth asked if she ever has communication with West Palm Beach's DDA because they have trolleys too and Mr. Wren said he would get Ms. Zeiler in touch with Raphael Clemente.** Mr. Wren asked if he could move up item D-2 to recognize Ms. Zeiler on being named Nonprofit Leader of the Year.

#### **D-2 Patricia Zeiler Named Nonprofit Leader of the Year**

Mr. Wren acknowledged her recent award.

#### **R-3 Update on Security Ambassador Program**

Mr. Wren said they had a fieldtrip up to WPB this week which included Assistant Chief Anthony Williams of the Police Department. Mr. Wren said the Assistant Chief was pleased with the program and agrees it must be done with the correlation of the Police. He said they need to do an implementation plan and are meeting today. He said they need to decide what the funding geographical areas will be and believes he will report back in April. Mr. Wren said he still would like to have it implemented by October. He said are several funding options such as increasing the

millage, including the residential base and a variety of others which they will discuss. Mr. Ellis said they have the consensus of the Police in doing the program. He said the beach is also interested and they are not sure if it would be part of the same contract or different. Chairman Ropes said this should become its own program with different funding sources. Mr. Weymouth said the DDA invested on getting this up and going and once up and running the DDA would step away and let the Police take over. Mr. Petrillo agreed. **The Board agreed that funding is the crucial piece and Mr. Ellis said they have the options available for discussion at today's meeting and they should be able to discuss it at the April Board meeting.**

#### **R-4 Riverwalk Connection**

Chairman Ropes said that at this time Stranahan House is not going to be a part of the connection project. He said they are having discussions with Related Group. The next step is for Mr. Wren to see what a rendering would look like. Debra Vogel from Stranahan House asked if she could speak. She said they are very interested in seeing this get completed in front of the house. She said they believe issues can be resolved and she mentioned three different positions they would like the Board to consider. She discussed them and said she believes there has been a misunderstanding and that they are in favor of the project but that they feel it belongs in front of the property. Mr. Petrillo asked who the contact person is and Ms. Vogel said Leo Hansen along with Doug Smith. Chairman Ropes expressed the importance of having a partner. **Mr. Bodenhamer suggested they all meet with Stranahan's executive team and urged Ms. Vogel to give us a date and time so everyone can meet and come up with a solution.** Mr. O'Shea urged the Board to avoid conversations about doing something temporarily that leads toward a permanent one. He urged the discussion be focused on permanent solutions. Ms. Vogel said elevation is also an issue and that they should plan for the future. After further discussion the Board agreed the next step was a meeting.

#### **R-5 The Wave Streetcar**

Mr. Wren said he is proud to say The Wave Streetcar was included in the presidential budget for \$50 million to fund the entire project from the Hospital to Sistrunk Boulevard. Mr. Wren said once they ensure the cost estimates are accurate on the design it will take between 9 months to a year for the agreement. Mr. Milledge said they will get funded and this was a major milestone. He said regarding the relocation of the maintenance and storage facility from downtown near the Hospital district, FTA indicated they need to update the environmental review and it will get cleared. He said FTA Washington now considers this one project now consisting of the Tiger Grant and Small Starts. Mr. Milledge said SFRTA has an RFP on the street for design.

#### **R-6 Utility Box Pole Wrap**

Mr. Wren said in their package is a map of all the poles in the downtown. He said he is working on getting a rendering on what they are thinking. He said the City wants to partner on the project along with Flagler Village and that **he will get with Mr. Petrillo on the design between now and April.**

#### **R-7 Update on Wayfinding**

Mr. Wren said they partnered with the City on this project three years ago. He said the \$35,000 budgeted amount continues to roll over each budget cycle. He said they were awarded a grant from the City which the DDA matched but the City has been working on the beach first. Jim Ellis said they had a meeting on Tuesday regarding monuments and street signs and that it has now dwarfed into all of downtown. He said the next meeting will be the first week in April. Ms. Ellis said the City is trying to identify a family of signs and explained further. Jim Ellis urged attendance at the meetings. Mr.

Wren said they partnered to do way-finding and they budgeted \$35,000 and were awarded a BCIP grant of \$35,000 so now they have \$70,000. Mr. Centamore said the Civic Association of downtown is waiting for signs and that he doesn't think they will do monuments instead of signs. Discussion held.

### **R-8 Projects Update**

Mr. Wren said after other streetscape monies are spent on projects such as the Riverwalk Connection he will know what is left. He said they would like to do the canopy lights in the entertainment district and maybe on Las Olas. He said he previously put the ITS project on hold. Mr. Wren said he and Mr. Weymouth are working on this and the owner has indicated he has a deliverable that they may be able to visit. He said he will bring this back to the Board once he knows more.

Chairman Ropes congratulated Mr. Wren on the St. Pat's parade for the 5<sup>th</sup> year. Mr. Wren said this year the Parade gave instruments to needy students and explained.

**Mr. Bodenhamer told the Board Mr. Faber from Jungle Queen had passed away and asked if some kind of condolence could be done.**

### **R-9 Federal Courthouse Update**

Information was in their package.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **D-1 News Articles**

All information was in their packages.

### **Other**

Ms. Ellis mentioned that the Riverwalk, DDA and Patriot Insurance partnered in the exercise station you see in Huizenga Plaza and that it has been an enormous success since being put in.

Chairman Ropes reminded the Board about the workshop tomorrow at 8:30 at the DDA Office.

As there was no other business, Chairman Ropes adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.