

Approved
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB)
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8TH FLOOR CAFETERIA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2012 – 3:45-5:15 P.M.

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Sheryl Dickey, Chair	P	6	0
Kit Denison, Vice Chair	P	5	1
Miya Burt-Stewart	P	4	2
Al Calloway (4:05)	P	6	0
Cary Goldberg	P	4	2
Jason Hughes	P	6	0
George Mihaiu	P	4	2
Cort Neimark	P	5	1
Denyse O'Grady	P	1	X
Ralph Riehl	P	4	2
Daniel Siegel	A	3	3

At this time, there are 11 appointed members to the Board, which means 6 would constitute a quorum.

It was noted that a quorum was present at the meeting.

Staff

Anthony Farjardo, Zoning Administrator, Dept. of Sustainable Development
 Alfred Battle, CRA Director, Department of Sustainable Development
 Karen Reese, Economic Dev. Rep., Department of Sustainable Development
 Laura Gambino, Business Dev. Coordinator, Dept. of Sustainable Development
 Patricia Smith, Secretary III, Department of Sustainable Development

Communications to City Commission

Motion made by Mr. Goldberg and seconded by Denyse O'Grady that the Economic Development Advisory Board be presented with the proposed amendments to the parking regulations in order that the Board can provide feedback as well as have a Board represent at the June 20, 2012 Planning & Zoning Board for the Citywide recommendations. **Motion** passed 10 – 0.

Motion made by Mr. Calloway and seconded by Mr. Riehl that the City appoint an individual to recommend to the Economic Development Advisory Board a task force on homelessness and a conference on homelessness. **Motion** passed 10 – 0.

I. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

Chair Sheryl Dickey called the meeting to order at 3:51 p.m. It was noted a quorum was present.

II. Introductions

The Board, Staff members, and guests introduced themselves. Discussion was had about the attendance record of the Board and it was stated that a correction to the totals should be made.

New Board member Denyse O'Grady arrived and introduced herself. She stated that she has been in real estate for about 25 to 30 years and currently owns a real estate company. Ms. O'Grady also manages and develops properties.

The Board welcomed Ms. O'Grady.

III. Approval of May 9, 2012 Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Burt-Stewart to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2012 minutes with corrections. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

IV. Veterans Benefits - Employment & Training

Chair Dickey introduced Raymond Moreau of the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Mr. Moreau stated he was a veteran and that he would show the Board a brief video of what the VA offers it's veterans which he felt would be self-explanatory as to how his division helps veterans with benefits and opportunities for training, rehabilitation and employment. After the video would be a short presentation and then he would entertain questions.

He explained that the program, VetSuccess as explained in the video is offered nationwide. Mr. Moreau offered that if any Board member had a job available he would get the word out at the administration in order to get veterans to their businesses and he has veterans with training from boat captains, divers to lawyers and PhD's. He explained that the VA has an agreement with WorkForce One which will set up a conference room to do a hiring event at no charge by simply registering as a preferred employer. Mr. Moreau also explained to the Board that incentives are offered to employers who hire Veterans in the amount of up to \$9,000 per year per hire in tax credits.

V. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Alfred Battle informed the Board that Steve Anderson, Economic & Business Development Manager resigned and the CEDS item will need to be deferred to a later date. He stated that he would be here to assist the Board in the interim.

VI. Old / New Business

The Board wanted an update on the Homeless initiative. Karen Reese informed the Board that the City Commission understands the importance of the homeless issue and has recommended establishing a task force that would work closely with Broward County's initiative. It was stated that the County has a 10 year plan initiative to end homelessness in place. Ms. Reese stated that when the City's task force is in place we will have someone come in and speak with this Board.

Mr. Battle mentioned that the City Commission passed a Homeless Ordinance.

There was the suggestion and discussion by the Board that there needed to be a conference or some type of event/forum with a resulting white paper.

It was also suggested that the City hire/appoint a person who is dedicated solely to the issue of homelessness. This person would coordinate and track resources available and keep abreast of all outreach programs available and work closely with the County's homeless initiative.

Motion made by Mr. Calloway and seconded by Mr. Riehl that the City appoint an individual to recommend to the Economic Development Advisory Board a task force on homelessness and a conference on homelessness. **Motion** passed 10 – 0.

Cary Goldberg informed the Board that he would be meeting the Commissioner Roberts the next afternoon along with Ms. Reese to discuss the Cypress Creek business area and what the City's plans are to enhance the area making it a true business hub.

He also informed the Board that as it relates to economic development, the City is evaluating it's parking code and requirements as it relates to uses for development. Planning and Zoning currently is looking at proposals that are very promising for economic development in the City.

Anthony Farjardo explained that the proposed recommended changes were based to a degree on a parking study done for the barrier island by Rich & Associates and part of that study looked at restaurant uses. Then it compared this to comparable communities around the country. Staff contacted the consultant who provided them with the averages of the communities that the City was compared to and offered recommendations for revisions in parking. Mr.

Farjardo discussed additional recommended changes that were taken to the Planning and Zoning Board and would be taken in the very near future.

Mr The Board expressed a desire to be involved in the process as it involved economic development in order to make recommendations.

Motion made by Mr. Goldberg and seconded by Denyse O'Grady that the Economic Development Advisory Board be presented with the proposed amendments to the parking regulations in order that the Board can provide feedback as well as have a Board represent at the June 20, 2012 Planning & Zoning Board for the Citywide recommendations. **Motion** passed 10 – 0.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by Patricia L. Smith, Secretary III]