

**ENTERPRISE ZONE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, September 26, 2013
CITY HALL, 8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301**

Board Members in Attendance:

Alfred Battle, Jr., Chair	Economic & Community Reinvestment Manager
Davon Barbour	City of Hollywood
Clare Vickery	City of Fort Lauderdale Appointee/ Resident of Fort Lauderdale
Brandon Stewart	City of Fort Lauderdale Appointee/ Resident of Fort Lauderdale
Dan Murphy	Dania Bch Comm. Redevelopment Agency
Donald Giancoli	City of Lauderhill
John Scherer	City of Fort Lauderdale Appointee/ Resident of Fort Lauderdale
Sharon Fyffe	City Commissioner, City of West Park
Patricia Williams	Vice Mayor, City of Lauderdale Lakes

Members Absent:

Patrick Hart	Fort Lauderdale Police Dept. Designee
Willie A Hopkins	City of Pompano Beach Appointee
Matthew H Scott	City of Fort Lauderdale Appointee
Jessica Sanders	Broward County Appointee
Jeremy Earle	Dania Beach CRA

I. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

Chair Battle, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. and roll call was taken. It was determined that a quorum was present. Chair Battle asked new members Brandon Stewart & John Scherer to introduce themselves to the Board. Other Board members also introduced themselves.

Communication to the City Commission

Motion by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Mr. Barbour to draft a letter to Broward County Commission to obtain their support for the Enterprise Zone, noting that this is an important and valuable resource for small businesses and ask that they help get an answer for extending the Zone past 2015.

Discussion ensued as to what the letter would contain and who should receive the letter.

Components of the letter will include that this Board needs the support of the National & Broward League of Cities, Broward County and the Delegation in order for the program to continue to be successful and that this is a resource for small business to take advantage of, using examples and ask that they all continue to lobby to extend the program past the December 2015 deadline.

In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

II. Approval of minutes of the July 26, 2012, September 27, 2012, November 29, 2012 March 28, 2013, May 23, 2013 and July 25, 2013 Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Giancoli and seconded by Ms. Vickery to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2012, September 27, 2012, November 29, 2012, March 28, 2013, May 23, 2013 and July 25, 2013 meetings. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

III. Enterprise Zone Expansion & Boundary Change Process

Chair Battle briefly explained how and why the Enterprise Zone is administered. He stated that the individual Cities do not have approval authority, rather each City certifies the documents for the State to approve.

Chair Battle stated that the Enterprise Zone goes back to the 1990's being adopted in 1995. In 2005 Zone 0601 made changes/re-designations and the program was expanded to include Dania Beach and Lauderdale. In 2010 there was another request for expansion, however the program is limited to 20 square miles with 3 non-contiguous areas which cannot exceed that 20 square miles and must meet certain criteria as set out by the state law. Currently the Enterprise Zone is at 19.78 square miles. He stated that there is not much room for expansion, but there may be room for modification by means of manipulating the current boundaries. Chair Battle stated that members should think about the properties that don't need to be included so that the 20 square mile limit is not upset and that all state requirements are met.

Chair Battle said that the first step in the process is that this Board make a recommendation and then each City can officially examine how it wants to expand or manipulate its boundary, which can happen every three years. He stated that the Board must notice 90 days prior to the County finalizing a recommendation. He stated that the notification process is to make sure anyone in the Zone currently that may be affected by changes in Zone boundaries would have the opportunity to understand why boundaries might be changing.

The Board spoke about how they could become better advocates for the program at the legislative level so that persons would be able to utilize the program.

Mr. Scherer wanted to understand why Las Olas and Downtown were still a part of the Enterprise Zone. He stated that he felt the purpose of the Zone was to benefit underdeveloped areas of the City and he needed to better appreciate what the benefits of the program are. Chair Battle stated there are four programs available to those utilizing the Enterprise Zone; 1) sales Tax Refund on Building materials; 2) sales tax refund on business equipment; 3) a new jobs tax credit – they must create a job that stays in place for at least one year; 4) property tax credit.

Chair Battle further explained the benefits/requirements of the Enterprise Zone in order for the Board to make their determinations on boundary modifications. He also explained how businesses can get additional incentives when they locate in a multi-layered Zone. i.e. Enterprise Zone, and Qualified Targeted Industry (QTI).

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In a voice vote the **motion** passed unanimously.

IV. Old/New Business

Zone Coordinators briefly spoke about current business happenings, new development and the creation of new jobs in their cities as well as possible boundary changes.

It was asked if Bob Swindell from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance could come and speak with this Board to discuss how the Enterprise Zone could be more involved with the Alliance.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.