

FIRE RESCUE BOND  
 BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES  
 REGULAR MEETING  
 City of Fort Lauderdale  
 100 North Andrews Avenue  
 Commission Chambers  
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
 August 17, 2006

Board Members	Meeting Attendance	Cumulative Attendance from 01/19/2006	
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	P-6	A-0
Dianne Shuler, Vice Chair	P	P-5	A-1
Mary Graham	P	P-6	A-0
Allan A. Kozich	P	P-5	A-1
Patrick McTigue	P	P-6	A-1
Douglas Ruth	P	P-5	A-2
Vacant			
Don Bastedo	P	P-6	A-0
Norman W. Thabit	P	P-5	A-1

Staff

Robert Bacic, Battalion Chief  
 Albert Carbon, Director, Public Works Department  
 Frank Snedaker, Chief City Architect  
 Fernando Blanco, Acting Airport Engineer  
 Lt. Dave Carter, Fire Union Representative  
 Lt. Tim Heiser, Fire Union Representative

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jarrett called the August 17, 2006 meeting of the Fire-Rescue Bond Blue Ribbon Committee to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum was achieved with six committee members present.

2. Approval of Minutes

**July 20, 2006.**

Motion made by Norman Thabit and seconded by Don Bastedo to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2006 meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Staff Liaison Report

A. Activities over the past month

Station 53 Bid. Mr. Carbon advised that the contractor had started putting fences up and that DEP permits were in. However there was still some difficulty coordinating a groundbreaking ceremony.

Station 13. Mr. Carbon advised that the City had received a notice from the state requesting three more weeks to review this. Staff would call soon for an update.

Station 47. Mr. Carbon advised this bid was extended for another two weeks upon request by contractors. This would delay the award date to September 19.

**[Allan Kozich arrived at 6:05 p.m.]**

Station 3. Mr. Carbon advised that this station was currently in the preliminary design stage.

Station 29. Mr. Carbon advised that plans had gone to the DRC with minor comments. Staff would then take this to Planning and Zoning.

Station 35. Mr. Carbon stated that staff had drafted a letter that would be sent to the City of Oakland Park the following week. The letter was a request to continue talks on a more formal basis. Chair Jarrett asked for Mr. Carbon's feelings on this. Mr. Carbon felt this did not look very positive but added that staff was not closing any avenues. He added that the City had placed a call to Holy Cross Hospital to discuss available land. He spoke of a property owned by the hospital that could be suitable for a swap. He added that staff would keep negotiations open with the City of Oakland Park and with Holy Cross.

Station 49. Mr. Carbon stated that PGAL was currently under contract for this station. He added that Chief Bacic, Frank Snedaker, and Mina Samadi had recently toured the facility, which was off, and running.

Temporary Station. Mr. Carbon advised that this project was being reviewed by the Purchasing Department.

Station 54. Mr. Carbon advised that staff had given a presentation to the right-of-way committee in order to make this site work at its existing location. This would involve taking a wide portion of right-of-way on 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and some of the alleyway to make the site work with 22 parking spaces. This site would have a 66' long bay along with a 90' apron in the back where the secure parking was.

Ms. Graham asked if the 66' bay was a reduction in length. Mr. Carbon advised it was the same length as Station 47 and that the trucks would be double stacked.

B. Activities for Next Month.

Mr. Carbon advised that over the next month, Station 47 would be awarded and construction would begin on Station 53. Major planning was in the works on other stations and the City was working with a new long range planner on these projects.

**[Vice-Chair Shuler arrived at 6:15 p.m.]**

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Regarding Station 29, Mr. Ruth asked about the adjacent property and how parking would be controlled. He did not want parking used by the shopping center patrons. Mr. Carbon explained that staff would look at using curbing, an elevation change, landscaping or fencing to control parking.

Regarding Station 54, Chair Jarrett asked whether staff was concerned about the shorter bay in light of future growth in the area. Mr. Carbon advised that some density increase was expected. Mr. Ruth asked whether ladder trucks would be needed. Lt. Carter stated there were currently no plans for ladder trucks. Mr. Carbon stressed that the City was not buying any additional property.

Regarding the Southeast Station, Mr. Carbon stated that staff was getting an appraisal by the end of August for the Sunrise property and had requested appraisals for two additional sites to the south.

Chair Jarrett asked about square footage for Station 54. Mr. Snedaker stated it was roughly 12,500 square feet. Mr. Bastedo asked if the City bought the adjacent property. Mr. Carbon responded in the negative and stated the City was taking its own right-of-way versus acquiring additional property. Mr. McTigue voiced his concern about building too small in light of future growth.

#### **4. Member Discussion Items**

Ms. Graham voiced her concern about the Southeast Station purchase and wanted this addressed in the Committee's October report to the City Commission. She wanted faster progress and requested that the Committee prioritize its goals going forward into fall. She asked Lt. Carter whether the Committee's progress was being discussed by fire department personnel. Lt. Carter advised that the Committee's minutes were being posted but employees could not yet access them. He requested that city controls be taken off to allow access. Ms. Graham again voiced her concern about the pace of progress and staying on schedule with the various stations.

Norman Thabit asked about the timeline for Station 47. Mr. Carbon advised that after the September 19 award, there was a minimum of 20 working days for a Notice to Proceed to be filed. He did not expect anything to happen prior to November 1. He stated that the City had pushed all projects as far as possible, but this did not mean contractors or actual work would start any faster. He added that staff could only pressure contractors so far and could not control the pace of bidding or market economics.

Regarding Station 47, Chair Jarrett stated he had looked at the electrical section of the plans and did not find any exorbitant costs. Ms. Graham stated she had looked at the architectural section of the plans and did not find any exorbitant costs. Mr. McTigue requested that staff prepare an easy to follow timeline for the Committee. Mr. Carbon agreed to this request.

Lt. Carter introduced Lt. Tim Heiser, who would function as the new Public Relations Chairperson for Local 765.

Vice-Chair Shuler asked if any neighborhood association meetings had been scheduled for the Station 29 area. Mr. Carbon advised that a meeting would be scheduled at the George English Park which would service all associations in that area.

Mr. McTigue asked if the two south properties being appraised were large enough. Mr. Carbon stated that a minimum of 30,000 square feet was needed but that both sites were larger. Lt. Carter stated that higher officials in the department were looking carefully at the plans.

Ms. Graham asked about the staffing study being conducted on fire department personnel. Chief Bacic advised he did not have much information on the study. Lt. Carter believed this would be completed by October 1 and would probably coincide with the decision on a new fire chief.

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Chair Jarrett requested that a copy of the Committee's original report be sent to all Committee members via email along with his outline. Mr. Carbon agreed to this request. Chair Jarrett stressed the importance of the Committee's role in providing solutions.

5. Adjournment. Next Regular Meeting: September 21, 2006

Mr. Thabit made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ruth seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.