

**FIRE-RESCUE BOND
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**
City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301
February 21, 2008

Board Member	Attendance	1/2008 through 12/2008 Cumulative Attendance	
		P	A
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	2	0
Dianne Shuler, Vice Chair [6:35]	P	2	0
Don Bastedo	P	2	0
Mary Graham	P	2	0
Steve Kirsch	P	2	0
Allan Kozich	P	2	0
Delores McKinley	P	1	0
Patrick McTigue	P	2	0
Douglas Ruth	P	2	0
Norman Thabit	P	2	0

Staff

Albert Carbon, Director Public Works Department
Frank Snedaker, Chief City Architect
Robert Bacic, Battalion Chief
Eric Geen, URS Program Director
Hilda Testa, ProtoType Services Recording Clerk

Guests

Sherman Whitmore, Gibson Partners

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jarrett called the meeting of the Fire-Rescue Bond Blue Ribbon Committee to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: January 17, 2008

Motion made by Member Thabit, seconded by Member Graham, to approve the minutes of the Board's January 17, 2008 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

3. Staff Liaison Report

Station 88/53:

Mr. Geen reported one item remained prior to obtaining a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO): approval of the final survey. This had been submitted to the Building Department two weeks ago, and Mr. Geen had asked Mr. Carbon to assist in expediting this through the Building Department. Mr. Carbon explained this item had been delayed because West had never submitted an original, stamped copy of the survey.

Mr. Carbon stated they were working with West on some pre-claim issues and some schedule delays. Mr. Carbon remarked URS had denied the schedule claims and things were starting out contentiously. Mr. Geen said West was claiming delays of 158 calendars days and the City was granting 46 days. Mr. Carbon said the delays were not justified; they were not on the critical path of the original schedule. Even the justification for the extensions in their modified schedules did not prove them. Mr. Carbon was disappointed West had gone directly to an attorney instead of dealing with URS or Mark Friedman.

Member Graham noted that when the Board discussed the delays at their meetings, City representatives had indicated there was no basis. She felt if West had been reading the Board's minutes and heard this, they must be aware they would get no more work from the City. She agreed West was wrong not to seek mediation before resorting to litigation. Mr. Geen confirmed for Member Graham that all other inspections were signed off, finalized and approved. Mr. Geen informed Member Graham that they had 60 days after the TCO to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy (CO).

Member Thabit pointed out that they were overextended in the bond program budget and under in the CIP fund for Station 53. Mr. Carbon explained that they could shift expenses between the two to cover changes to the estimates. Mr. Carbon informed Members Graham and Thabit that Mr. Snedaker, Fernando Blanco, Airport Engineer, and the former Fire Chief had determined the percentages to charge the appropriate funds for the cost of construction.

Member Thabit felt they should end up with a surplus to the bond program. He requested the Board be provided with a final figure for the square foot costs to build Station 53 at their next meeting. Member Graham noted that the total costs for the roof

antennas were unknown, so the final square foot cost could not accurately be provided within 30 days.

Chair Jarrett thought the antennas would be paid for out of the Fire Department or IT budget. Mr. Snedaker was not sure which budget would cover them. Member Graham was concerned about maintaining the integrity of the roof when the antennas were installed; Mr. Geen explained that the antenna mounting would not penetrate the roof.

Station 47:

Mr. Geen reported they were “extremely close.” The following items remained:

- Generator test
- Gas drop test
- Final elevator inspection
- Ansul system final test and inspection
- Final survey

Mr. Geen informed the Board that a wet well and valve box had been installed on the property corner. This had necessitated changes to the landscaping and to the final survey. He anticipated a TCO for this building approximately March 14. Mr. Carbon said this building would have very few punch list items, and he believed they could obtain the CO very soon after the TCO.

Station 49:

Mr. Snedaker said they had been back and forth with PGAL on the re-design and the latest schematic had been received that day. PGAL had stated they planned to have the construction documents completed in June, but Mr. Snedaker said this was unacceptable and they would “fine tune” this date. Member Kozich wondered why this was not moving along faster. Mr. Carbon said the Fire Department and Public Works had made significant comments on the first schematic design, and PGAL had requested an additional \$38,000 based on those comments. The delay was caused by the resulting negotiations with PGAL to avoid additional costs.

Mr. Geen explained to Member Graham that URS estimated the PGAL re-design should take 50 to 60 hours of Computer Assisted Design [CAD] time; PGAL estimated it would take 330 CAD hours. He had visited PGAL with Mr. Snedaker to inform them that their estimate was not acceptable, and he had recommended the City not pay the additional \$38,000 PGAL requested.

Member Graham pointed out that at this and some other stations, the soft costs for the re-designs would be skewed. Chair Jarrett acknowledged this was because they had

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paid for the designs twice. He hoped they would save as much in building costs as they paid for the re-designed plans.

[Member Shuler arrived at 6:35]

Station 29:

Mr. Snedaker reported only two residents had shown up for the community meeting on February 12. Board members said they had not received notice of this meeting.

Mr. Snedaker stated a 95% review had been conducted the previous week, they were conducting final coordination with the consultants, and the civil work was in for storm water management and DOT permits. He anticipated the plans would go to the Building Department in early March. Mr. Snedaker thought this would be put out to bid in April. He confirmed for Chair Jarrett that this was the first time the new plans would be reviewed.

Mr. Carbon informed Member Shuler that the \$3.6 million budgeted amount reflected the reduction in square footage to 10,200.

Station 3:

Mr. Snedaker informed the Board this had been through DRC the previous week and did not need to go to the City Commission. As soon as the construction documents were completed and submitted for Station 29, they would turn their attention to the Station 3 documents. He anticipated the documents would be delivered quickly.

Station 46:

Mr. Carbon stated they had pulled this item from the Planning and Zoning Board's agenda because the property owner had stated he would relieve the deed restriction on the existing Station 46 property, which would expand options for the property. Mr. Carbon hoped that the lifting of the deed restrictions would influence the Planning and Zoning Board's decision if the item were again presented to it.

Member Graham asked that Chief Justinak give the Planning and Zoning Board the same presentation he had made to the Parks and Recreation Board. Chief Bacic agreed to bring the response maps to the Fire Bond Board.

Member Ruth wondered if the Parks and Recreation Board would reconsider their previous decision if they knew the property could be used for a mini park. Mr. Snedaker said the Parks Board was most concerned that Parks lands not be used for any other purpose, including a Fire Station.

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Member Graham explained to Member Shuler that whether or not this was approved by Planning and Zoning, it must still be approved by the City Commission and the County. She felt there was a possibility it would not be approved by one of those entities. She assumed the Planning and Zoning Board would take the Parks and Recreation Board's recommendation. Mr. Carbon pointed out that the supporting documents included the City Commission's full support to move the Station to Mills Pond Park. Mr. Carbon agreed to forward to Board members the information regarding the City Commission's support for moving the station.

Chair Jarrett said he had watched the Parks and Recreation Board's meeting on TV and it was apparent that the Board did not want a Fire Station to be sited in Mills Pond Park, and he agreed that it was because the Board did not want anything to take Parks land.

Chair Jarrett said he had received phone calls asking why the Station had been located on the west end of the Park. Mr. Snedaker explained that they would utilize the existing driveway on the west side for the fire vehicle return entrance. There was residential development to the east, and they wanted to keep the Station adjacent to industrial, not residential, development.

Chair Jarrett asked if another presentation could be made to the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Snedaker said the minutes from the Fire Rescue Board and the Parks Board would be given to the Planning and Zoning Board.

Station 35:

Mr. Carbon stated they had met with Pastor Dan again and his Program Manager would coordinate construction. They proposed a land swap allowing the City to utilize the existing Station while the new one was constructed. After completion, the church could continue with their project on the old station. In this way, they could avoid building a temporary facility.

Stations 13 and 54

Mr. Carbon said the estimate to renovate each Station was \$2.3 million. The cost to build new Stations was estimated at \$3 million. Mr. Carbon said he would submit a report to the Board indicating that costs to renovate the facilities was just over \$4.6 million and building two new stations would cost \$4 million each, factoring in inflation. He would therefore recommend building new Stations.

Chair Jarrett noted that the Stations would have less usable space if they were renovated than if they were rebuilt. Mr. Carbon said this estimate included gutting the entire facility and replacing the roof.

Motion made by Member Thabit, seconded by Member Kozich, to build new Stations 13 and 54. In a voice vote, Board approved 10 – 0.

Mr. Snedaker informed the Board that they would go to the City Commission's second March meeting for approval to procure temporary living quarters for Station 49 at a cost of \$69,000. They would also request approval for canopies to protect equipment at temporary Stations 29 and 49 at a cost of \$54,000.

Member Thabit asked if the City was pursuing grant money to supplement the Bond Fund. Mr. Carbon agreed to find out and report back to the Board. Member Thabit recommended someone approach the legislative delegation to explore other funding sources as well.

4. Member Discussion Items

Member Graham asked about the audit. Chair Jarrett stated the auditor had already sent the report to the City Auditor, John Herbst. Member Graham pointed out that the Board could not prepare their annual report until they had the results of the study. Mr. Carbon agreed to email Board members regarding when Mr. Herbst would present the final audit to the City Commission. Chair Jarrett suggested each Board member begin to develop his/her section of the report in the meantime.

Chair Jarrett and Mr. Carbon reiterated the Board's requests:

- Response maps from Chief Bacic
- Revised Construction Schedule
- Final bid documents for Station 29 [4 copies]
- Financial analysis of Station 53 showing the cost shares
- Information on possible grants
- Notices of all relevant public meetings for Board members

5. Adjournment

The Board's next meeting was scheduled for March 20, 2008.

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Attachments:

Financial Report

Minutes – January 2008

Construction Monthly Reports