

**FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301
February 18, 2010 - 6:00 p.m.

Committee Member	Attendance	1/2009 through 12/2009 Cumulative Attendance	
		P	A
June Page, Chair	P	2	0
Steve Kirsch, Vice Chair	P	2	0
Frank Anderson [6:06]	P	2	0
Thornie Jarrett	P	1	1
Allan Kozich [6:19]	P	2	0
Patrick McTigue	P	2	0
Sam Monroe	P	2	0
Frederick Nesbitt	P	2	0
Douglas Ruth	A	1	1

There are currently nine appointed members to the Committee. Therefore, five members present constitute a quorum.

Staff

Albert Carbon, Public Works Director
Mark Friedman, Construction Manager
Frank Snedaker, City Architect
Chantal Botting, Battalion Chief
J. Opperlee, ProtoType Services recording clerk

Guests

Kenneth Newell, Stewart, Cooper, Newell Architects
Phil Kouwe, Emergency Services Consulting International

Communications to the City Commission

None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Page called the meeting of the Fire-Rescue Bond Blue Ribbon Committee to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: January 2010

The Committee noted changes to the January minutes.

Motion made by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. McTigue, to approve the Committee's January 2010 minutes as amended. In a voice vote, Committee unanimously approved.

3. Staff Liaison Report

Station 29

Mr. Carbon reported Station 29 had opened the previous day and it was "very well liked." Chief Botting stated the Assistant City Manager would advise her regarding a tour of the facility.

Station 49

Mr. Friedman stated work was going smoothly and he anticipated occupancy around April. He distributed updated project photographs to Committee members.

Station 3

As with Station 49, Mr. Friedman said work was going well and he anticipated occupancy in April. He explained the additional \$20,000 change order was for a generator. Mr. Carbon reminded the Committee that after Station 3 was complete, the contractor would return to remove the old building.

Station 46

Mr. Snedaker said the design was moving along; they had held their lead charrette and were seeking to achieve silver LEED certification. They were currently conducting drainage site analysis with Broward County. He anticipated going out to bid in June.

Station 35

Mr. Carbon informed the Committee that they were waiting for the owner of the landscape strip to come back with his appraisal. The City's appraisal price was \$35,000. The owner now wanted \$70,000 [he formerly wanted \$1 million]. The City offered to split the difference if the owner obtained a valid appraisal.

Station 8

No new activity.

4. Committee Report to the City Commission

None

5. Member Discussion Items

Feasibility Study

[This item was discussed out of order]

Mr. Carbon introduced Kenneth Newell from Stewart, Cooper, Newell and Phil Kouwe from Emergency Services Consulting International.

Mr. Newell said they were in the process of collecting information, taking note of any indications that changes should be made regarding the Fire Station program. Once they had reviewed what had been done, they would make recommendations based upon national or regional standards or activity in the fire industry market.

Mr. Kouwe explained that Emergency Services Consulting International was a subsidiary of the International Association of Fire Chiefs that did consulting work only in fire/emergency medical services and communications and dispatch. Their role was to conduct analysis of deployment and fire station locations. They were analyzing current sites and identifying coverage levels and efficiencies in terms of response times to determine if other sites might be more advantageous. They were also looking at the potential area of annexation the City had looked at to identify feasible options for providing services to these area.

Chair Page asked how they determined proper locations for stations in anticipation of projected population growth and density. Mr. Kouwe drew a diagram to illustrate the factors they used in deployment analysis. The first factor was service demand density and calls. He explained that the best coverage was realized by determining where the majority of calls would originate from, not from an area's geographic center. The second factor concerned risk, which took into account high-risk areas such as hospitals, nursing homes and industrial plants. Their analysis balanced these two factors.

Mr. Nesbitt asked if they also considered staffing levels when looking at deployment. Mr. Kouwe explained that they analyzed personnel and equipment for certain locations

for the proper concentration. He said this was the only staffing-related recommendation they would make. Mr. Kouwe noted that this would identify if there were any deficiencies.

Chair Page indicated they wanted to know how important Station 8 was: did they really need it, or could the Fire Department cover that area from existing stations? Mr. Kouwe intended to analyze this in terms of impact to the "first do unit" and in terms of the overall concentration of resources in what might be a very high-risk area.

Mr. Kouwe confirmed that they did not intend to run a "what if you started from scratch" model because at this stage in the process, it could tell them something they did not want to hear, such as the \$3 million station they had just built should have been located $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. They began their modeling starting with the existing stations.

Mr. Anderson wanted to focus on the stations that were on the drawing board to determine if they had the right design for these. Mr. Kouwe pointed out that for the two stations located on the barrier island, the locations were keyed to the crossovers to the mainland, so they would run those models, but he did not expect any "revelation." He thought the Station 8 modeling might be the most fascinating.

Mr. Anderson asked if property values were taken into consideration in the risk analysis. Mr. Kouwe confirmed that they were, and explained that they had requested the parcel file from the tax assessor that included the land use and improvement value of structures on property. They used this to construct a map showing the relative land use values across the City. Mr. Kouwe said they stressed that this was not to indicate "we're going to give the best protection to the richest people, but that's where the highest taxable value is. That's where your revenue comes from; you want to protect that, certainly." Other factors, such as community risk, land use and types of occupancies were used as well.

Mr. Jarrett felt the City Commission realized when the RFP was sent out that they would not meet their original goal of 10 new stations. Vice Mayor Roberts was concerned that the Fire Bond did not address his area in the northwest properly. Commissioner Rogers was concerned about coverage in the southwest part of the City. Mr. Jarrett said the Commission was also considering what they should plan for the future when the economy improved and they could consider building another station.

Mr. Newell commented that they had begun collecting information earlier in the day; the following day they would continue collecting information and tour the facilities.

Chair Page asked about the project timeline. Mr. Carbon said there was a three-month timeline, with a presentation to the Committee in April.

Other Items and Announcements

Mr. Carbon referred to spreadsheets he had distributed and advised Committee members they could discuss them at their next meeting. The spreadsheets compared the estimated vs. actual costs to build the stations.

Chief Botting confirmed that they had not been awarded any stimulus funding, but this had been just the first round.

Mr. Anderson asked if the Committee would get to review the candidates for the RLI construction management, and Mr. Friedman said the Selection Committee had narrowed it down to five candidates. Oral presentations would be held in the next two weeks.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. McTigue, for a member of the Fire-Rescue Facilities Committee attend the CM Selection Committee. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Snedaker announced the next Selection Committee meeting would be on February 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Carbon agreed to send an email with an interview schedule and the list of the five firms.

8. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next regular meeting: March 18, 2010

Attachments:

Resolution No. 09-284
Financial Reports
Minutes – January 2010
Fire Station Monthly Reports