

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

City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301  
August 19, 2010 - 6:00 p.m.

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>1/2009 through 12/2009 Cumulative Attendance</b>	
		<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>
June Page, Chair	P	5	0
Steve Kirsch, Vice Chair	P	5	0
Frank Anderson	A	3	2
Nadine Hankerson	A	1	2
Thornie Jarrett	P	4	1
Allan Kozich	A	4	1
Patrick McTigue	P	5	0
Sam Monroe	A	3	2
Frederick Nesbitt	P	5	0
Douglas Ruth	P	2	3

There are currently ten appointed members to the Committee. Therefore, six members present constitute a quorum.

**Staff**

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

**Communications to the City Commission**

By unanimous consensus, the Committee expressed concern that they have still not seen the final copy of the feasibility study, and there were questions that need to be answered and incorporated. Staff informs the Committee that that this will happen perhaps in September.

**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: July 1, 2010 Special Meeting**

The Committee noted changes to the minutes.

**Motion** made by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Kirsch, to approve the Committee's March 2010 minutes. Committee unanimously approved.

**3. Staff Liaison Report**

Station 3

Mr. Friedman said Station 3 had been completed the previous weekend and a Certificate of Occupancy had been issued.

Station 49

Mr. Friedman said Station 49 was technically complete with a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and had been occupied for a month. He explained some of the exterior lighting must be changed to meet the turtle code before a full Certificate of Occupancy ~~was~~ can be issued. The lighting had been ordered and he estimated the lights would be installed in the beginning of October.

Mr. Friedman said the light change would be a change order. Mr. Jarrett wondered how the architect could have overlooked this. Mr. Friedman said they were dealing with it.

Mr. Friedman distributed a comparison sheet showing how they had saved money and reduced costs on the last three fire stations compared to the first two. He explained that Station 49 indicated ~~said~~ "projected" because the change order for the lighting was not complete yet. He estimated it would cost \$25,000 to \$30,000. Chair Page asked if it would be possible to recover the costs for the turtle lights from the architect. Mr. Snedaker stated, "We're holding some money from them so we have a hammer."

Mr. Friedman noted they had dramatically reduced both costs per square foot and with respect to the cost and amount of change orders. Mr. Snedaker said they would get very good prices on the next two stations. He said they were still using the \$255 per square foot estimate from the consultant for the budget.

Chief Botting informed the Committee that the PIO was arranging for opening ceremonies for Station 49. Mr. Snedaker said they must have a Certificate of Occupancy before they held any ceremonies.

Chair Page said they could not hold a meeting at a station because of the lack of recording facilities, but they could do a tour.

#### Station 35

Mr. Snedaker said the Station 35 plan had been approved by the Planning and Zoning Board the previous evening and it would be put out to bid the following week. He anticipated receiving bids on October 6 and awarding at the Commission's second Meeting in October.

#### Station 46

Mr. Snedaker said they were anticipating a 90% plan review the following week. This had been held up due to County traffic engineering issues. He anticipated the plan would go out to bid in October, and it would be awarded at the end of the year.

#### Stations 13, 54 and 8

Mr. Snedaker said they needed to supply the State with some updated paperwork regarding the Station 13 site. He reported there was still an issue with Baycourt regarding Station 54. He said the property had been foreclosed on, the bank was currently controlling the property and Baycourt was trying to acquire it back.

Mr. Snedaker said they were re-crafting their response to the State regarding the Station 13 site to include the improvements they would provide to the park as an inducement. This included undergrounding power lines into the park.

#### **4. Committee Report to the City Commission**

#### **5. Member Discussion Items** Feasibility Study

Mr. Snedaker stated Mr. Carbon had been out of town on vacation and had not supplied the Committee's meeting minutes to the consultant until he returned. Mr. Snedaker said Mr. Carbon had apologized for this delay. Mr. Carbon asked if the Committee would be

willing to accept responses to their specific comments that could be adopted into the entire package, rather than the consultant re-writing the entire report. Mr. Jarrett said his objection to the report was that the report was supposed to address the City's needs years in the future, and the report made no connection to this. Mr. Snedaker said Mr. Jarrett had been looking for a report to project 50 years out, but no one could predict that. Mr. Jarrett said the consultant had cut it back to 20 years. He remembered the consultant indicating that there would be an increase in need of services of 35% in 20 years, but they had made no connection between the need for additional services and the need for additional stations.

Mr. Snedaker said the consultants had targeted areas that would experience the highest growth. He said he and Mr. Carbon had a conference call scheduled the following week with the consultants.

Mr. McTigue read from the previous minutes when Chief Justinak had indicated that the current stations could accommodate a 40% increase in personnel, and the consultant had indicated that a 35% increase in volume did not indicate a 35% increase in structure fires, rescues and medical calls. Chief Justinak had explained that call demographics would change due to technology and Code Enforcement.

Mr. Jarrett remembered stating that the 40% increase in personnel was to meet the NFPA standard for four personnel on an engine and three on a rescue, which the Committee had been told was the reason for the extra bunks. He said Chief Justinak had admitted this.

Mr. Nesbitt said he had researched the Bond issue and there was no reference to 50—year stations. Mr. Jarrett stated when Chief Earle had visited neighborhood associations to sell them the bond issue, he had indicated that the stations would accommodate their needs for 50 years.

Mr. Nesbitt said the question was whether they were building stations that would still be standing in 50 years or building stations that would accommodate population growth 50 years from now. He felt the latter was impossible because no one could predict that. Mr. Nesbitt was comfortable that they were building the right number of stations in the right spots.

Chair Page had researched the 50-year issue as well. Mr. Carbon and Chief Bacic had gone over paperwork and notes, and the only mention of 50 years was at the Fire Bond Committee; nothing official was ever provided to voters that they should expect 50-year stations, except perhaps some dialog. Chair Page agreed with Mr. Nesbitt that the consultant had been given guidance by the Commission to look at 20 years.

Mr. Kirsch remembered the consultant stating that most cities did not build stations larger than they currently needed; they built satellite stations when needed. He said the Committee had asked the Consultant to state what assumptions they had made in terms of how to handle growth.

**Motion** made by Mr. Ruth, seconded by Mr. McTigue, that if any additional areas were annexed from the County, that the City would be given any existing fire stations or property that could be used for a future station. In a voice vote, Committee unanimously approved.

Mr. Jarrett said, "We're going to be paying for these things for 30 years, and I expect them to last and to be functional and to serve the City for that period of time; is that too much to ask for?" Mr. Snedaker said there was expansion throughout the City and this was reflected in the report.

**Motion** made by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Ruth, to accept the offer to have the Committee's questions answered as an appendix to the report, with the idea that the request to have the report reorganized was part of that.

Mr. Snedaker clarified that the Committee's specific requests would be addresses separately and approved by the Committee before they were integrated back into the report and reorganized.

In a voice vote, motion passed 5 – 1 with Mr. Jarrett opposed.

Committee members agreed that if they had not received the feasibility study changes at least a week prior to their next meeting, they would not have a September meeting.

#### Other Items and Announcements

#### **Communication to the City Commission**

Chair Page wanted to send the Commission the message that the Committee had still not seen the final copy of the feasibility study; there were several questions that must be answered and incorporated into the report and staff estimated this would be done in September. The Committee discussed this and reached consensus.

#### **8. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

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**Next regular meeting: September 16, 2010**

Attachments:

Financial Report  
Minutes – July 1, 2010 Special Meeting  
Fire Station Monthly Reports

[Minutes prepared by J. Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.]