



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

APPROVED
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (BRB)
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
Monday, December 17, 2018, 2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS	FEB 2018/JAN 2019				
	REGULAR MTGS		SPECIAL MTGS		
		Present	Absent	Present	Absent
Ina Lee, Chair	P	8	0	4	0
Thomas B. McManus, VC	A	4	4	3	1
Art Bengochea	P	5	0	2	0
Jason Hughes	P	6	2	3	1
Monty Lalwani	P	2	1	2	0
Christian Luz	P	6	2	2	2
Kristen Maus	P	5	0	2	0
Tim Schiavone	A	6	2	4	0
Shirley Smith	P	8	0	4	0
Aiton Yaari	P	5	3	3	1

Staff

Don Morris, Beach CRA Manager
Lizeth DeTorres, Administrative Aide
Thomas Green, Beach CRA
Mauricio Hernandez, Mobility Planner
Jamie Opperee, Prototype, Inc.

Guests

Art Seitz

Communications to City Commission

Motion by Chair Lee, seconded by Mr. Yaari, that the board recommends that the monies usually contributed to the CRA by the City for the TIF continue in some fashion so that money going forward can be used for maintenance, specifically on the beach and these projects.

I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum – Ina Lee

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Quorum Requirement

As of this date there were 10 appointed members to the Board, which means 6 would constitute a quorum. It was noted there was a quorum at the commencement of the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

- **November 19, 2018 Regular Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Luz, seconded by Mr. Bengochea, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2018, meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- **May 5, 2018 BRB & PRBAB Joint Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2018, BRB & PRBAB joint meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- **October 01, 2018 BRB & PRBAB Joint Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2018, BRB & PRBAB joint meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- **November 07, 2018 BRB & PRBAB Joint Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Yaari, to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2018, BRB & PRBAB joint meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. Beach Projects Update – Thomas Green, Beach CRA (Not addressed at this time)

IV. New Rules Governing Appointment for Advisory Boards and Committees – Donald Morris, Beach CRA Manager

Mr. Morris stated that on November 6, 2018, the City Commission approved Ordinance No. C-18-36 that amends the rules governing advisory board and committee appointments. He then reviewed the four main points of the ordinance, which pertain to the terms of the appointments. Basically, the changes allow a new Commissioner or Mayor to make their own appointments, and it applies to all boards.

Mr. Morris explained that when new Commissioners come on board, they may wish to appoint board members who will help further their policies.

Chair Lee recommended adding the members' expiration dates to the attendance in the minutes. Mr. Morris said they will look into it. Chair Lee said that she only found out by accident that she was being term-limited off the board.

Mr. Morris moved on to provide background information for Mr. Green's presentation. He mentioned they have signs in several locations and have done extensive outreach for the grand opening of the new garage. Signs will come down after the garage has been open for about a month. They are putting up the barrier fence with graphics on it at the Oceanside lot on December 20, 2018.

Chair Lee asked about stories concerning an additional \$1.5 million for the parking garage. Mr. Morris explained it was discussed with the board as a change order for safety items. Most of the money for that is coming from the end-of-year funds; no money will be taken from other projects. He advised there would be some short-term borrowing because the TIF funds have not yet been collected.

Chair Lee clarified that the \$1.5 million did come before the board. Mr. Morris added that staff informed the CRA Commission that the amount would be coming forward.

Several board members commented that they did not recall the discussion, but Mr. Morris assured them that they agreed to spending more money, although the specific amount may not have been mentioned. Mr. Morris elaborated that the change order affects the entire project.

Chair Lee explained the role of the advisory board for new member Mr. Lalwani.

Ms. Smith thought the cost was \$49 million, and Mr. Morris said that was correct, but it did not include the security apparatus later recommended by the Police Department and City Manager.

In response to a question by Mr. Luz, Tom Green explained that the change order increases the contract value, and they are not using contingency dollars. Mr. Bengochea pointed out that the change order is a result of owner-directed change, not a deficiency in the contract.

Chair Lee heard via email that part of it was due to an FPL problem, the subsequent delay, and a miscommunication between the auditors. She wanted clarification.

Mr. Green explained there are multiple "buckets" that the change order is broken down into. The majority is for the owner-directed change (added scope); there are also some unforeseen items arising from FPL and the impact of Hurricane Irma. Those were outside the control of the contractor, causing him to stay longer on the job, past the fixed end date. The City has liquidated damages in the contract of \$5,000 a day, and the contractor is mindful of that.

Mr. Morris advised there is a third-party construction auditor to oversee the project – the construction auditor works with the City Auditor. There will also be a third-party auditor

on the Aquatics Center project. If someone needs more details, they can contact the City Auditor, John Herbst.

III. Beach Projects Update – Thomas Green, Beach CRA

- Las Olas Beach Park project

Mr. Green stated that the opening of the Las Olas Project is December 20, 2018. They will sign on a Temporary Completion Order (TCO) this week; the inspections were held on December 14, resulting in a few minor fixes.

- Beach Streetscape

SR A1A is moving forward, and the anticipated start of construction is the second quarter of 2019. Stakeholders within the project corridor will be engaged in the venture.

- Aquatic Center project

Staff is on the 30% review of the design plans and comments have been submitted back to Hensel Phelps. Demolition is scheduled to begin in May, 2019.

- DC Alexander Park

Feedback from public meetings has led to revising the design concept – public meetings will follow.

Mr. Morris did not think that the new incoming City Manager would have any effect on the plans for DC Alexander Park. A public process will continue, with opportunities for input to the revised designs.

Chair Lee brought up transportation at the beach and how to make it go smoothly.

Mauricio Hernandez, Livability Planner, Transportation and Mobility, reported the bike and pedestrian circulation will be the most affected modes of transportation, particularly on the northern side of the garage, going to the beach. The first month is expected to be hectic, but there will be additional signage. They are also talking to all the event promoters to advise them of the construction around SR A1A and at the Aquatics Center.

Mr. Hernandez said they are considering a possible temporary expansion of the sidewalk with barriers from the garage on the northern side of Las Olas Boulevard. That area will not be open until approximately September, 2019. The barriers may affect the businesses closer to the beach on the northern side, so they are looking at options to allow some kind of motorized traffic. Chair Lee suggested using the free electric carts after December 20, 2018.

Mr. Hernandez stated they are considering using Banyan Street from Seabreeze Boulevard to SR A1A as a connection for pedestrian/bike traffic. Mr. Yaari recommended that humans direct traffic, and Mr. Hernandez assured the board they are working with all City departments to facilitate traffic.

Chair Lee requested that the point person from Transportation and Mobility attend the BRB meetings and be accountable for all transportation issues at the beach. Mr. Hernandez said that he and Tom Green would be the two people.

Ms. Smith complained that the traffic circle closes every year for about two months for the boat show, but there is no warning. She expressed concern about what would happen when the garage is there. Mr. Hernandez agreed that it happens every year.

Mr. Morris stressed that the CRA staff is in “constant communication” with City staff and understands the concerns. Chair Lee said the board is not in that loop, but Mr. Morris disagreed, saying staff will come back with the new plan on paper. He will also talk to the board about wayfinding. At this time, there are no carts that can take people from the garage to the beach, and they are making sure the pedestrian walkway from the north side of the garage to the sidewalk is clearly marked. The sidewalk will remain open for the businesses.

Mr. Lalwani spoke about cars making illegal U-turns in front of his business and feared it would become worse when the garage opens. He did not want his property to become a place for police to stake out illegal turns, since it hurts his business. He asked if they could make the U-turns legal. Mr. Morris stated he would have a transportation engineer take a look at the possibility. Mr. Hughes said it was not illegal when he first moved to the area.

Mr. Hernandez commented that U-turns create safety issues for cyclists and pedestrians, but he will present the information to traffic safety and transportation.

Mr. Lalwani said that cars also cut through his property, creating a safety hazard. Mr. Hernandez cautioned that they may have to close access points to parking lots to make it easier for pedestrians to walk.

Chair Lee recommended that all the board members walk and drive the area after December 20, 2018, to better understand the issues.

Mr. Hernandez discussed the concerns relating to home rule and ride-share companies. He suggested that the board advocate for home rule so the City can help regulate what does and does not work.

In response to a question by Mr. Hughes, Mr. Green stated that there will be lane closures with a flag person when the fins are installed. There will also be activity on Las Olas Circle for storm drain work plus some milling/paving.

Mr. Yaari said that the construction woes are the price of progress, and they should keep their eyes on the prize.

Mr. Hughes commented that scooters on SR A1A have been racing each other and trying to hit pedestrians. He asked if moving the trees into a straight line will make it easier for the scooters to go faster. Chair Lee advised that the City Commission was taking this up as an agenda item and asked Mr. Morris to send the meeting information to the board.

Mr. Morris said the design concern is the separation between vehicles and cars; they had not anticipated the scooters when the project was being designed. It will have to be worked out separately.

Mr. Hernandez shared his experiences with bike-sharing and dock-less scooters in Washington, D.C. He asked everybody to manage their expectations.

Mr. Morris advised that unless the City Commission directs otherwise, staff will move forward with the present Streetscape design, since a vehicular threat is more significant than a threat from a scooter.

Mr. Morris clarified that part of moving money in the budget was to cover the change order discussed earlier in the meeting.

V. Communication to City Commission

Chair Lee asked if there was an update on the request to extend the life of the CRA. Mr. Morris responded that the City Attorney has been asked to reconsider the timeline concerning when the CRA funds have to be spent. Whatever the decision is, the CRA will move forward with the County and propose an agreement to allow the CRA to spend the money after the CRA sunsets.

Mr. Morris also commented that the previous Communication to the City Commission to continue funding the TIF portion for beach maintenance would be a General Fund question. He suggested that the board remind the City Commission of that desire at some point.

Motion by Chair Lee, seconded by Mr. Yaari, that the board recommends that the monies usually contributed to the CRA by the City for the TIF continue in some fashion so that money going forward can be used for maintenance, specifically on the beach and these projects. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

VI. Old/New Business

Mr. Yaari thanked Chair Lee for her contributions to the board over the years. Chair Lee expressed her appreciation and discussed her history on the board.

Chair Lee gave her “closing remarks,” in which she told the board they should be proud of their accomplishments. She admonished them to keep the vision alive. Chair Lee then expressed her gratitude to Mr. Morris, Mr. Green, and the staff for their perseverance and patience.

Chair Lee advised that a marketing group be put together to determine and fulfill marketing for the beach area (what it is named, etc.). Mr. Morris said they will bring that idea to the BID in the near future for discussion.

Mr. Morris expressed his appreciation to Chair Lee for her dedication and service. He said she has had a big impact on the board and the staff. He added he was happy that so many board members have stayed on the board for so long and have seen the projects through.

Chair Lee hoped there would be a big celebration when the garage lights and fins are finished. She asked that the board do a walk-through of the garage in January.

- **Tentative Dates for January Meeting**
Wednesday, January 23 @ 3-5:30pm
Tuesday, January 29 @ 2-5 pm

Mr. Morris said there is business to be discussed at the next meeting, so a walk-through would have to be arranged at another time.

Mr. Morris advised that the actual sunset date for the CRA is September 30, 2020. Mr. Yaari wanted to add a discussion of the Super Bowl and construction timeline to an upcoming meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Bengochea, to have the next meeting on January 23, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Lee invited resident Art Seitz to the podium.

Mr. Seitz stated he serves on the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board for Broward County and said that despite the City and County voting for the A1A Greenway, nothing has been done on it. He thought the MPO has cheated eastern Fort Lauderdale out of billions of dollars. It would only cost \$35,000 to get the project shovel ready.

Mr. Seitz talked about bicycle-friendly lanes in other places, but said the ones in Fort Lauderdale are sub-standard and dangerous. He also said they need a pier.

Ms. Maus agreed with Mr. Seitz's comments about the bike lanes.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

[Minutes transcribed by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]