

CRA BOARD MEETING
January 9, 2017
7:00 PM

CRA Board Members Present:

Harold Smith, Chair
Tamara Cornwell, Vice Chair
Jonathan Davis
Brian Williams
Tambra Varnadore

CRA Board Members Absent:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Presiding Officer

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

 Chair Williams opened the CRA Board meeting at 7:57 p.m.

1. CRA BOARD AGENDA APPROVAL

 **Motion:** Mrs. Varnadore moved, Mr. Davis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the January 9, 2017 CRA Board Agenda.

 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

 3. CRA CONSENT AGENDA

A. Civix Project

Mrs. Varnadore questioned having an incentive cap. Mr. Burton suggested a Workshop be held to discuss how the current incentives are working and how much is being proposed to be paid out on current projects that are using the incentives programs. Attorney Barnebey stated it may not be in the best interest of the Board to create a cap on the incentives. He reminded the Board that each project that asks for incentives from the CRA will have an agreement and will be brought forward to the Board for approval. At that time it would be best for the CRA Board to review the agreements of each individual project and decide a cap, if necessary, at that time.

 Mrs. Cornwell questioned the billboard and cell tower incentives and opined that there should be no incentives given for those two items; the Board agreed.

It was confirmed that this property is located in the CRA District and it was also confirmed that incentive dollars are not given until there is a Certificate of Occupancy issued.

 **Motion:** Mr. Davis moved, Mrs. Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 4-1 to approve the estimated incentives for the Civix Project, without providing incentives for the Cell Tower and the Billboard. Mrs. Varnadore voted no.

Discussion ensued regarding the existing CRA Incentive Plan. Mr. Burton stated that another discussion regarding incentives review can come forward to a Workshop to provide the Board the opportunity to make any alterations if they choose.

Motion: Mr. Davis moved, Mrs. Varnadore seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to revisit the CRA Incentives Plan at the next CRA Board meeting when the CRA Director is available.

 4. ELECT CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR CRA BOARD

Motion: Mr. Davis moved, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to elect Mr. Williams as the Chair for the CRA Board.

Motion: Mrs. Varnadore moved, Mrs. Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to elect Mr. Davis as Vice Chair for the CRA Board.

 5. CRA DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Burton has made a few minor changes to the CRA Plan and will be bringing that forward to the Board for review. Mrs. Varnadore requested a copy of the current CRA Incentives Plan.

 6. PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Chair Williams stated that the Mayor, Mr. Burton, and Attorney Barnebey will be scheduling individual meetings to discuss the hotel.

 7. CRA BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Smith—reminded the Board and public about the Multi-Cultural Fair on Saturday January 14th at Lincoln Park.; this is a free event to the public.

 Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 13, 2017

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk