

Community Redevelopment Agency  
Advisory Board Meeting  
July 14, 2009

Board Members Present:

Charles Smith, Chair  
Nick Costides  
Sia Mollanazar  
Betty Ann Price

Staff Present:

Beverly Minnix, Administrative Assistant  
Mark Barnebey, City Counsel

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL

**MOTION: Ms. Price moved, Mr. Costides seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the July 14, 2009 agenda with the removal of item D.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of Minutes of June 9, 2009

**MOTION: Ms. Price moved, Mr. Mollanazar seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the minutes of June 9, 2009 Advisory Board Meeting.**

2. Storefront Grant Criteria Review – Discussion ensued regarding the revisions to the program. It is the understanding of the Advisory Board that this revision will presented to the CRA Board at the meeting scheduled for July 20, 2009. Ms. Castenada of Pets for Life located on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue came before the Advisory Board relative to trying to obtain a storefront grant in a previous submission cycle. Discussion ensued as to how Ms. Castenada could be assisted in this program. CRA staff agreed to work with Ms. Castenada on trying to re-construct the bids, work completed and receipts and invoices for work done.

**MOTION: Mr. Costides moved, Ms. Price seconded and motion carried 4-0 to recommend the revised Storefront Grant Application to the CRA Board**

3. Affordable Housing Linkage Fee Study – Discussion ensued regarding the need or lack thereof for a linkage fee program. Since market conditions have deteriorated substantially, there does not appear to be need for a linkage fee study

**MOTION: Mr. Costides moved, Ms. Price seconded and motion carried 4-0 to defer any action on a linkage fee program until such time that market conditions may change creating a need for the program.**

## NEW BUSINESS

1. CRA – School Board Property Purchase Agreement

**MOTION: Mr. Costides moved, Ms. Price seconded and motion carried 4-0 to recommend approval of the agreement to CRA Board to sell the property to the School Board for an amount of at least \$1,239,547.30.**

2. Storefront Application #SF-09-05 Katsamakis, 314 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. West, Palmetto – Discussion ensued regarding this grant. Chairman Smith opined his concern about the applicant not being present and the applicant not disclosing potential tenants as well as concerns as to what the nature of any business going into the location would be. Chairman Smith requested that all codes and zoning be monitored closely as the work is being completed.

**MOTION: Ms. Price moved, Mr. Costides seconded and motion carried 3-1 with Chairman Smith opposed to recommend that the CRA Board approve Storefront Grant #SF09-05.**

3. Dock Repair Riverside Park West – Discussion ensued with several Advisory Board Members opining that repair of the dock would just be a “band-aid” and that the whole Riverside Park area should be reviewed. CRA recommended Advisory Board members to review previous documentation for the improvement of same. Mr. Costides indicated that he did not have a copy. CRA staff indicated that they would get a copy of the study to him. Mr. Tusing Public Works Director provided an update as to recent activities relative to the Riverside Park West as well as various items that need attention in the Park. The consensus of the Advisory Board was for Mr. Tusing to bring back additional information as to what it would take to bring the condition of Riverside Park Drive West up to acceptable conditions. No further action was taken by the Advisory Board.
4. No Trespassing Initiative – Discussion ensued with CRA staff providing an explanation of the program and requesting approval for a \$760.00 expenditure for signs to be posted at business locations within the CRA District. The Police Department is coordinating the signing of agreements and the posting of the signs.

**MOTION: Mr. Costides moved, Ms. Price seconded and motion carried unanimously 4-0 to recommend the CRA Board approve the \$760.00 expenditure for “No Trespassing” signs to be distributed to the participating businesses in the CRA District.**

5. Addition of a portion of Riverside Drive from 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 9<sup>th</sup> Ave on the already approved 8<sup>th</sup> & Riverside Project - Mr. Tusing, Director of Public Works provided an explanation to the Advisory Board as to why he was requesting an addition to the project.

**MOTION: Mr. Mollanazar moved, Chairman Smith seconded and the motion carried 3-1 with Mr. Costides opposed to recommend the CRA Board approve additional engineering costs not to exceed \$31,600 for the Riverside Drive project.**

6 Residential Grant Program-Discussion ensued regarding the availability of funds for a residential program. Research needs to be done regarding residential grant programs that are being done by other CRA's in Florida. CRA staff agreed to contact FRA for information they have on this type of program. No action taken at this meeting.

CRA Administrative Assistant, Beverly Minnix informed the Advisory Board that she would be out of the office for 5-15 days for medical reasons. Arrangements were to have the phone message changed directing callers to contact Jim Freeman at City Hall and a sign would be placed on the CRA office door directing visitors to City Hall. All CRA Advisory Board items that are recommended for CRA Board approval will be forwarded to the attention of the Deputy City Clerk to be placed on the CRA Board Meeting Agenda.

Attorney Comments: Mr. Barnebey updated the Advisory Board on the status of the CRA Compliance Audit Review by Attorney Susan Churuti. Chairman Smith inquired as to when the Compliance Audit Review would be completed. Mr. Barnebey explained various steps that the City Commission & the CRA Board have taken to eliminate potential problems. Chairman Smith expressed concern regarding staffing issues with the Administrative Assistant being out and no presence at the office.

CRA Advisory Board Comments: None

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM

4. ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS

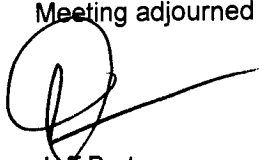
None

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

The next CRA Advisory Board meeting is September 8, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.



Jeff Burton  
Interim CRA Administrator