

Community Redevelopment Board  
May 4, 2009 9:10 p.m.

CRA Board Members Present:

Shirley Bryant (Presiding Officer, Non-Member)  
Tamara Cornwell  
Mary Lancaster  
Tambra Varnadore  
Brian Williams  
Alan Zirkelbach

Staff Present:

James R. Freeman, City Clerk  
Mike Mayer, Deputy Chief of Police  
Tanya Lukowiak, CRA Executive Director  
Mark P. Barnebey, Kirk Pinkerton  
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director  
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Mayor Bryant called the meeting of the Community Redevelopment Board (CRA) to order at 9:10 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Allison Hewitt, CEDC, informed the Board she has met with Attorney Barnebey, Mr. Freeman and Jim Delgado, an attorney sitting on the CEDC Board. She will meet with each CRA Advisory Board member individually and then make a presentation at the May 12, 2009 CRA Advisory Board meeting for potential discussion of what the next three months scope of services should be. Ms. Hewitt also spoke of her organization's ability to assist with down payment assistance through a new partnership with banks and the lending fair she will be attending to offer technical assistance for new funds available for small business loans. Attorney Barnebey stated he had suggested that because the CRA Advisory Board is comprised of new members, it would be beneficial if Ms. Hewitt gave the Board members background information on the services her group performs. He opined that the timing of the invoice submittal must be addressed. Attorney Barnebey stated that in the event the CRA Advisory Board does not recommend continuing the contract at the next meeting, he will probably recommend a special meeting of the CRA Board to hear the matter.

Ms. Hewitt confirmed the CEDC has a contract with Manatee County and Palmetto and that if the City opts out of the contract Palmetto residents would be able to attend different workshops but would not be able to qualify for down payment assistance.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL

**MOTION: Ms. Varnadore moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the May 4, 2009 CRA Board Agenda.**

2. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

A) Minutes: April 6 and April 14, 2009

**MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the May 4, 2009 Consent Agenda.**

3. CRA DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Lukowiak stated the central CRA is submitting an application for JOLI funding, another source of grant funding for assistance to small businesses. As part of the application, the central CRA wishes to use the Palmetto CRA name, at no expense at this time. The CRA Board will

have the opportunity at a later date to determine if the City will participate in the program by contributing to a pool of funds that will be used as a revolving loan for small businesses. Ms. Lukowiak stated that all businesses in the CRA districts can participate in the program, but if the City does not contribute to the pool, Palmetto businesses will not qualify for grant funding. Mayor Bryant stated that if the application is approved it will mean grant funds of \$475,000 for the next three years. It was consensus of the CRA Board to participate in the application.

4. CRA BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

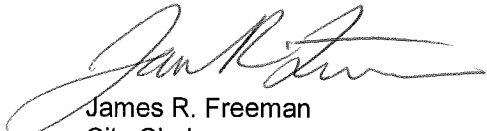
Inquired the status of the storefront grants evaluation she had requested. Mrs. Lukowiak stated the spreadsheets are being updated and will be submitted once completed.

5. PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

None

**MOTION:** Ms. Varnadore moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to adjourn the CRA Board meeting at 9:30 pm.

Minutes approved: June 1, 2009



James R. Freeman  
City Clerk