

**CRA BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2012
7:00 PM**

CRA Board Members Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Presiding Officer
Tamara Cornwell
Charles Smith
Tambra Varnadore

CRA Board Members Absent

Brian Williams
Alan Zirkelbach

Staff Present

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director (entered at 7:17 p.m.)
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Rick Wells, Chief of Police
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Presiding Officer Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

1. CRA BOARD AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Varnadore seconded and motion carried 3-0 to approve the February 27, 2012 CRA Board Agenda.

2. CRA CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes: February 6, 2012
- b) Storefront Grant #12-02 to 600 Palmetto LC increase in an amount not to exceed \$319.50.
- c) Storefront Grant #12-02 to 600 Palmetto LC 30-day extension to March 28, 2012

MOTION: Ms. Varnadore moved, Mr. Cornwell seconded and motion carried 3-0 to approve the February 27, 2012 CRA Board Consent Agenda.

3. CRA DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

4. PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Attorney Barnebey

Referring to the Cadence property that was purchased, Mr. Barnebey reported the City is in the process of doing Phase 2 of the environment study. Because the funding is through a federal agency, the EPA must approve the program completing the Phase 2 study.

Ms. Cornwell

Regarding the lights on 17th Street, Mr. Tusing stated they continue to inform Manatee County when lights are malfunctioning.

Mr. Freeman reported contact has been made with local businesses regarding shopping carts that are removed from their property and left at different spots in the City. Chief Wells stated the stores would have to prosecute individuals removing the carts from their properties, which they are not willing to do.

Attorney Barnebey confirmed an ordinance can be adopted requiring new stores to implement electronic monitoring of the carts. Code Enforcement will be asked to look at the reported carts and contact the appropriate store manager.

Mr. Burton entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Mr. Burton reported he met with the County Commission Tuesday regarding the WCIND presentation by county employee, Charlie Hunsicker. The boat ramp will be replaced rather than be repaired. \$350,000 has been requested as a 50/50 match, our match will be the property. It will include the lighting and part of the linear park trail. The application for the property across the street was also discussed, but the City is not ready to proceed at this time. County staff recommends that the funds be disbursed in the next fiscal year. The item will go to the County Commission at its next meeting.

The designation for 10th Avenue has been received. An overall street map prepared by Jon Moore is on the next CRA Advisory Board agenda. After approval by that board, a conceptual plan for 10th Avenue is forthcoming, after which grants will be pursued on items prioritized by the CRA Board.

Mayor Bryant reported a TV will be placed in the lobby of City Hall to continuously provide media of City topics to the public.

A graduate student is completing a survey regarding commercial and industrial properties available and posting them on the EDC website. This will provide data to document accountability for EDC referrals and the City's continued involvement in that program.

Regarding the 5th Street Streetscape plan, the CBI building is down and the Berkholtz building is being demolished. Southwest Florida Water Management District has approved the 60% plans. It is anticipated the plans will be available by March 1, 2012.

Sutton Park bids will be received tomorrow, February 28. It is possible construction could be completed by the July 4th event.

Plans to make 8th Avenue pedestrian friendly and the flow of the traffic ensued. Mr. Burton spoke of plans that are being considered to take capacity off 8th Ave., placing it on 10th Ave. as an alternate corridor.

Mayor Bryant voiced her pleasure on all the projects being moved forward.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 19, 2012

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk