

CRA BOARD MEETING
September 8, 2014
7:00 PM

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Presiding Officer

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Rick Wells, Chief of Police
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Chair Davis opened the CRA Board meeting at 8:07 p.m.

1. CRA BOARD AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Mrs. Cornwell moved, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the September 8, 2014 CRA Board Agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CRA CONSENT AGENDA

- A. August 4, 2014 Minutes
- B. It Works Incentive Agreement
- C. Blalock Walters Legal Bills
- D. Riverside Boat Ramp Contract
- E. CRA FY 2015 Budget

Mrs. Varnadore removed item B for discussion.

Motion: Mrs. Varnadore moved, Mrs. Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the September 8, 2014 CRA Consent Agenda with the removal of item B.

Item 3B discussion:

Mrs. Varnadore expressed concerns with the language written in Section 4.10 not matching what is written in Section 2.1 and 2.2. One says that the incentives do not run with the land, but then another section states that if sold, the CRA is obligated to pay. Discussion ensued regarding the language in Section 2.1 and 2.2. The Board would like to know what happens to the incentive dollars if the property is sold. Due to several concerns and questions, Attorney Barnebey decided to pull this item until the next meeting when CRA Director Burton is in attendance to answer the questions.

4. MLK PARK UPDATE

5. RIVERSIDE PARK BOAT RAMP UPDATE

Bob Gause, Project Manager for the MLK Park and Riverside Boat Ramp project, stated that the ground breaking for the Boat Ramp will be held on September 22, 2014 at 5:45 p.m. He noted that as stated on the contract, substantial completion will be January 2, 2015 and final completion should be around February 2nd.

Mr. Gause stated that substantial completion for the first phase of MLK Park should be late October/early November 2014.

Discussion ensued between Commissioners and Mr. Gause regarding the second bridge that was to be built at MLK Park and the installment of bathrooms. Mr. Gause stated that the second bridge was eliminated, for now, because of some legal issues with the "Jackson" property next to the park. If and when all legal issues are settled with the adjoining property, the second bridge can be built at that time. Mr. Smith stated that the oil spill money that is to be awarded to the City is to be used for the construction of bathrooms. He would like a discussion on a future agenda regarding the second bridge and the construction of bathrooms because all other parks in the City have bathrooms for residents to use, except for Taylor Park. He stated restrooms are a priority for this park and a necessity for any park.

6. CRA DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

7. PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Chair Davis made a promise to Mr. Smith that this Board will work diligently to have restrooms constructed during the second phase of MLK Park.

8. CRA BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Varnadore inquired on the status of the BP Oil Spill claim monies. Mr. Freeman stated that he has received letters from the City's attorney for the claim regarding some criteria that the courts are reviewing for validity of submitted claims and the money that is awarded. Mr. Freeman will email out information to the Board.

Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Minutes approved: October 20, 2014

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk