

CRA BOARD MEETING
May 1, 2017
7:00 PM

CRA Board Members Present:

Brian Williams, Chair
Jonathan Davis, Vice Chair
Tamara Cornwell
Harold Smith
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 LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

Chair Williams opened the CRA Board meeting at 8:51 p.m.

1. CRA BOARD AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Mrs. Cornwell moved, Mr. Davis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the May 1, 2017 CRA Board Agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CRA CONSENT AGENDA

- A. January 26, 2017 Minutes
- B. Resolution 2017-03 Convention Center Complex Agreement Amendment
- C. Blalock Walters Legal Invoices

Motion: Mrs. Cornwell moved, Mr. Davis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the May 1, 2017 CRA Board Consent Agenda with the removal of 3.B. for discussion.

3.B. Resolution 2017-03 Convention Center Complex Agreement Amendment Discussion:

Mrs. Varnadore's questions centered on the Special Event Parcel; it was clarified that the City/CRA will be receiving a share of the revenue generated by the events held on the Special Event Parcel at the hotel.

Mrs. Cornwell asked that the date in Section K be filled in before being signed.

Motion: Mrs. Cornwell moved, Mr. Davis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve item 3.B. with the Section K date being filled in.

4. HABEN BOULEVARD LANDSCAPING

Mr. Burton discussed the landscape to be planted along Haben Boulevard. The watering of the plants along the median have been taken care of by Public Works. Manatee County owns part of Haben

Boulevard but will not provide funding from their tree program to fund plants for their portion. There will be discussions regarding the landscaping of their portion before negotiations of taking the property over happen.

Mr. Davis questioned the desire to plant only trees from the palm family; he requested olive trees be considered for planting.

Motion: Mr. Davis moved, Mrs. Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the project pending request from Tourist Development Council (TDC) for funding for landscaping on the County parcel.

5. COMMUNITY GARDEN

Mr. Burton gave a handout from the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) that discussed starting a community garden. Questions that Mr. Burton asked the Board to consider were the following:

- Will the community support one?
- Who will volunteer to take care of the garden?
- Will it be cared for by the City or the CRA?
- Where will it go?
- Will there be Earth Boxes?

Mr. Burton has budgeted approximately \$15,000 for the garden and suggests starting the garden in the fall. He will ask IFAS to do a presentation to the Board on community gardens and the process.

Mrs. Cornwell noted that there are already three community gardens in the City of Palmetto.

No action necessary; Mr. Burton will be having a presentation by IFAS at the next CRA Board meeting.

6. RIVERSIDE DAY DOCK CONCEPTUAL

Mr. Burton informed the Board that the CRA has budgeted for and needs board approval to build a City owned day dock in Riverside Park. There is space between two of the reef balls for the floating dock. No permits have been issued yet, but the process has begun. This project will come before the Board again when all the final details are worked out.

Motion: Mr. Davis moved, Mrs. Cornwell seconded the motion to approve the conceptual plan for a day dock in Riverside Park.

Mrs. Varnadore questioned if boats will be pulling up to the day dock and tying off to it; there is a limited amount of deep water there where Mr. Burton is proposing to build the dock. Chief Tyler requested the ordinance regarding boats and how long they can be tied up to the dock be strengthened; he foresees potential issues.

The motion on the floor carried 5-0.

7. CRA DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Burton is working with a few non-profits for the family friendly part of the July 4th event. The information will be brought forward to the Board when finalized; the Special Function Permit is also forthcoming.

He and the interns at the CRA are working on compiling the survey for the residents regarding Sutton and Lamb Park.

The Downtown Code will be going in front of the Planning and Zoning Board this month. He will be asking Planning and Zoning about housing districts for specific types of housing.

Mr. Burton will be bringing forward amendments to the incentives offered by the CRA.

He is working on potential Historic Preservation Grants for the VFW Building.

8. PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

9. CRA BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Cornwell—informed the Board that the Garden Club will give grants for edible plants in a community garden and Earth Boxes.

Mrs. Varnadore—thanked Mr. Burton for placing items on the Drop Box for easy accessibility.

Mr. Williams—gave his opinions about the motion made at the last Board meeting, (April 24, 2017), regarding the funding for the pool. He does not appreciate a vote being taken in his absence, when he was running late. There was no indication on the agenda that a vote was going to be taken and he would have appreciated the Board waiting until he arrived so his opinions could have been heard.

Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

Minutes approved: June 5, 2017

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk