

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, January 11, 2017

MINUTES

Present:

Tommy Ruzzano, Chair
Anthony Caggiano, Vice Chair
Lesa Peerman
Arlene Schwartz
Joanne Simone

Also Present:

David N. Tolces, Board Attorney
Diane Colonna, CRA Executive Director
Kim Vazquez, Project Manager
Lauren Harris, Marketing Coordinator
Cotter Christian, Engineer/Manager
Douglas Smith, City Manager

The regular meeting of the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency having been properly noticed was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 by Chair Tommy Ruzzano. There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No comments.

2. RESOLUTIONS

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE MARGATE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL TO PIGGYBACK A CONTRACT FOR LABOR, POURED FLOOR SAFETY SURFACING AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURSUANT TO CLAY COUNTY RFP#13/14/8 WITH REP SERVICES, INC., FOR THE GEORGE MUDD (DAVID PARK) PLAYGROUND AREA IMPROVEMENTS

After David Tolces, Board Attorney, read the item title, Ms. Peerman made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Simone:

MOTION: SO MOVE TO APPROVE

There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruzzano, Yes; Ms. Schwartz, Yes; Mrs. Peerman, Yes; Ms. Simone, Yes; Mr. Caggiano, Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

- B. A RESOLUTION OF THE MARGATE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AMENDING THE FY 2017 BUDGET BY TRANSFERRING \$140,000.00 FROM THE "CITY CENTER" UTILITY/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTINGENCY" ACCOUNT TO THE "COLONIAL DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS" ACCOUNT

After David Tolces, Board Attorney, read the item title, Ms. Peerman made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Schwartz:

MOTION: SO MOVE TO APPROVE

Ms. Schwartz asked if the hospital is building a garage and will it affect the proposed improvements. Ms. Colonna responded she has held discussions with hospital staff and it is her understanding that the garage will accommodate additional beds in an expansion of a hospital wing, and that employees will still be parking in the lot across Colonial Drive.

Ms. Simone asked if anything is being done with traffic signals. She commented traffic on Colonial Drive backs up and there have been concerns that people are using two lanes to turn left onto 441. Ms. Colonna said plans include extending the left turn lane, however, there have not been discussions addressing the signal on 441. This project addresses pedestrian issues. Steve Williams of Keith and Associates said the left lane will be extended to 441 to alleviate traffic. Ms. Simone recommended marking the lanes with directional arrows.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruzzano, Yes; Ms. Schwartz, Yes; Mrs. Peerman, Yes; Ms. Simone, Yes; Mr. Caggiano, Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

C. RESOLUTION APPROVING TASK ORDER WITH KEITH & ASSOCIATES FOR COLONIAL DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS

After David Tolces, Board Attorney, read the item title, Ms. Peerman made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Schwartz:

Mr. Caggiano expressed concern regarding construction observation fees. Mr. Steve Williams of Keith and Associates explained that the observation is necessary to make sure the contractor to building the plans in accordance with the permit.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruzzano, Yes; Ms. Schwartz, Yes; Mrs. Peerman, Yes; Ms. Simone, Yes; Mr. Caggiano, Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION ON THE WAYFINDING SIGNAGE PROGRAM

Kim Vazquez, Project Manager introduced Todd Mayfield of Axia Creative. Mr. Mayfield gave a presentation on the Wayfinding Signage Program.

Mr. Mayfield said he has met with stakeholders, held public meetings and has started the design development process. The comments from the public meetings were included in the concept design. He has also developed an assessment report which includes general recommendations from the public and other stakeholders on the design. He showed renderings of the gateway signage, vehicle guide signs, kiosk and identify signage for facilities and parks. He noted the signs will be used for city properties.

Mr. Ruzzano asked what material will be used for the signs and if they will be lit. Mr. Mayfield said the signs are primarily aluminum. The changeable map material can be I-Zone, graphic embedded fiberglass or a powder coated system. The gateway signs will be lit. Ms. Schwartz suggested the signs have a uniform color that identifies the City of Margate. Ms. Schwartz asked the Board if the motto can be included on the entrance signs. Ms. Mayfield noted a motto is great for marketing but less effective when it is on signage. The signs will include the word "Margate" and the logo. Ms. Schwartz recommended adding the City seal to the bottom of the signs.

Mitch Pellecchia, 6890 NW 9th Street said the signs are not indicative of Margate. They are the colors of the Orion gas station. The shapes do not exhibit a charming feel and he has never been a fan of the City logo. He suggested adding the City seal.

B. REQUEST TO FUND ADDITIONAL SECURITY FOR WATERFRONT FOUNDATION CARNIVAL (JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 5, 2017)

Mr. Ruzzano explained he was asked by a petitioner, Mitch Pellecchia, to add this item to the agenda. He said Mr. Pellecchia inquired about having more security at an upcoming carnival event.

Mitch Pellecchia stated the request is due to recent events at the Fort Lauderdale Airport. He requested the Board provide funds for a sky tower from the police department and the Special Response Team for Saturday nights. He recommended adding extra security for the Margate Under the Moon and Sounds at Sundown events. David Tolces noted the request is not consistent with community policing initiatives as noted in the CRA Plan. Mr. Ruzzano recommended the Board put a policy in place for extra policing at community events. Mr. Caggiano supported Mr. Ruzzano's idea of creating a policy, stating the City shouldn't cancel events because they are being intimidated by trouble makers.

Ms. Peerman noted carnivals currently pay for extra police for security purposes. Ms. Peerman said having the CRA pay for off-duty police officers acting as additional security at these types of events is not in the current CRA plan as part of the community policing initiatives. The Board cannot approve paying for additional security for special events not sponsored by the CRA.

The Board directed Ms. Colonna to add the change to the CRA Plan amendment that is currently in process.

Ms. Simone questioned the goals and plans for the Margate Waterfront Foundation and the implementation of their activities. She is not satisfied that the organization has a valid plan for achieving its goals. It has been in existence for three years with minimal results. Mr. Pellecchia said the goals and plan are identified on the Foundation's website.

Mr. Ruzzano asked Dana Watson, Margate Police Chief if the carnival will require more security. Chief Watson recommended having the required amount of police officers as a recommended in the Development Review Committee process, especially on the weekends. He noted the city has hosted carnivals for years and from time to time, more officers have been needed to control the crowds. Lately there has been a pattern of large groups of juveniles coming to the carnivals to create problems and officers have not felt safe. He recommended ending the carnivals earlier on the weekends to curtail this issue. He spoke against using the

Special Response Team because using this asset is not appropriate for a family oriented event. He doesn't want to overreact and create the appearance of a police state. He said regardless of the decision made regarding funding he will ensure the appropriate amount of security is provided at the carnival.

Ms. Simone stated she doesn't support carnivals, and doesn't think they promote a positive image of the City.

Ms. Schwartz asked if having the tower at the carnival would be appropriate. Chief Watson stated he would like to evaluate the security needs with his staff and make a decision on what is necessary. He doesn't think it's a good idea for citizens to offer to pay for the use of police assets.

Mr. Pellecchia commented the police assets are owned by the City, not the Police Chief. He spoke on the 501(c) 3 status of the Foundation and asked the Board to review the organization's strategic plan.

Rick Riccardi, 4829 South Hemmingway Circle said he is on the Board for the Foundation and supports the request for the additional security at the carnival. He noted the Chamber carnivals haven't had the same issues as the St. Vincent's carnivals.

The following motion was made by Commissioner Peerman and seconded by Vice-Chair Caggiano:

MOTION: TO DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO INCLUDE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CRA PLAN WITH RESPECT TO COMMUNITY POLICING FOR EVENTS

ROLL CALL: Simone, No; Schwartz, Yes; Peerman, Yes; Caggiano, Yes; Ruzzano, Yes. The motion passed 4-1.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. MCRA WORKPLAN STATUS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2016

Ms. Colonna reviewed the workplan that was included in the agenda back-up. The CRA obtained a service mark to protect the use of its logo. The Sounds at Sundown event scheduled for January 7, 2016 was cancelled due to inclement weather, and is rescheduled for January 21st.

B. TENANT UPDATES

Ms. Colonna reported Bei Jing and Backstreet Restaurant vacated their spaces in December 2016. There is a lot of interest from prospective tenants in both locations.

5. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Schwarz – No comments

Ms. Peerman asked if Bay Bay's Chicken and Waffle moved into their unit. Ms. Colonna said they are in the process of obtaining permits for their build-out.

Ms. Simone noted a Margate band is playing at the March Sounds at Sundown event. She requested to add a discussion item regarding future carnivals to the next CRA Board agenda.

Mr. Caggiano wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Ruzzano wished everyone a Happy New Year. He asked Ms. Colonna about the status of Broward County approvals for the sports complex. She said they are working on a plat issue. He asked if the City Center contract is still valid. Ms. Colonna responded yes and announced a workshop tentatively scheduled on January 31, 2017 to discuss the City Center plan

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Transcribed by Courtney Easley

Tommy Ruzzano, Chair