

Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, July 9, 2009 8:30 AM

Members Present

Chair John Davison
Vice Chair Todd Tracy
John Mead
John Radkins
Mary Ellen Diez
Norman Caldwell
Harry Colburn

Members Absent

Sarasota County Staff Present

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator
Jodi Morris, CRA Admin. Specialist

I. Call to order

Vice Chair Todd Tracy called to order the regular meeting of the Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board at 8:35 AM on Thursday, July 9, 2009, located at the CRA Office, 101 North Orange Street, Englewood, FL 34223. (Chair Davison arrived at 8:40 AM.

II. Roll call

CRA Coordinator, Debbie Marks called roll. The following Board members were present; Chair John Davison, Vice-Chair Todd Tracy, Harry Colburn, John Mead, John Radkins, Mary Ellen Diez. Harry Colburn and Norman Caldwell.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chairman Davison asked for approval of the May 14, 2009 minutes. John Davison asked on page 1 under open to the public change Origination to Organization. John Davison motioned to accept the minutes with changes. Todd Tracy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with changes.

Chairman Davison asked for approval of the June 11, 2009 minutes. John Davison motioned to accept the minutes as written. Harry Colburn seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

IV. Open to the public

Jack Gray gave an update on the trip to Gulf Port.

Jennifer Perry, with Elise Quirk Library informed the committee of the upcoming renovations to be done at the library. They will have increased seating and more room within the library.

V. New business

- Appointment of alternate members for the Storefront Review Committee

Debbie Marks asked to have alternates appointed to the Storefront Review Committee. Mary Ellen-Diez and John Radkins volunteered to sit on this committee. Mr. Ionescou volunteered to be an alternate architect for the committee.

Board voted in favor of the alternates for the Storefront Review Committee.

- August Meeting

After brief discussion, Harry Colburn motioned to skip August meeting. Norman Caldwell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting will be September 17th.

VI. Old business

Mary Ellen Diez moved to take from the table her motion made to send a letter to the Board of County Commissioners in support of the 776 corridor plan. Norman Caldwell seconded the motion.

Mary Ellen Diez motioned to withdraw her motion. Todd Tracy seconded the motion.

VII. Comments / Reports

- Budget

Debbie Marks updated the committee on the budget. We are at 42% of our budget so far this year. The billboards for July, August and September will be coming out of the marketing budget. The gateway signage line item will also have some cost taken out this month. There have been some repairs to the properties at 10 Harbor Lane and 800 W. Perry Street. We spent \$2100.00 on Harbor Lane and \$2700.00 on Perry Street. These were normal maintenance repairs.

- Signage

Debbie Marks informed the committee that the banners for Public Restrooms were hung on Wednesday. She also has contacted Beacon Distributors for a pole to match the Street lights (without a light fixture) to hang the last banner on Cedar St.

Harry Colburn made a suggestion to remove the warning stop sign in the 300 and 400 block of Dearborn Street. Debbie Marks said she would contact traffic operations to see if it may be removed.

- Cherokee Street Properties

Debbie spoke with Chuck Listowski, West Coast International Water District (WCIND) about the permits for the Cherokee and Harbor properties. She noted that they will be looking at contractors to bid on the restrooms and two pole shelters going. The rest of the plans should be ready for permitting before the dock permits are finalized. They are in the State process review for the Harbor Street seawall and dock improvements. Once approval from the State is received we can apply for a county permit.

Debbie met on site at Harbor Lane with the engineer and a representative from WCIND to review the seawall application. The proposed construction will reduce our

maintenance costs in the future. They are going to put a new seawall in front of the existing wall so we will have a double buffer and the dock will go on the outside of the seawalls. They are also proposing a buffer between the grass and the seawall in order to filter the run off before it reaches the bay, in keeping with our green concept.

- Veterans Memorial Park-10 Harbor Lane

Debbie Marks will be meeting with the county architect, Elaine Miller and Mary Ellen Diez. She will keep the committee updated by email.

- Events

Mary Ellen Diez asked for volunteers for the CRA float in the Pioneer Parade. John Davison volunteered. The theme for the float is Water, Water everywhere. Debbie announced the Parade meeting to be held today at 5:30pm at 121 McCall. She is going to encourage the store owners to be open on Labor Day, following parade since there will be booths set up in the 300 and 500 block of Dearborn Street. This should encourage people to walk up and down the street and hopefully visit the shops.

VIII. Board Comments

- a) Vice-Chair Tracy – Thank you everyone for coming. Agrees with Dan about ideas for advertising and would like the committee to revisit the priority list.
- b) Harry Colburn – Would like to see the libraries moved up in the priorities. Glad that Ringling School of Art is working with our local art center.
- c) John Mead – Thanked the person who cut the grass at the gas station.
- d) Chair Davison – Would like to bring in more visual things to our meetings. Also would like to advertise our meetings a little better.
- e) John Radkins – Thanked everyone for coming. Like to see the advisory board work on the July 4th activities for next year.
- f) Norman Caldwell - None
- g) Mary Ellen Diez – Gave suggestions on ideas for the Storefront Committee.

VIII. Agenda Items for September 17,2009

Initial Report on July 4th

Revisit the priorities list

IX. Adjournment

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Non-Board member sign-in attendance count; 12