

# Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes of Thursday, March 12, 2009 8:30 AM

## **Members Present**

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

## **Members Absent**

John Radkins

## **Sarasota County Staff Present**

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator  
Jodi Morris, CRA Admin. Assistant  
Bob Lepley, Code Enforcement

### **I. Call to order**

Chair John Davison called to order the regular meeting of the Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board at 8:34 AM on Thursday, March 12, 2009 located at the CRA Office, 101 North Orange Street, Englewood, FL 34223.

### **II. Roll call**

CRA Coordinator, Debbie Marks called roll. The following Board members were present; Chair John Davison, Vice-Chair Todd Tracy, Norman Caldwell, Harry Colburn, John Mead. Not present was Mr. Radkins.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Chair Davison asked for approval of the February 12, 2009 minutes. John Mead motioned to accept the minutes as published. Norman Coldwell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as published.

### **IV. Open to the public**

Mr. Tom Minnich announced a watershed workshop to be held at the Englewood Sport Complex on March 21 at 9:30 am till 11:00 am.

Elaine Miller spoke about the use of low impact design principles in neighborhoods as well and encouraged the use of rain barrels.

Mary Ellen Diez suggested a sub-committee be created to review the storefront grant program and possible expand to include residential.

### **V. New business**

Debbie Marks introduced Bob Lepley, Code Enforcement. Bob discussed what a violation is and what can be done to prevent receiving a violation fine.

Ms. Marks announced that the Sheriffs Community Policing Team which was housed at 101 N. Orange Street, has been reassigned to patrol. If the citizens need immediate assistance call 911 or south county desk.

Ms. Marks also informed the committee of a potential property swap with the two water front properties owned by the county with the Rinkard guest house on the corner of Englewood and Dearborn. She would like to apply for grants to improve the home, and give room for expansion on the Veterans Memorial.

## **VI. Old business**

John Davison stated if store fronts wish to improve there appearance with this matching grant program the committee should encourage them. We as a committee agree with and encourage them to do small projects such as rain barrels, green roof and things to improve the environment. Mary Ellen Diez thinks this program is under utilized and suggested maybe its possible to add things that could be more beneficial that the committee agrees on. John Mead suggested some promotional materials. Todd Tracy does not think the rain barrels are a community redevelopment issue, but he would not mind expanding the grant program to include stormwater mitigation issues. Mr. Tracy is in favor of expanding the Storefront Grant program to include residential owners.

Debbie Marks gave a brief update on the stormwater and announced the Board of County Commissioners scheduled presentation date of April 21<sup>st</sup> in the afternoon at the R.L. Anderson Building.

## **VII. Comments / Reports**

Updates: Billboards / Banners

Debbie Marks announced the billboards are up. Rebecca is going to be working on the banners.

Cherokee Street Properties: Getting Close. They are submitting this as one whole permit which is taking additional time.

Veterans Memorial Park: Still working on.

Events: Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay-Chair Auction is this Saturday, March 14. Ms. Marks thanked everyone who helped out at the Winewalk. This event was sold out.

## **VIII. Board Comments**

- a) Norman Caldwell – Glad to see progress is being made.
- b) Vice-Chair Tracy – Thanked everyone for coming and to continue to bring your ideas to the committee. The sunshine laws it is not illegal to communicate through Debbie.
- c) Mary Ellen Diez – Thanked everyone for coming and is excited to get started on the Veterans Memorial.
- d) John Mead – Glad to see progress coming with the Ricker property.
- e) Harry Colburn – Supports the billboard sign on 776.
- f) Chair Davison – Thanked Debbie for the great work on Winewalk. Thanked everyone for coming.

## **VIII. Agenda Items for April 9,2009**

Storefront Redevelopment Grant Program

**IX. Adjournment**

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Non-Board member sign-in attendance count; 13