

Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA)

Advisory Board Meeting

Amended Meeting Minutes of Thursday, April 9, 2009 8:30 AM

Members Present

Chair John Davison
Vice Chair Todd Tracy
Harry Colburn
John Mead
John Radkins

Members Absent

Norman Caldwell
Mary Ellen Diez

Sarasota County Staff Present

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

I. Call to order

Chair John Davison called to order the regular meeting of the Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board at 8:32 AM on Thursday, April 9, 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, Harry Colburn, John Mead, John Radkins. Mary Ellen Diez and Norman Caldwell were absent.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chair Davison asked for approval of the March 12, 2009 minutes. Todd Tracy motioned to accept the minutes as published. Norman Caldwell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as published.

IV. Open to the public

Betty Nugent read the following: "In 1878 William Goff with his wife Mary and 3 daughters and friend Rebacca Wilson sailed in to Lemon Bay and chose a 60 acre site on government Lot #1 sect. 36 township 40 South Range 19 East 59.90 acres more or less. They were squatters because he did not farm the land because he was a sailor which did not qualify him for Homestead. 1886 William was able to title the property from Joseph Wear a land speculator for the price of \$90. The first child born in Englewood was Ellie Goff on September 14, 1885 on the Homestead in a log cabin on Lemon Bay which was noted as Cherokee Street. William sold the property in 1889 for \$1,500 to John W. Whidden and Charles Crawford owners of a mineral company. William wanted to start farming and bought land on Oyster Creek."

Betty would like to propose naming Cherokee Park "Cherokee Pioneer Park". John Radkins made a motion to accept the name suggested "Cherokee Pioneer Park" seconded by John Mead. Discussion ensued about the name. John Radkins amended the motion to name the park "Pioneer Park" seconded by John Mead. After further discussion Todd Tracy made a motion to table this discussion for 30 days to the next meeting seconded by Harry Colburn.

Harmony came to introduce herself and give a background. She also asked for the committee for assistance in some needed improvements to the building she is renting. The committee informed

Harmony that the property owner needs to apply for the storefront grant for assistance on outer improvements and that interior improvements are not eligible for the Storefront Grant Program.

V. New business

None

VI. Old business

None

VII. Comments / Reports

Updates: Signage

Debbie Marks announced that Jodi Morris called Lumec Lighting Company to get a price on poles for the Public Restroom and Parking signs but has not received a response. Berlin signs is able to make the sign for the wall mural once we have the verbage together. Mr. Davison asked when the signs would be installed. Debbie stated she hopes to have an update by next meeting

Cherokee Street Properties: The plans are almost ready to submit for permitting. We hope to have a grand opening this summer.

Veterans Memorial Park: Still in progress. Appraisals are still in the works. John Radkins offered a friend who is a veteran to help with this committee. Debbie Marks announced that Jessie Pasternak, Pineapple Gulf Properties, held a fundraiser for Veterans Memorial Park and all proceeds went to this project.

Harbor St: Debbie informed the committee that the most we can do with this property is 300 square feet for restrooms and the remainder would be shelter area. The other option is to demolish the house. Todd Tracy liked the idea of having public restrooms and the pavilion.

Events: Plein Air Fest hosted by the Art Center requested funds for an ad to be placed in the Sun Herald. Since it was less than \$500.00 Debbie made the decision to have them bill the CRA for the ad. She thinks this is a good way to help with event and wanted to see how the board felt about it. Todd felt it was a good use of the funds.

Car Show: Debbie voiced concern about the car show that is now starting at 2pm instead of 4pm, and takes parking spaces from businesses. They are also parking on the sidewalks. Debbie is going to contact Elaine Miller, OEVA President to see about changing the time for the car show. The businesses are not seeing profit from this event, but the restaurants are. John Davison suggested the restrooms to be left open until 9 pm. Debbie checked and this can be done for Friday and Saturday evenings.

John Radkins suggested a Fishing Tournament. He has two charter captains willing to provide some information regarding setting up a tournament. John would like to sit with Debbie and come back to the committee.

Office Modifications: Debbie informed the committee that The Sheriffs office is remodeling the facility. The facility will have a training center and a class room. We will still have use of this room for meetings. The CRA office will be relocated to the conference room. Also there will be a Seniors Against Crime volunteer program of The Attorney Generals Office, operating in the glass enclosure area.

VIII. Board Comments

- a) Vice-Chair Tracy – Thanked everyone for coming. There is a stormwater meeting on April 21 and if you have any comments please come to the meeting or send an email. Cherokee Park is close and is exciting. The committee is making progress.
- b) John Mead – None
- c) Harry Colburn – None
- d) Chair Davison – None
- e) John Radkins – Announced he had back surgery and was unable to last months meeting. He also thinks the job done on the billboards was great.

VIII. Agenda Items for May 14,2009

Store Front Update

IX. Adjournment

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Non-Board member sign-in attendance count; 12