

Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, June 11, 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

None

Sarasota County Staff Present

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

IX. Call to order

Chairman Davison called to order the regular meeting of the Englewood Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board at 8:35 AM on Thursday, June 11, 2009, located at the CRA Office, 101 North Orange Street, Englewood, FL 34223.

X. 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.

XI. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chairman Davison asked for approval of the May 13, 2009 minutes. John Radkins asked on page 4 under Board Comments letter d Jane should be Jan. Debbie asked on page 2 under motion for Comprehensive Plan Amendment consist be changed to consistent. Harry Colburn asked to have more details regarding the LID project be included in the minutes. Debbie commented we can do more if you like. If you look at the Board of County Commissioners minutes they are not detailed. We can also make the recording available. Todd also commented that the presentation was vague the plant expert did not give names of the plants, the point was to introduce what could be done and the details would have to be worked out later. The committee agreed to table approval of minutes until next meeting.

XII. Open to the public

John Fellin had two items to bring before the Board. He congratulated Chairman Davison on the presentation given at the BCC as well as Elaine and her group. There is a meeting being held tomorrow at 9am at R.L. Anderson building to discuss the 776 corridor plan. Debbie plans to attend the meeting.

Mary Ellen Diez made a motion to send a letter to The Board of County Commissioners in support of the 776 corridor plan, seconded by Harry Colburn. Discussion ensued. Todd Tracy did not support the motion. After a brief discussion Norman Caldwell made a motion to table the above motion to the next CRA meeting.

Jack Gray with the Englewood Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce informed the Board Members about the excursion to his hometown, Gulf Port. Lori Rosso, president of the

Gulfport Chamber took everyone around town on the trolley and showed them the highlights of the city. Gulf Port is similar to Englewood. Jack hopes to cross promote with the two cities. He has invited them to come down to Englewood and have a town hall meeting.

XIII. New business

None

XIV. Old business

- Budget

Todd Tracy asked several questions regarding line items on the budget. Debbie answered Todd's questions. Todd announced the CRA is 37% below budget.

Todd asked Debbie to provide an update on the budget every month. Debbie suggested every quarter and Todd agreed.

Todd informed the committee that 115 Dearborn Street is under contract. This is being purchased for a restaurant. The Café on Dearborn also has a contract pending. The purchaser never asked about stormwater.

VII. Comments / Reports

Debbie updated the committee about Outreach Committee with Don Schilke. They had Don Hassel from Community Housing and Development come down to talk about possible loans available that homeowners could obtain to fix up their homes. They are going to target a 3 block area and pass out these flyers. The committee is moving forward and wanted to show this committee the draft flyer. They are talking about identifying a piece of property to do their first project on. One lady suggested the Fast Fetch.

Todd Tracy would like to contact Mr. Ford Thomas to see about sprucing up his property on Dearborn St. Russ Kliper suggested taking pictures of the broken windows and send it along with the letter. This could cause homeless to move into the property.

- Signage

Debbie updated the committee on the banners for the public restrooms. These should be in next week. I got a price back from Berlin Signs of \$400 for a sandblasted 18x18 and when he showed me the design it is not big enough. Debbie asked for new quote for 36x36. This should still be under a thousand dollars. Chairman Davison asked about the post for the entrance to the restroom. Debbie informed him we are looking for something cheaper than \$900. Todd stated he does not want to wait another 30 days to save a couple of hundred dollars. Lets try and get it done we need to be prepared for next season.

- Cherokee Street Properties

Mr. Chuck Listowski, West Coast Inland Navigational Water District (WCIND), is finalizing everything and just put the map together. Debbie got an email from Sam Johnson, the engineer, stating it is moving forward and is hoping to have major progress before next meeting.

- Veterans Memorial Park-10 Harbor Lane

Mary Ellen Diez updated the committee on the meeting held on Tuesday, June 9th. The Veterans Committee is hoping to have the project completed by July 4, 2010.

- Marketing

John Radkins announced two local charter captains, Chris O'Neal and Ryan Rowan, on the week of June 1st thru the 7th are hosted a fishing charter. Mark Davis filmed a segment of his show that will be aired in 2010 Fishing Locally. The three publications we should see articles in the third or fourth quarter of 2009 with mention of Buchan's Landing and Downtown Dearborn are Florida Sportsman, Salt Water Sportsman, Sport Fishing Magazine, and Team Marine USA. We should see some good advertising from the television show Big Water Adventures and in the magazines. He thinks this is very exciting. The two captains want to talk with the CRA about putting together a fishing tournament.

- Events

Pioneer week may be dwindled down to a one or two day event. The CRA will be putting out some money for the permits. The pioneer parade is a definite event as well as the boat race.

OEVA is hosting a block party on November 13th and 14th.

The Sheriffs department is moving forward along with the CRA for the BBQ at the end of September which will benefit the Halloween Safe Walk.

A fishing tournament is being planned for late October.

Debbie gave an update on the Perry and Southwind properties. We are moving forward to fix the screens and pools to get them ready to lease out. We will do a one year lease and then regroup to see what the economy is doing and talk to neighbors to see what they want. When it is time possibly put the properties back on the market or continue to lease them out.

VIII. Board Comments

- a) Vice-Chair Tracy – Thanks to the audience and the participation. Erick Phelps who is helping to organize Pioneer Days has a show on WENG, Community Journal, on Saturday mornings from 10 to 11am.
- b) John Mead – Wants to thank Erick for pulling this together.
- c) Chair Davison – Hopes this board, Debbie and everyone involved can get together and make things happen along the waterfront.
- d) John Radkins – No other comments
- e) Mary Ellen Diez – No other comments
- f) Norman Caldwell – Great job Debbie. Great report from Mr. Radkins. Hopes to push forward on Low Impact Development. Thinks we should insist on anyone building in Englewood pay for it. Good work all together. Glad to be back with you all.
- g) Harry Colburn – Likes the idea of promoting the Englewood area as a fishing destination. Also wants clear and more accurate minutes. Nobody has time to listen to the audio.

IX. Agenda Items for July 9,2009

None

X. Adjournment

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Non-Board member sign-in attendance count; 8