

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA
ADVISORY BOARD (CRA)
Minutes of January 11, 2007 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board was held on Thursday, January 11, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood, FL.

Members Present

John Radkins, Chairman
Harry Colburn, Vice-Chairman
Mary Ellen Diez
John Davison
Norman Caldwell

Members Absent

John Mead

Staff Present

Christine Davis, CRA Coordinator
Elaine Wickwire, Admin. Asst. II

Others Present

Shannon Staub, Sarasota County Commissioner
Ted Brovitz, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Call to Order

Chairman John Radkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

It was noted that the approval of the minutes of the meeting for December 14, 2006 will be deferred to the February meeting.

Open to the Public

Mr. Taylor Meals, representing Olde Englewood Village Association (OEVA), presented an update from Odato Marketing Group noting the recommendation for a tagline encompassing Englewood. Mr. Meals requested assistance for marketing this project, developing a website as well as "Events on the Street" promotion, possibly from the Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Mary Smith, President of the Englewood/Cape Haze Area Chamber of Commerce, acknowledged that the Chamber would be willing to be involved with a new tagline being proposed.

Ms. Elaine Miller-Sanchez, Suncoast Architects, Inc. (representing the Merchants Group), endorsed the marketing comments from Mr. Meals. She also noted that there will be a Wine Tasting charity event on Dearborn Street on February 24, 2007.

Establish a Subcommittee to Amend the Town Center Plan and Expand the RCTOD

Chairman Radkins noted that a subcommittee will be formed to develop language to amend the Town Center Plan and expand the Residential/Commercial Transition Overlay District (RCTOD). He will head the subcommittee, with the following volunteers: Elaine Miller-Sanchez, Don Landis and John Fellin. He recommended that a subcommittee meeting be held within the next thirty days in order to report back to the CRA at the next meeting.

Sarasota County Commissioner Shannon Staub recommended that Stantec Consulting Services be involved in the Town Center Plan amendments.

Information and Board Discussion on Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program

Ms. Davis reported on the Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program. A state representative will be in the area next month and would like to visit the community to see if it qualifies for the program. A presentation on these findings will be planned for the February advisory board meeting.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the boundary being the CRA or Town Center and whether or not to include Blind Pass Park.

Board members requested that the restrictions for the Waterfronts Program be submitted to the CRA along with the position description of a Waterfront Manager.

Marketing Update

Ms. Davis reported that Odato Marketing Group responded to the RFP, determining that Englewood needed to be promoted as a whole, capitalizing on all it has to offer. The proposed tagline, "Englewood - The Getaway on Lemon Bay" was discussed.

Ms. Joyce Colmar presented comments against the tagline being permanent.

Chairman Radkins stated that the tagline will be discussed again by the board before moving forward with it.

Mr. Taylor Meals presented the status of the billboard, and noted that a contract had been submitted and that a design plan needed to be completed. The billboard will be located at SR 776 and Elm Street. Board discussion ensued regarding the plans, and it was noted that the artwork will be forwarded to the advisory board members.

Advisory Board Discussion with Stantec Consulting Regarding the Update of the Redevelopment Plan

Mr. Ted Brovitz, reported on the update of the Redevelopment Plan. Input has been received by the public and various organizations with preliminary and conceptual designs plans being developed. A Design Workshop will take place this evening with a final workshop on Saturday. The plan is on track to be completed in April.

Mr. Tom Minnich presented comments in opposition to billboards.

Chairman Radkins invited those interested in the update of the Redevelopment Plan to meet with Mr. Brovitz following today's CRA meeting, at 5:00 p.m. in the Englewood Elementary School cafeteria.

Staff Reports/Comments

Ms. Davis noted the following meeting dates:

- Final public workshop for the update of the Redevelopment Plan will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 13, 2007 at Lemon Bay Park
- Tuesday, January 16, 2007, Lemon Bay Park, 4:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. regarding the Buchan Airport perimeter fencing
- February 7, 2007, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at Jacaranda Library or February 12, 2007, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., Elsie Quirk Library, to discuss public access to natural areas in Sarasota County

Open to the Public

Taylor Meals requested that the CRA advisory board consider holding occasional evening meetings in order to accommodate the working public. It was the consensus of the advisory board to change the February 8, 2007 meeting time to 6:00 p.m.

Advisory Board Comments

The following items were briefly discussed by Board Members:

- appreciation of the Chamber of Commerce for contributing their input at the advisory board meeting
- looking forward to pier completion
- appreciation to Stantec Consulting Services and Mr. Ted Brovitz for work on the Redevelopment Plan Update
- the purchase order has been placed for bicycle racks
- replacement of a CRA Board Member to a subcommittee vacancy-referred to February 8, 2007 CRA Meeting.

Elaine Wickwire noted that the Board of County Commissioners will appoint a new advisory board member on January 23, 2007.

Ms. Davis reported on the updates of the new public restroom facility, noting that completion should be next week.

Chairman Radkins expressed appreciation to the public for holding the advisory board accountable to subjects presented.

Ms. Davis stated that signage has been approved by the BCC to be posted on River Road, just south of the Post Office. The Department of Transportation permit has not yet been issued for the SR 776 signage.

Adjournment

Mary Ellen Diez **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m., seconded by Norman Caldwell and carried unanimously.