

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (CRA)
ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of November 13, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board was held on Thursday, November 13, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., at the CRA Office, 101 N. Orange Street, Englewood, Florida

Members Present

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

Sarasota County Staff Present

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator
Corie Haring, CRA Administrative Assistant

Members Absent

None noted

Call to Order

Chair John Radkins called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Roll call was taken and John Davison, Mary Ellen Diez, Norman Caldwell, John Mead, Todd Tracy, and Harry Colburn were present. There was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Radkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 9, 2008. Todd Tracy made the motion, seconded by John Davison. The motion passed unanimously.

Open to the Public

One speaker card was presented but it was not in regards to an agenda item. Chair Radkins opted to hold the card until later in the meeting.

New Business

Election of Officers: Chair Radkins began the process of the Election of Officers. Vice-Chair Davison was nominated by Todd Tracy and seconded by Norman Caldwell. John Mead nominated Chair Radkins for another term and was seconded by Harry Colburn. Harry Colburn motioned to close the nominations and was seconded by Todd Tracy. The vote reflected the election of John Davison as the new Chair with a count of 5-2. Mary Ellen Diez nominated Todd Tracy to be Vice-Chair. The nomination was seconded by John Davison. Todd Tracy was unanimously voted as the new Vice-Chair.

Public Grant Request: Grant funding request from Bret Clark for the upcoming Scenic Highway Ribbon Cutting event. The request is not to exceed \$450.00 for portable restrooms and traffic control. John Radkins motioned to approve the grant for the Lemon Bay Myakka Trail Scenic Highway. The motioned was seconded by Norman Caldwell. The motion passed unanimously.

List of Priorities Reviewed: The Board discussed at length the list of priorities as set forth in the draft Stantec plan.

A motion was made by John Radkins to eliminate NA-6 (Create a Residential Pattern Book for Older Neighborhoods) from the project list. Mary Ellen Diez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Debbie Marks said NA-6 will continue to be posted as an option to be reconsidered as needed but not as a priority.

A motion was made by John Radkins to modify CID-14 (Create a Town Common in front of the Library.) to state “*Create a Town Common and to extend the timeline for implementation to ten to fifteen years out.*” The motion was seconded by Todd Tracy. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Todd Tracy to eliminate NA-1(Coordinate Neighborhood Participation.) and was seconded by John Radkins . Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mary Ellen Diez to eliminate NA-3 (Create Historic Home Relocation Program) This motion was seconded by Todd Tracy. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Todd Tracy to eliminate PI-10 (Heart of the Arts Program) because it seems to be redundant. This motion was seconded by John Mead. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tracy withdrew his motion and in its place Harry Colburn motioned to combine the elements of PI-10 with CID-15. It was seconded by John Radkins. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Mary Ellen Diez presented an update about the handling of donations for the planned Veterans Memorial. A trust is being drawn up by Englewood Bank and temporarily the trustee will be the Englewood Rotary Foundation. Ms. Diez hopes in the future to turn the responsibility over to a private group.

Architect Elaine Miller explained her proposed concept for the Veterans Memorial that will be located at the park on Harbor Lane. Ms. Miller’s ideal recommendation is to dead-end Dearborn Street at the park/memorial. Debbie Marks and Mary Ellen have discussed the proposed plans with the residents on Harbor Lane. The neighbors immediately north of the Park DO NOT want Harbor Lane to dead-end. It has been explained to the property owners the potential impact of not dead-ending the street. Ms. Miller will move forward with designs for The Veterans Memorial as the Harbor Lane resident’s desire.

Corie reported on the installation of the security cameras at the public restrooms.

Debbie explained that the County stormwater staff is reviewing the vault system and the LID principles and hopefully we will have information by the second week of December.

Debbie continued with a report about the improvements of the Cherokee Street properties. Michael Poff, Engineer, is fine tuning the plans and is almost ready to begin the permitting process. A local developer that has designs for pre-fab homes has been contacted for the park restrooms. His buildings are known for withstanding hurricane force winds.

Recently some landscaping took place on Dearborn Street in order to get the street spruced up before the holidays.

A sleigh is under construction for Santa and should be ready before the Christmas walk.

Open to the Public

Resident Charlotte Moore asked if the community has thought of being a golf cart community. Chair Davison explained traditionally golf cart communities are gated. Golf carts can be upgraded to become street legal but can be costly. No motion was made by the Board.

Advisory Board Comments

John Mead – Thanked John Radkins for his great work, and thinks the Veterans Memorial design is phenomenal.

Mary Ellen Diez – Thanked John Radkins for doing a good job as Chair and that she is very excited about the Veterans Memorial.

Harry Colburn – Thanked John Radkins for his excellent work as Chair.

John Davison – Thanked John Radkins and hoped he could do as well of a job in his upcoming term.

Todd Tracy – Fantastic job with the Memorial. Thanked John Radkins and Debbie Marks for their hard work.

John Radkins – Offered his assistance to the new Chair and he thanked all for their support. The Memorial is wonderful.

Norm Caldwell – Kudos to Mary Ellen and Elaine for their work on the Veterans Memorial.

Agenda items for December 11, 2008 meeting

Harry Colburn – Brainstorming as to the kind of signage that is needed.

John Davison – Requested that our new Sheriff be invited. Debbie Marks will ask Sheriff Knight to come and speak.

Adjourned

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 2:55 pm.