

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA  
ADVISORY BOARD (CRA)  
Minutes of February 9, 2006 Meeting**

A meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board (CRA) was held on Thursday, February 9, 2006, at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood, FL at 9:30 a.m.

**Members Present**

Mary Ellen Diez, Chairwoman  
John Fellin, Vice-Chairman  
Lise Yust  
John Radkins  
David Senkpiel  
Robert Collins

**Staff Present**

Chris Davis, Englewood CRA Coordinator  
Elaine Wickwire, AAIL, Englewood CRA  
Jane Grogg, Core Service Project Coordinator  
Warren Richardson, Communications Manager

**Others Present**

Shannon Staub, Sarasota County Commissioner

**Call to Order**

Chairwoman Diez called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. There was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes**

John Fellin **moved** to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2005 and January 12, 2006 meetings, seconded by John Radkins and carried unanimously.

**Open to the Public**

- Mr. Taylor Meals, President, Olde Englewood Village Association (OEVA), stated the association is discussing the Architectural Design Guidelines and will return to the CRA with its consensus regarding making them mandatory rather than voluntary. John Fellin requested that OEVA draft a resolution and present it to the advisory Board.
- Mr. Tom Minnich presented a history and overview of the Lemon Bay League. He stated that the League is looking to partner with organizations such as Sarasota County and the Englewood CRA Advisory Board to implement the Lemon Bay Watershed study completed by Sarasota County.
- Mr. Steve Suau stated that the Interagency Watershed plan was developed in 2004 and that there are eight other agencies involved with water management, in addition to Sarasota County. He explained the Lemon Bay watershed land mass that drains into Lemon Bay extends from Center Road in Venice to Rotonda in Charlotte County and in the center is the Englewood CRA.

Mr. Suau explained that the Lemon Bay Community Partnership can help the advisory board disseminate information into the community, provide feedback to the board regarding various initiatives that they are working on and parallel the update to the CRA plan.

- Ms. Anne Merrill added that the Lemon Bay League can assist the Englewood CRA with disaster preparedness, transportation, water, transit, workforce housing, economic development and healthcare by having related community conversations and getting a better understanding of community assets and needs.

Mr. Suau and Ms. Merrill responded to questions and comments from Board members. Discussion ensued regarding the Lemon Bay League's vision on how they can help with the CRA plan on a regional level. John Fellin expressed his appreciation for Lemon Bay League's proposal. David Senkpiel also commented.

## **Board Discussion**

### ▪ **Chairman's Annual Report to Board of County Commissioners**

Chairwoman Diez's annual report will be given to the County Commissioners on February 21, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Robert L. Anderson Administration Center, 4000 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice.

### ▪ **Project Status**

- John Radkins reported on the status of the bicycle rack project
- Bob Collins reported that the results of the Neighborhood Survey conducted by the Olde Englewood Village Homeowner's Association have been turned into Chris Davis. Ms. Davis commented.
- Chris Davis provided an update of the restroom project.
- Lise Yust provided an update of the SR 776 Corridor Advocacy Group. Ms. Davis and Warren Richardson elaborated.
- Mary Ellen Diez stated that she will attend a meeting Tuesday, February 14, 2006 regarding site acquisition for the Veteran's Memorial Garden.
- John Fellin stated that the Incentives Program has been put on hold pending the outcome of the Retail Market Analysis Study.

### ▪ **Priority of Existing Projects**

Chairwoman Diez requested that each Board member prioritize the CRA projects and present their ideas at the March 9, 2006 meeting.

## **Staff Report**

Chris Davis reported that there will be a general discussion with the Board of County Commissioners in the afternoon session of the February 21, 2006 BCC meeting regarding the status of CRA projects, the future of the CRA and some of the emerging and important issues. These issues include Stormwater; the downtown parking plan; the proposed Gauguin museum; the Residential/Commercial Transition Overlay District (RCTOD); Retail Market Visioning Workshop, scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on February 23, 2006 at the Englewood Sports Complex; update of the CRA Plan, and several smaller issues that have emerged with the Town Center area.

She also reported that there will be a joint meeting between the CRA Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners at 9:00 a.m. on March 21, 2006 at the Robert L. Anderson Administration Center, 4000 Tamiami Trail, Venice.

## **Advisory Board Comments**

- David Senkpiel stated that he is pleased with the January meeting of the advisory Board and the commitment of Commissioner Staub and County staff to the Englewood CRA.
- Bob Collins stated that the CRA seems to be moving in the right direction.
- John Radkins requested that an electronic copy of the CRA projects and discussion points be sent to each advisory Board member.
- Lise Yust addressed comments to the Lemon Bay League.
- Chairman Diez reported that there is a vacancy on the CRA Advisory Board and the deadline for applying is February 24, 2006.

Commissioner Staub stated the BCC is excited about the upcoming joint meeting with the advisory board.

## **Next Meeting**

March 9, 2006

## **Adjournment**

Hearing no further discussion, Chairwoman Diez adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.