

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

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board (CRA) was held Thursday, March 9, 2006, at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Boulevard, Englewood, Florida.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Robert Collins

Staff Present

Chris Davis, CRA Coordinator
Warren Richardson,
Communications Manager
Elaine Wickwire, AAI

Call to Order

Chairwoman Diez called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

John Radkins **moved** to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2006 meeting, seconded by David Senkpiel and carried unanimously.

Open to the Public

- Mr. Bill Tryder, representing the Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay, reminded the advisory board of the upcoming art chair auction on March 10th and 11th and requested an update regarding the Board's October 2005 support of the Quonset hut being used as a Gauguin museum. He requested the Gauguin museum and Arts Overlay District projects be added to the CRA's website. Also, he presented a proposal that the Arts Alliance would like to create an entrance arch and present it as a gift to the Old Englewood Village and Sarasota County. Chris Davis responded that there has been no action taken yet by the Board of County Commissioners to include the Gauguin museum as a new CRA project. Chairwoman Diez requested that Mr. Tryder present a formal request with drawings to an advisory board meeting regarding the entrance arch
- Mr. Taylor Meals read a letter from the Olde Englewood Village Association (OEVA) recommending that the established Architectural Design Standards be made mandatory. John Fellin **moved** that the subject of mandatory Architectural Design Standards be one of the recommendations during the advisory board's joint meeting with the Board of County Commissioners, seconded by John Radkins. Following discussion by board members and Mr. Meals, the motion carried unanimously. Additional comments were made by Mr. Jim Pollard, Ms. Elaine Miller, Mr. Tryder and Mr. Fellin. Mr. Meals stated that the S.R. 776 Corridor Study included a fifty foot setback from the roadway to be used for bike lanes and/or sidewalks. He remarked that recent developments seem to be very close to the roadway and expressed his concern that the setback requirement is not being adhered to. John Fellin responded to Mr. Meals' concern.
- Ms. Elaine Miller discussed her client's proposed development on Dearborn Street and the need for stormwater retention. She requested that the CRA Advisory Board recommend to the Board of County Commissioners some type of incentive that would offset the cost of her client installing their own underground stormwater vaults. Chairwoman Diez repeated Ms. Miller's request and discussion ensued. Ms. Miller responded to several questions from the Advisory Board.

Discussion Items

▪ **Report on February 21, 2006 BCC Meeting**

Chairwoman Diez summarized her discussion with the BCC on February 21, 2006 and explained the tour of Englewood that was given to the Commissioners after the meeting.

▪ **Report on Retail Market Analysis Visioning Session**

John Radkins summarized Robert Gray's visioning presentation held on February 23, 2006. John Fellin stated that the public meeting was well attended and, in Mr. Gray's opinion, creating Englewood as a destination is a do-able task.

▪ **Advisory Board Members Report on Specific Projects**

- David Senkpiel reported that he has been talking with members of the community regarding the possible uses of the Cherokee St. waterfront properties. Mary Ellen Diez requested that Mr. Senkpiel talk with radio station WENG.
- John Fellin discussed his conversation with Robert Gray of Strategic Planning Group, Inc. regarding the use of incentives to entice development on Dearborn Street. He also addressed the power line issue.
- Lise Yust provided an update to the Corridor Advocacy Group's application for S.R. 776 to be designated as a heritage trail. She also stated that she would like to include Architectural Design Standards as one of her projects.
- John Radkins stated that he will revisit the bicycle rack issue with members of the Arts Alliance. He also reported that he, as well as Chris Davis and Taylor Meals, have had several meetings regarding the Marketing Plan in conjunction with the Olde Englewood Village Association.
- Chairwoman Diez stated that she should have something tangible to report regarding the status of the Veteran's Memorial Garden project within a month.

▪ **March 21, 2006 Joint Meeting with BCC**

Chairwoman Diez requested suggestions from the Board on what projects to discuss with the BCC at the joint meeting. John Fellin suggested incentives, architectural design standards and to avoid talking about personal projects.

Staff Report

Chris Davis provided an update to the following projects:

- Gateway signs and kiosks – DMK & Associates is working on the permitting;
- Parking lot and bathroom facilities – The County Facilities Department has estimated that the design will be finished in April, the project will bid in May and construction will be complete by the end of summer;
- An application was filed with FPL to place a Dusk-to-Dawn light on the parking lot;
- County meetings have been held regarding sidewalks and bike lanes;
- Provided a copy of the latest CRA financial report;
- Architectural Design Committee should meet soon to discuss a proposed restaurant;
- There will be a public meeting regarding Shady Haven Mobile Home Park at 6:00 p.m. tonight at Lemon Bay Park.

Additional Discussion – CRA Plan Projects

Board members discussed and prioritized each current CRA project. They also listed the projects that should be deleted due to completion, the projects that are on-going and potential new projects that could be added.

Mr. Russ Kyper addressed the advisory board regarding the future plans of the Lemon Bay Playhouse and how it fits into the CRA Plan. Chris Davis responded to Mr. Kyper's comments.

Advisory Board Comments

- John Radkins commented that the new CRA website, the OEVA website and the Arts Alliance website are excellent.
- John Fellin stated that he is in favor of promoting the Lemon Bay Playhouse but would like to see more than six yearly productions. Mr. Russ Kyper commented. Mr. Fellin also requested that the County look into additional capacity of the stormwater retention pond at the west end of Dearborn Street.

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 13, 2006

2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chairwoman Diez adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.