

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (CRA)  
ADVISORY BOARD  
Amended Minutes of April 10, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board was held on Thursday, April 10, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood, FL.

**Members Present**

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

**Sarasota County Staff Present**

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator  
Jessi Pasternak, Admin. Assistant II CRA  
Kevin Smith, Public Works Facilities

**Member Absent**

Todd Tracy

**Call to Order**

Chairman John Radkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Roll was taken and John Radkins, John Davison, Mary Ellen Diez, John Mead, Harry Colburn and Norman Caldwell were all present. Mr. Todd Tracy was absent. There was a quorum.

**Approval of Minutes**

March 13, 2008

Chairman Radkins informed the Board members of the corrections that Todd Tracy had provided prior to the meeting. A discussion ensued that the draft minutes should be provided to Mr. Tracy prior to the Board meetings. He then could provide staff with his corrections, and the other Board members would be presented with the updated version for approval at the Advisory Board meetings. This would help to limit the amount of time spent on corrections during the physical meetings. Ms. Marks volunteered to speak to Mr. Tracy about his help in editing the minutes. A comment was also made by Ms. Diez that the minutes should be limited to action items only.

Ms. Diez made a motion to approve the minutes. Norman Caldwell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Open to the Public**

None.

**Comments/Reports**

**Signage/Landscaping Project:** Mr. Colburn updated the board that the sign committee met again this week. The committee is looking for more members, specifically an artist, a member of OEVA, and an architect. Chairman Radkins suggest that Dan Ionescu would be a great addition

as the architect. Ms. Marks also informed the Advisory Board that the Olde Englewood Village signs located throughout the area have been refurbished, and the new sign located at Old Englewood Road and SR 776 is completed. Staff is still working on the new public restroom signs and the sign for the intersection of Manasota Beach Road and SR 776.

**RCTOD/Code Changes:** Ms. Marks informed the Advisory Board that the changes are going before the Planning Commission on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the R.L. Anderson Building in Venice. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting and show their support.

**Cherokee Street Properties Update:** Debbie Marks explained that the houses at the Cherokee Street properties are down. She has already met with the West Coast Inland Navigational District (WCIND) Director last week, and that she is meeting with him again and his engineer in the near future.

**Fund Raising Event for Kiwanis Park:** Ms. Marks commented that this topic was already touched on at the March meeting. However, staff is moving forward with locating sponsors and marketing ideas.

**Educational Boat:** Ms. Marks explained to the Advisory Board that an obstacle was recently brought to her attention. Apparently, most of Lemon Bay falls under the Manatee Protection Plan which limits the amount of times the educational boat would be able to leave the dock, and the number of transient boat slips. She is working with staff to try to find away to rectify this problem. Also, she is in the process of contacting the state regarding a submerged land lease which will be necessary in order to dock the boat at the proposed location adjacent to the 10 Harbor Lane property.

**Veterans Memorial Park:** Mary Ellen Diez commented that the committee met again; however, they are still waiting on a survey to be completed so they can determine the size of the Memorial. She also commented that one of the neighbors to Harbor Lane has offered some funding to the project. Ms. Marks added that contact has been made with the Harbor Lane residents, and for those that were not home when staff went door to door letters were sent informing them of the plans for the Veterans Memorial Park.

**Marketing Plan:** Jessi Pasternak updated the Advisory Board that the second editorial on Dearborn Street was printed in the Venice Gulf Coast Living magazine April issue. Also, she informed the room of the CME Scenic Highway Cleanup on April 19<sup>th</sup> and the Englewood Farmers Market the weekend of April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Tryder thanked Ms. Pasternak for the mention of the Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay in the Venice Gulf Coast Magazine.

### **Open to the Public**

Don Landis provided literature to the Advisory Board in regards to another option for the Dearborn Street stormwater, a green roof. He discussed what exactly a green roof was, and how effective it would be for the Olde Englewood Village. Chairman Radkins commented that it

is a great idea and something that should be explored. Ms. Marks suggested that she would present it to the county staff and ask them to come and speak to the Advisory Board in regards to this matter.

There was also a comment made from a woman in the audience about a sign at the intersection of Dearborn Street and SR 776. Apparently the sign says, "Welcome to Historic Dearborn Street" as you are leaving the area. She questioned the placement of the sign. Ms. Marks commented that she would research it.

### **Advisory Board Comments**

Norman Caldwell expressed his appreciation to Ms. Marks for being so thorough. He also thanked Don Landis for his presentation, and the audience for their attendance.

Harry Colburn commented that he would like to receive up dates on the priorities of the CRA Advisory Board.

Mary Ellen Diez did not have a comment.

John Mead suggested not meeting every month, especially since there are only updates being given. Mr. Mead felt that it was not fair to the audience members who go out of their way to attend the monthly meetings.

John Davison did not have a comment.

John Radkins expressed his thanks to the public and staff for their help and support.

### **Agenda Items**

Ms. Marks commented that she would invite the stormwater staff to the May meeting. Mary Ellen Diez also commented that she would like to discuss having benches provided at the local bus stops.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Radkins adjourned the meeting at 1:40 pm.