

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (CRA)
ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of August 21, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board was held on Thursday, August 21, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., at the CRA Office, 101 N. Orange Street, Englewood, Florida

Members Present

John Radkins, Chairman
John Davison, Vice-Chairman
Mary Ellen Diez
John Mead
Todd Tracy

Sarasota County Staff Present

Debbie Marks, Administrative Assistant
Corie Haring, CRA Staff Assistant
Brenda Canales, Planning Staff

Member Absent

Norman Caldwell
Harry Colburn

Call to Order

Chairman John Radkins called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Roll call was taken and John Radkins, John Davison, Mary Ellen Diez, John Mead, and Todd Tracy were all present. Norman Caldwell and Harry Colburn were absent. There was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

John Mead made a motion to table approval of the June 06 minutes until the next meeting on September 11. This was second by Todd Tracy. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Board Discussion:

John Davison was given the floor to discuss the need for security cameras because the public rest rooms off Dearborn St. have been vandalized. Discussion ensued. Debbie Marks will get costs for security systems.

Open to the Public

No speaker cards were presented.

Special Guest

Englewood Calendar: Guest artist and owner of Daylilies, Judy Plank presented her finished paintings of various local businesses and areas of interest. These paintings will be placed into a marketing calendar that will be available for sale at \$15. Judy plans to have the calendar ready to print next week.

Website: Guest Bobbie Marquis from Ibis, LLC presented a new and more dynamic architecture for the OEVA website. Offered is a new multi-layered, well indexed directory that allows for cross referencing as well as the ability to link with Google Maps. These changes will decrease the amount of time and cost to keep the site current. The changes will allow all businesses on Dearborn Street to be represented, not just the OEVA members. Updating the site is a more streamlined process for Bobbie and her role will be more of a publisher than a creator of site information.

The cost for installation of these upgrades includes:

Initial content preparation, directory setup, development of the site directory content:	\$2200.
Moving the domain and one year of hosting:	150.
Plus one full year of updates:	<u>450</u>
For a total of:	\$2800.

New Business

Low Impact Design/development (LID) presentation: Guests; Elaine Miller, Donald Landis, Dr. Coy, Ann Merrill and Stephen Suau. The team is proposing LID as an alternative to the current allowable and expensive storm water vault system. OEVA has decided to back this endeavor and members of the Lemon Bay League (LBL) were present to show their support.

Stephen gave an overview of how LID works and the process of rewriting the code to allow LID to be recognized as a viable control of storm water. LID is on the forefront of green build out and water conservation in regard to reuse, recycle and reduce.

Elaine presented a grant effort from the Lemon Bay League to the CRA Board for matching funds to complete a study to see if LID is a better alternative then the currently designed vault system. This is a practical study of low impact development that will be directed at the specific needs of using LID on Dearborn Street. The study would include Americans With Disabilities Act, Main Street Overlay District codes, FEMA flood based elevations, and new development. The final outcome is to create a manual for the first green main street in Florida.

Ann Merrill spoke on behalf of the Lemon Bay League. LBL has a \$30,000 matching grant available to support the feasibility study. This is a grant for phase one of the project. If the study determines LID is viable to move forward LBL will request more funding from its grant source. LBL has asked the CRA to match the \$30,000 and the LBL would manage the process.

Dr. Coy spoke on the behalf of the LBL and its credibility due to past experience with local foundations.

The CRA Board asked questions and there was concern that there may be obstacles’ to assist with outside funding. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that CRA money needs to be handle directly as opposed to funneling money through LBL. Clarification questions continued.

Board member Mary Ellen Diez motioned that the CRA Board make \$30,000 available for funding the LID feasibility study, with the understanding that Debbie Marks will research the process required by the County. Also, this funding will be directly handled by the CRA and not the LBL. Board member John Mead seconded the motion. Discussion regarding the motion continued. -46.30

John Radkins re-called the question as follows; “Our approval of Debbie procuring/finding out if we can provide \$30,000 in professional service dollars to this group to create Phase I.” **The motion carried unanimously to approve the funds.** -29.34

The motion above approves the funding for the study if it’s ok with the County. The Radkins summary only approves looking into the question. These seem to contradict each other. I voted for the Radkins summary! Which is it? I’m going to ask at the meeting.

Comments and Reports

Debbie Marks displayed mockups of new lamp post banners for Dearborn St. It was decided the banners need more color and tweaking. Debbie will follow-up.

Debbie discussed the meeting she attended last week and it was decided that the storm water system would be a hybrid of both LID and the traditional vault system.

Debbie let us know the RCTOD BCC meeting is next week.

Cherokee St. properties site plans are being finished. Currently the dock is chained off because it is caving in. Discussion continued and it was decided to repair the dock if it can be made safe for under \$500.

Mary Ellen discussed the need to set up an escrow account to hold private money. I will need to discuss this with legal or the Commissioner's. -14:04 **For what? We both know the answer but the general public reading this will not.**

Open to the Public

No speaker cards were presented.

Advisory Board Comments

Mary Ellen asked "Is it possible to hold our meetings here at the CRA?" It was agreed.

John Mead: "The weeds on Dearborn look horrible."

Todd: "We should start to focus on the next few projects."

John Davison, is optimistic about LID and what it means for the playhouse.

Staff Comments

Debbie discussed the proposed budget for 2009 and how money is earmarked.

Agenda items for September 11 meeting

Todd motioned to pay Ibis for the changes to the website. Mary Ellen seconded the motion. **Motioned passed unanimously.**

Adjourned

Chairman Radkins adjourned the meeting at 3:20 pm.