

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (CRA)  
ADVISORY BOARD  
Minutes of September 11, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board was held on Thursday, September 11, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., at the CRA Office, 101 N. Orange Street, Englewood, Florida

**Members Present**

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

**Sarasota County Staff Present**

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator  
Corie Haring, CRA Staff Assistant

**Members Absent**

John Radkins, Chair

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chair John Davison called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Roll call was taken and John Davison, Mary Ellen Diez, John Mead, and Todd Tracy, Norman Caldwell and Harry Colburn were present. John Radkins, was absent. There was a quorum.

**Approval of Minutes**

Vice-Chair Davison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 12 as published. John Mead made the motion and this was second by Harry Colburn. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Vice-Chair Davison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 21 as published. Norman Caldwell made the motion and this was second by John Mead. Discussion to clarify a motion that was put forth by Mary Ellen Diez at last months meeting took place and the **motioned to except the minutes as published passed unanimously as amended by Mary Ellen Diez.**

**Open to the Public**

No speaker cards were presented.

**Special Guest**

None present.

**New Business**

Debbie discussed the following: There are no other billboards currently available. But Debbie asked the company to alert the CRA office when one is available. She asked the Board to keep their eyes opened for a better location.

Debbie- Christmas decorations discussion included instead of basket we purchase wreaths for the lamp poles. It was mentioned to turn this over to the events committee.

Debbie- Stormwater bid proposal is getting ready to go out on the vaults for bids. LID committee will meet this week and they're getting further with their manual and soon we will have a better idea where they stand.

Debbie – LID; Deb has asked County engineers to review the proposal from last month for the \$30,000. grant for the LID study. Debbie wants a clear picture of all costs and needs involved in an effort to reduce redundancy. This may postpone the next step for a few weeks.

Debbie - RCTOD was adoptive with the exception of two blocks that were not included in the town center plan and we will revisit their inclusion at the first of the year. It was suggested a flier or a mailing explaining the specifics of the new zoning be sent to the area residents and businesses.

Debbie – Regarding the Cherokee and Harbor Street Properties the survey work is finished, review of the structures are done and the surveys are being mailed today. The dock at Cherokee has usable pilings and it was suggested that the County should request permission to widen the dock to eleven feet. This would assist in meeting ADA requirements.

Corie – Bids for security monitors at the public restrooms are coming in. The first bid came back at \$3900. for four bullet cameras. More bids will be available soon.

John Mead had asked that something in regard to cleaning up the weeds along Dearborn St. take place. Debbie said some code violators have been notified. A member of Englewood Elementary School's PTA suggested that students have community service hours to complete and they will be encouraged to pull weeds as one of their projects. We would also be asking the Garden Club to help determine what was a weeds and what was not.

Events coming up for the month of October includes: *The Buchan's Fly-in and Kaleidoscope of the Arts*.

Jim Hanushek - *Kaleidoscope of the Arts* will be Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. Jim requested \$1400. for assisting with the funding of the event. Chair Davison asked for a motion to approve no more than \$1400. from the marketing budget for funding *Kaleidoscope of the Arts*. Mary Ellen Diez made the motion and John Mead second the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Debbie – Reminded us that the CRA donated \$250.00 last year for the Halloween Safewalk. . John Mead motioned to fund the Halloween Safewalk at the amount of \$300.00 and Harry Colburn seconded. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Debbie – Stated that she and Harry will meet soon in regard to the sign committee.

### **Open to the Public**

Linda Schlike asked “When will the public notice signs at E. Dearborn gateway be removed? Debbie stated that calls will be made to get them removed as soon as possible.

Larry Ruster hoped the CRA Board would consider financial assistance for Manasota Beach replenishment for the area between Manasota Beach Club to the County line. The Board made no motions, but suggested a committee be established to work on it. Staff will make contact with Mr. Ruster and his neighbors.

## **Advisory Board Comments**

Norman Caldwell – Appreciates Debbie’s work for the guidelines towards improvements for Englewood.

John Mead – Thank you Debbie forgetting rid of the nasty weeds along Dearborn.

Mary Ellen Diez – regarding the Veterans memorial things are starting to move forward. Money is being offered and after speaking to Commissioner Staub, it was recommended to open an account with Englewood Bank. The committee will be contacted once things get going.

Todd Tracy – Asked “Can money set aside for the Stormwater project, if abandoned, be used for other ideas and projects?” – Debbie “Yes”

Todd reviewed the 25 or so goals of the CRA.

Todd stated after all the work OEVA has been doing maybe the CRA can give back a little with some funding for SNL.

Harry Colburn – Sarasota County became the first county in the State to be awarded the “Audubon Green Community Award.”

John Davison – The projects are really coming together and we need to keep our focus. He is excited with renewed energy.

Todd Tracy – Asked for clarification on the process of freeing up stormwater money if the plan is abandoned. Noted that once all the information is together with regards to the LID standards a decision is made regarding the usage of the vault system, then we will vote on movement of the money and report that to the Board of County Commissioners.

## **Staff Comment**

Debbie - Thanked all the subcommittees that are working hard. “The Garden Club, the Sign Committee, the Marketing Committee and the “*Media guys* that give us all the great coverage, the community is really working hard.”

## **Agenda items for October 9, 2008 meeting**

Todd asked if the County’s response regarding the LID proposal could be on the agenda and if we could see the new proposal in print. Debbie will try to have the information for the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. .

## **Adjourned**

Vice-Chair John Davison adjourned the meeting at 2:24 pm.