

**ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (CRA)
ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of December 11, 2008

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

Members Present

John Davison – Chair
Todd Tracy - Vice-Chair
Harry Colburn
John Mead
John Radkins

Sarasota County Staff Present

Debbie Marks, CRA Coordinator
Corie Haring, CRA Administrative Assistant

Members Absent

Norman Caldwell
Mary Ellen Diez

Call to Order

Chair Davison called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Roll call was taken and John Radkins, John Mead, Todd Tracy, and Harry Colburn were present. There was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Davison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2008. Todd Tracy made the motion, seconded by John Mead. The motion passed unanimously.

Open to the Public

Chair Davison gave the floor to Jon Bednerik of the Englewood/Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce. He introduced himself as the new Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

Guest

Newly elected County Commissioner Carolyn Mason introduced herself to the room. The Commissioner stated she was here today to listen and learn about the issues facing Englewood.

New Business

John Radkins discussed the excellent job that Bobbie Marquis has done with the www.OldeEnglewood.com website.

Harry Colburn presented a PowerPoint slideshow of various signage that may work well in the Village area. Uniformity and esthetics were discussed as well as keeping the eclectic feel of being an arts community.

Reports

Debbie Marks stated that the stormwater bid package has been completed and sent out. Once we have a baseline cost they can further study the use of LID and/or smaller vaults. Ms. Marks wanted to stress that this in no way means we are moving forward with construction of the vault system.

Debbie Marks handed out a drawing of Cherokee Street Park with proposed park improvements, including the restrooms, two shelters and dock expansion. If all goes well County permits will be applied for after the meeting on the 18th.

Debbie Marks presented information that the Veterans Memorial continues to move forward. There was discussion between Betty Nugent, Elaine Miller and Debbie Marks about neighborhood concerns and the closing of the street. Ms. Marks previously presented the vision of the Veterans Memorial to the owners of the neighboring property. Based on those meetings, architect Elaine Miller created her drawings. At today's meeting Ms. Nugent stated she had been speaking with area home owners and that they were changing their minds. Ms. Miller stated that she will stop any further work on the drawings in order to prevent any further costs until a clear agreement has been given to her. Ms. Marks said she would once again make contact with the homeowners. Some of the issues at point are in regards to maintaining a clear view of the Bay, public parking, traffic flow and tree removal.

Debbie Marks said the Marketing Committee meets again tomorrow. The marketing agenda for the year is almost finalized. Some discussion with Vice –Chair Tracy about the possibility of merging the Marketing Committee with the CRA Monthly meeting took place. John Radkins suggested that Vice-Chair Tracy attend tomorrow's Marketing Committee meeting and see how they proceed. John Radkins recommended that it may not be realistic to hold the meetings in tandem because of the creative nature for the marketing meetings. Vice-Chair Tracy agreed to attend. A discussion about moving the CRA meetings to 8:30 AM to allow more merchants to attend followed. Todd Tracy motioned to move the meetings to 8:30 AM as space is available. Harry Colburn seconded and the motion passed 4-1. This time frame will need to be coordinated with Englewood Area Planning and Advisory Board. (EAPAB)

Debbie Marks explained that Santa will be on the Street for several nights during the Holiday season.

Open to the Public

A speaker card was presented by John Fellin. Mr. Fellin had attended the Englewood Area Planning and Advisory Board (EAPAB) meeting this morning and EAPAB is interested in communicating efforts between both Boards. Mr. Fellin suggested the possibility of a joint workshop meeting.

Guest Commissioner Carolyn Mason responded to questions from the room.

Advisory Board Comments

John Mead – Thanked Carolyn Mason for coming to the meeting. Mr. Mead also asked about what kind of replication was the EAPAB board thinking about? Ms. Marks responded that EAPAB, for example, had been looking at design guidelines for all of Englewood.

Harry Colburn – Thanked everyone for their comments about the signage.

John Davison – Thanked Carolyn Mason for coming to the meeting. He is looking forward to the completion of Cherokee Park and the Veterans Memorial.

Todd Tracy – Thanked Carolyn Mason for coming to the meeting.

John Radkins – Is to be grumpy before 9:00 AM

Agenda items for January 8, 2008 meeting

Meeting time will be 1:00 PM. (Future meetings to be held at 8:30AM)
Possibility the Marketing Committee will present
Possibility the Stormwater Staff will present
To resolve Veterans Memorial concerns

Adjourned

Chair Davison adjourned the meeting at 1:58 PM.