



Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department
PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION
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SUMMARY OF MINUTES

CENTRAL COUNTY COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, October 16, 2013 - 6:00PM

Roosevelt Gardens Park

2841 NW 11th Street

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311

Board Members Present:

Ms. Alverine Brihm, Vice Chair

Mr. Theotis Pressley, Advisory Board Member

Reverend Jesse Scipio, Advisory Board Member

Ms. Tanya Freeman, Advisory Board Member (*arrived 6:09PM*)

Ms. Julia Porter, Advisory Board Member

Board Members Excused or Absent:

Ms. Deloris Jackson, Chair

Mr. Eligha Lewis III, Advisory Board Member

County Staff:

The Honorable Vice Mayor of Broward County, Barbara Sharief

Commissioner Dale V. Holness, Broward County Commission

Mr. Henry Sniezek, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. Sheldon Riles, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. Michael Huneke, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. Albert E. Cummings, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Ms. Maribel Feliciano, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. John E. Naclerio III, Office of the County Attorney

Mr. Gerald Henry, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. Jeff Day, Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division

Mr. Sandy-Michael E. McDonald, Office of Economic and Small Business Development

Ms. Lahoma Scarlette, Aide to Commissioner Holness, Broward County Commission

Guests:

Eric L. Haynes, City of Lauderdale Lakes

Lt. Richard Pisanti, BSO

Mr. Antonio Davis, Washington Park Business Owner

Mr. Jasper Smith, Washington Park Business Owner

Mr. Michael Wright, MPA, Community Partnerships - Broward County Homeless Initiative

Mr. Francisco Izaza, 211 Broward County

Ms. Sheila Smith, 211 Broward County

Ms. LaShunda Fuller, Resident

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02PM and asked for the roll call which was done by Mr. Albert Cummings, meeting recorder.

The Chair opened the meeting requesting each speaker be recognized by the Chair before commenting or asking a question and asked that the agenda be followed.

Approval of Minutes of August 21, 2013 Meeting

The Chair asked for a review of the CCCAB meeting minutes held on August 21, 2013 which was not yet approved due to corrections. Corrections were made as requested and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes of September 18, 2013 Meeting

The Chair asked for a review of the CCCAB meeting minutes held on September 18, 2013. One item on page 3 was pointed out which needed correcting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Discussion on Homelessness in Central County **(Broward County Human Services)**

Mr. Michael Wright gave an overview on the status of the system of care for homelessness in Broward County and elaborated on the County's Plan to end homelessness which was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on August 27, 2013. Mr. Wright continued with a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the causes of and various conditions of homelessness and informed the Advisory Board of the many programs in place through which assistance and placement can be found. He mentioned there are presently about 3000 homeless persons in Broward County. Three homeless assistance centers opened which contain over 630 beds, 130 for families and 500 for individuals. He added that on a daily basis, these three centers are over 96% full.

Mr. Wright then informed the Advisory Board of population statistics regarding assistance provided by 211 and other funded programs throughout various cities in Broward County.

Mr. Wright then introduced Sheila Smith, CEO of 211 and Frank Azzaza, Program Director for 211.

The Chair then welcomed questions from the Advisory Board.

Rev. Scipio asked about funding for helping the homeless. Mr. Wright explained what occurs with funding under the CDBG Program.

Mr. Theotis Pressley asked about the function of 211 throughout the County.

Ms. Smith addressed this question by describing the function and goal of 211, the crisis and suicide hotline.

Mr. Wright described the process pointing out the first step is to call 211, the next step is through outreach and then they are directed to various facilities based on bed availability. He also pointed out there are more people asking for beds than there are available beds on a daily basis.

Vice Mayor Barbara Sharief spoke of the ways in which 211 helps people in different kinds of crisis in addition to the homeless.

Commissioner Holness spoke of a large number of programs that get funding from cities as well as Broward County which are also in place to help. He pointed out that 211 is a centralized place to go in order to find the appropriate available assistance.

Mr. Pressley asked how much money the County gives to 211 per year and was told approximately \$270,000.00 annually, some to support the homeless helpline and some to support general services. Ms. Smith added that their operating budget is 2 million dollars.

Mr. Wright pointed out that the County funds 10 million dollars for homeless services. 211 does the information screening and referral services and is a national resource in every community throughout the United States for this type of service.

Mr. Pressley pointed out instances in which 211 did not provide the help it is designed to provide and Vice Mayor Sharief apologized for that, and requested information pertaining to these instances be given to her office so they can act on it.

Rev. Scipio asked what the rate is for helping the homeless.

Mr. Wright answered about 3400 people a year.

The Chair mentioned she would like to see more focus placed on the homeless population in Ft. Lauderdale since they comprise an estimated 51% of the County's homeless population.

Staff Update on Outdoor Vendor Sales

Mr. Jeff Day explained what could be done by Code through utilizing B3 Zoning to effect the potential change to allow mobile food vendors and the five year restriction pertaining to this.

Mr. Day suggested there be a discussion on whether to amend the code to allow cooking outside of the food truck or not. This matter was discussed.

The Chair pointed out that the Advisory Board may not be in favor of a five year limitation.

Mr. Day mentioned that the five year limitation was part of the present code. He added that the five year limitation could come out of the code but it would be necessary to have a certificate of use, or license renewal in place to assure that all the requirements continue to be met.

Eric L. Haynes of the City of Lauderdale Lakes presented to the Advisory Board a proposed alternative ordinance which pertained to grilling outdoors and spoke on behalf of Antonio's Grill Master business.

Rev. Scipio made an appeal to Antonio's Grill Master to use some of their profits to make their business aesthetically pleasing to help improve the image of the community.

Mr. John Naclerio mentioned the need for a motion and explained the process to accomplish a Code change.

The Chair asked for a motion to make a recommendation that the Board of County Commissioners adopt changes to the zoning code.

Mr. Sniezek suggested recommending that the County Commission consider allowing mobile food units in the B3 zoning generally consistent with the draft proposal that staff presented with the addition of also allowing accessory outdoor grills. The five year limitation would also be removed.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously, 5-0.

Discussion on Comprehensive Plan for Central County

Mr. Sniezek pointed out that this item was requested by Mr. Eligha Lewis III who is not present at this meeting. He mentioned the Advisory Board could go forward with the item or it could be discussed when Mr. Lewis is able to be present.

Mr. Pressley suggested the item be tabled until Mr. Lewis is present.

The Chair agreed and the item was tabled.

A motion was made to table the discussion regarding the comprehensive plan for the next meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Chair opened the floor to any other discussion not on the Agenda. Discussion on various topics continued for the rest of the meeting.

1. Mr. Theotis Pressley requested the County Administrator and Vice Mayor attend each CCCAB meeting. Vice Mayor Sharief and Commissioner Holness addressed this request.

Mr. Sniezek pointed out that he is the official staff designee for the committee and assured the Advisory Board that the County Administrator is fully informed of, and engaged in, what's going on in Central County and with the Advisory Board.

2. Mr. Sandy-Michael McDonald informed the Advisory Board of the considerations pertaining to the parcel on Sunrise Blvd. in Franklin Park Estates from the perspective of economic development and business ventures as well as its inclusion in the comprehensive plan.
3. The Chair asked when will the CRA be funded and what projects are currently being worked on. Commissioner Holness stated that part of what will evolve when the money arrives will be dependent on the work Mr. McDonald is doing.
4. The Chair asked why the CRA was never funded. Commissioner Holness explained the relationship between CRAs and TIFs, and Mr. Sniezek explained his understanding of the rationale for not funding the CRA as a TIF upon its creation.
5. Reverend Scipio pointed out that it's closing in on December and nothing visible has been done in terms of upgrading the park in Boulevard Gardens. Mr. Sniezek stated he would follow up with the Parks Division.
6. The Chair asked if there's any input from entrepreneurs regarding the development of the economic strategy. Mr. McDonald explained that his office is speaking with the community's current commercial business district owners and looking for opportunities in the community.
7. Commissioner Holness announced that on November 23, there will be an event at Roosevelt Gardens Park where there will be free distribution of turkeys to help those who cannot afford one on their own for Thanksgiving. There will be other resources present such as health care programs.
8. Lt. Richard Pisanti of the BSO gave a brief report on changes and progress made in the community. He also pointed out the BSO will be a stop gap for helping the homeless as an immediate assistance resource.

Mr. Pressley asked the Lieutenant to take a look at Franklin Drive and 9th Court for vehicles.

ADJOURN

The Chair made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and unanimously accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53PM.