



## CENTRAL COUNTY COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

February 20, 2019 - 6:00 PM

Lafayette Hart Park Community Center  
2851 NW 8 Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

### Board Members Absent

Julia Porter

### Board Members Present

Alverine Brihm, Chair

Howard Kaplan

Linda Taylor, Vice-Chair

Rev. Jesse Scipio

Marquis Curry

### County Staff

Aretha Wimberly, PDMD

Heather Cunniff, PDMD

### Attendees who signed in and Neighborhood or Agency

Capt. Andrew Dunbar, BSO

Sgt. Peterson, BSO

Lt. Santiago, BSO

Jeff Smith, OESBD

### Call to Order by Chair

CCCAB quarterly meeting called to order at 6:17 p.m.

### Roll Call

#### 1. Approval of August 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** Chair Brihm motioned approval of minutes. Seconded by Member Scipio. Unanimously approved by the Board.

#### 2. Repeal of Central County Neighborhood Enhancement Plans (NEPs)

Ms. Heather Cunniff, Senior Planner with the Broward County Planning and Development Management Division, informed the Board that a public hearing has been scheduled for Friday for public comments on the Commission's plans to repeal NEPs that were approved about a decade ago, some of which have been completed and others which continue to be implemented. Chair Brihm asked how the County's land use plan will affect the BMSD community. Ms. Cunniff responded that the BMSD Land Use element of the County's Comprehensive Plan replaces the current NEP and lays out a program for zoning enforcement, economic development programs, community enhancement, etc. More detailed information regarding timelines and funding were provided to the board members. Ms. Cunniff also invited board members to contact her with any further questions.

#### 3. Penny for Transportation Surtax and Proposed Transit Projects for the BMSD

Mr. Barney McCoy, Director for Broward County Transit, was not present for this item.

#### 4. Nuisance Abatement

Captain Andrew Dunbar of the Broward Sheriff's Office introduced two of his staff, Lieutenant Santiago and Sergeant Peterson, team leader for the Neighborhood Response Team (NRT). Lt. Santiago informed board members that BSO has received 10,000 calls for the Central County area, made 1000 arrests, and issued 1200 citations as of September. There is also aggressive traffic enforcement being implemented, thanks to grant funding from the County. The NRT staff, which includes four officers dedicated to the Central County area, has made 600 arrests and effected several search warrants. Member Curry expressed concern that the residents don't know the officers personally and don't see any officers passing through the neighborhood, specifically during reported, ongoing nuisances. Lt. Santiago responded that community feedback is being received and that there are targeted traffic operations being implemented as a result. Captain Dunbar also responded that resources are being added to enhance services in the Central County area with funding from the County grant.

Board members also expressed concern about how offenders are handled after being arrested and that unemployment in the BMSD is around 44%. Captain Dunbar responded that he would like to create partnerships to address the issue. Ms. Wimberly also responded that there are job fairs and other opportunities have been offered, but the attendance is low. She asked that the board and members of the community help get the word out about these events. Board members discussed having a forum with various non-profit organizations regarding employment resources and services for BMSD residents. Vice-Chair Taylor requested that Ms. Wimberly schedule a representative from CareerSource Broward attend the next Board meeting.

BSO staff encouraged residents to continue making calls so to keep them abreast of community needs and informed residents that Code Enforcement has issued several citations as a result of community feedback.

## **5. Progress Report on BMSD Economic Development Program– Central County Projects**

Mr. Jeff Smith, Economic Development Specialist with the Broward County Office and Economic and Small Business Development, informed the Board that the County is conducting a market study on the commercial corridors in the Central County Community, including a public input meeting that occurred on February 4<sup>th</sup> at African American Research Library and Cultural Center, to determine what types of redevelopment and businesses would best fit the area. Mr. Smith mentioned that there should be an update available by the next board meeting, as the report is due on April 15<sup>th</sup>. There is also an ongoing grant program for owners of property in the commercial corridors.

Member Curry inquired about improvements that were supposed to occur on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Sunrise Blvd and Broward Blvd. Mr. Smith responded that this particular project is part of a phase two of several projects scheduled, and phase one has just been completed. He also discussed several other projects that are scheduled for completion by the Broward County Traffic Engineering Division.

## **6. Public Art Project: Harold Reitman Boys and Girls Club Mural**

Ms. Leslie Fordham, Acting Director for the Broward County Cultural shared design drafts with the Board from local artist, Guillermo Mercado, who will create a mural on the exterior of the Boys and Girls Club located at 3025 Broward Blvd. The County has invested \$20,000 in this project.

## **7. BMSD Projects Updates Handout**

Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant County Administrator, was not present for this item. Instead, Ms. Wimberly informed the Board that project updates were provided in their meeting packets and that the next

semi-annual report should be available soon. Board members may email Mr. Jefferson directly with any related questions.

## 8. Old Business

None.

## 9. New Business: Propose Agenda Items for May 15, 2019 CCCAB Meeting

The Board would like add the following agenda item for the next meeting.

- Invite new Broward County Sheriff, Gregory Tony, to the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Chair will be informed so that she can draft an invitation.

## 10. Informational Items and Announcements

Ms. Wimberly addressed a question from a member of the public, regarding the neighborhood association for Roosevelt Gardens, which is not currently active. Residents of the community will have to determine whether they want to establish community meetings, pointing to Board members Linda Taylor and Howard Kaplan, as residents of that neighborhood, for assistance.

Ms. Wimberly announced that Commissioner Holness has partnered with the Seventh Day Adventist Church to bring 2000-3000 volunteers into various communities, including Central County, to complete neighborhood improvements on their youth day, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Wimberly requested that board members suggest projects as soon as possible for this event.

## 11. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Member Curry motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Scipio. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

*Disclosure: The above captioned minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting, approved summary minutes, or any presentation or handout materials, submit a public records request through Planning and Development Management Division, 954-357-8695.*