



Call to Order

Public Comment Guidelines:

- Sign-up prior to speaking
 - State name & address for the record
 - Limit presentation to 3 minutes
- Please silence cell phones

A sample of a public comment card. It has a header "Quarterly Comments" and a sub-header "Manatee County Transportation Authority (MCTA) Public Comment Card". Below this is a form with fields for "Name", "Address", "City", "State", "Zip", and "Phone". There is also a section for "Comments" and a "Signature" line at the bottom.

Adoption of Minutes

- Approval of Minutes
 - August 21, 2012



AUGUST 21, 2012

The South County Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Board, Manatee County, Florida, met in REGULAR SESSION at the South County Branch Library, 6081 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were:

John Mann, Chairman
David L. Smith, Vice-Chairman
Arnold Bush
David English
Norm Luppino
John Solomon (entered during the meeting)
Timothy Sumey

Absent were:

Thomas Denslow
Kerry Kacherian
Earl Wilson

Also present was:

Diane E. Vollmer, Deputy Clerk,
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

AGENDA

Agenda of August 21, 2012, sign-in sheet, and slide presentation.

[SC20120821DOC001](#)

MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Bush and second by Mr. Sumey, the minutes of April 17, 2012, were approved by a vote of 6 to 0.

MANATEE COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Sherod Halliburton, Manatee Community Federal Credit Union, stated they are one of only two federal credit unions in the State of Florida certified as a Community Development Financial Institution. They have the ability to serve as a conduit for accessing federal resources and supporting underserved populations. He commented on products/programs they have available, including second-chance checking and loan products; an energy loan program that will educate homeowners about energy options and provide equity loans to deal with those options; and a business purpose lending program for business owners.

(Enter Mr. Solomon during presentation)

FY 2012-13 BUDGET

Cheri Coryea, Neighborhood Services Director, reviewed expenditures in the South County Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) FY 2012-13 proposed budget. The cash reserve amount will be determined after the current year's budget has been closed out and certified, and will then be added back into the budget.

Discussion: Approximately 30 street light poles are to be installed in seven areas; property tax revenues will be lower this year; no more than \$1 million is to be used from the reserve fund for the community center, which could provide additional funds to be set aside in the budget; consider a program that would require extra fines/court costs for traffic tickets/criminal infractions within CRA areas, with the funds going back to the CRAs; inactivity of the road gang; graffiti has increased; etc.

Karen Stewart, Neighborhood Services Department, advised that the road gang rotates through several areas, and are only in the South County CRA 10 days a month. Beginning October 1, 2012, the County will receive reports identifying where they have been working.

Ivan Groom, Neighborhood Services Department, stated the road gang is not allowed to go on private property to remove graffiti. Ms. Stewart also noted the road gang can only be used on County rights-of-way and County-owned parcels.

Remonia Lewis, area resident, commented on the need for lawns to be mowed.

Ms. Coryea recommended complaints regarding overgrown lots, etc., be directed to Mr. Groom so they can be forwarded to the County Code Enforcement Division.

Further discussion: \$2,000 for landscape improvements is for trees on 9th Street East; only four trees remain; the Parks & Recreation Department will begin to mow the grass on the community center side of 9th Street East and 63rd Avenue East, and they will bill for the service; money saved by using the road gang and the work offender program, etc. [SC20120821DOC002](#)

AWARD – CHERI CORYEA

The Chairman acknowledged that Ms. Coryea received a 2012 Business Woman of the Year Award from the Tampa Bay Business Journal. [SC20120821DOC003](#)

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Mr. Groom reported on the status of the National Night Out event, October 19, 2012. The location is still to be determined. He outlined agencies/organizations that have been invited to attend, and stated there will be a movie in the park; pony rides; face painting; voter registration; etc. A request to unveil a mural on the Ten Oaks fence during the event was made. Ms. Lewis is working with the Sheriff's Office concerning having mounted patrol and/or the motorcycle patrol in attendance. The Housing Authority has received a grant to pay for most of the costs, and staff is soliciting for food, door prizes, and donations.

FLORIDA REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Ms. Stewart advised that Mr. Groom will be representing both the South County and the 14th Street West CRAs at this year's Florida Redevelopment Association conference on October 24-26, 2012; however, the County will be unable to provide registration fees for Advisory Board members. A full report will be provided following the conference.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Dennis Wallace, Purchasing Division, reported that the RFP (Request for Proposals) for the community center was released in May 2012. A pre-proposal information conference was held in June, followed by a visit to the site, with approximately 20 attendees. Two proposals were received. An evaluation committee convened in August, with a second meeting scheduled in September. A recommendation could go to the Board of County Commissioners in October.

Upon question by Robin DiSabatino, Community Redevelopment Agency Chairman, Mr. Wallace advised that the timing of payments to the successful proposer would be negotiated with the contract, and proposed subcontractors were requested and included with the proposals.

Discussion: A project manager from the Neighborhood Services Department will manage the project; etc.

ENHANCED PATROL

Mr. Sumey expressed concern regarding criminal activities in the area, specifically on 11th Street East, and that enhanced patrols are being used for security of businesses.

Ms. Coryea stated the service area was expanded to include commercial areas and more of a boundary patrol, which was requested based on the business survey and a vote of the Advisory Board.

Lieutenant William Evers, Manatee Sheriff's Office, advised that due to comments from the business community during recent South County CRA meetings, the emphasis was shifted to the commercial buildings along 15th Street East and 63rd Avenue East.

Sergeant Steve Barren, Sheriff's Office, recommended tips be phoned in to the Narcotics Division. He submitted a memorandum listing telephone numbers within the Sheriff's Office.

Discussion: Nuisance abatement program; more crack houses in the area; Sheriff's Office investigates every tip; etc.

Lieutenant Evers provided an update on crime statistics for the West 30 Zone, which includes the South County CRA. Year to date, crime is down 30 percent compared to last year.

Discussion: Boarding abandoned houses and placing a lien on the property for costs; demolition of unsafe structures program funded through Community Development Block Grant will end soon; reports of cars parked on sidewalks have been forwarded to the Sheriff's Office; Code violations have been conveyed to the County; no parking signs; etc.

Mrs. DiSabatino relayed a phone call she received regarding prostitutes at the corner of 58th Avenue Drive East and 11th Street East greeting children on their way to school.

Daniel Judge questioned if property owners could sign a release to allow a volunteer agency to board up abandoned properties. Later in the meeting, April Childers, of the Central Economic Development Center, indicated that if the property owner provides written approval, volunteers can go on the property to perform the work.

Discussion: Possibility of providing contact information for volunteer organizations to property owners; Nuisance Abatement Ordinance; provide an update in October; etc. [SC20120821DOC004](#)

CENTRAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Alison Hewitt, Central Economic Development Center (CEDC), submitted a memorandum outlining the number of counseling sessions, partnership reports, and business assessments the CEDC has provided, as well as a list of free services they have provided to the businesses in the CRA. Inasmuch as the CRA plan calls for development of businesses and mixed-use developments to increase the tax base, they have talked with staff about an energetic development of business opportunities.

Ms. Hewitt noted a Social Media/Marketing workshop is scheduled for September 10, 2012, at the Central Community Redevelopment Agency, 301 Manatee Avenue East. [SC20120821DOC005](#)

SOCCER FIELD

Ms. Stewart noted staff is working with the new principal at Daughtrey Elementary School on an agreement for a soccer field on the school property.

Discussion: Use field for soccer and football; etc.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Criminal Activities

Ms. Childers commented on her work with the Sheriff's Office regarding criminal activity in the area. Harsher laws are needed at the State level.

Selah Freedom

Saige Sackett, Selah Freedom, stated they are an organization looking to open a home for women, who have been involved in sex trafficking and prostitution. A program implemented in Sweden is prosecuting the men soliciting prostitutes. They also have a school to teach these men about sexually transmitted diseases, what prostitutes go through in their life, and the laws. The rate of second offenses has decreased. She questioned if a similar program had been considered in this area.

MidTown Manatee – Mix-N-Mingle Business Networking

Ms. Hewitt announced on August 23, 2012, MidTown Manatee will be holding a Mix-N-Mingle Business Networking event at Renaissance on 9th.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 16, 2012, at the South County Branch Library.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adj: 7:09 p.m.
/dev

Minutes Approved: _____