

DECEMBER 7, 1999

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, met in REGULAR SESSION in the Manatee Civic Center, One Haben Boulevard, Palmetto, Florida, Tuesday, December 7, 1999, at 9:08 a.m.

Present were Commissioners:

Stan Stephens, Chairman
 Gwendolyn Y. Brown, First Vice-Chairman (entered during meeting)
 Joe McClash, Second Vice-Chairman
 Jonathan Bruce, Third Vice-Chairman
 Patricia M. Glass
 Lari Ann Harris (participated via telephone)

Absent was Commissioner: Amy Stein (illness)

Also present were:

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator
 Teddy N. Williams, Jr., County Attorney
 Susan G. Romine, Board Records Supervisor,
 representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

Invocation by Rev. Mario Cimbaro of Christian Missionary Alliance.

CONSENT AGENDA CHANGES AND DELETIONS

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator, announced the following changes to the Consent Agenda:

- **Millenium Special Event**, Celebrate 2000 has been deleted; and
- **Convention Center Funding**, expansion study and funding source has been removed from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Mr. Bruce, seconded by Mr. McClash and carried 5 to 0, to approve the Consent Agenda dated December 7, 1999, with agenda changes and deletions as stated. Items APPROVED:

CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDARBONDS**Accept:**

Sheriff's Public Employees and Deputy Sheriff's Blanket Bonds
 (11 additions; 16 deletions) RECORD S47-863

REFUNDS

Centex Homes - Impact Fee	\$ 844.56
Manatee County Rural Health Srvs - Impact Fee	918.05
Nohl Crest Homes - Impact Fee	1,525.00
Panther Ridge Communities, Ltd. - Impact Fee	9,370.00
US Department of Justice - Interest	8,545.14
- Police Hiring Revenue	7,820.50
- Program Fees	11,006.10

WARRANT LIST

Approve: November 30, 1999 through December 6, 1999
 Authorize: December 7, 1999 through December 13, 1999

MINUTES

September 7, 1999; September 8, 1999; September 16, 1999 (Special); September 16, 1999 (Regular); September 21, 1999 and September 23, 1999.

APPROVE, RATIFY AND CONFIRM

Myakka Park - Execution of Amendment 1 to Agreement with Department of Environmental Protection, relating to Myakka Park, Project F98040 (based on R-97-125, executed 6/17/97), extending completion date to July 30, 2000. RECORD S47-864

ACCEPTSouthern Manatee Fire and Rescue District

Revised Fiscal Year 1999-2000 meeting schedule.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATORMANATEE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

R99-264 . A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS (**LaMIRADA GARDENS PROJECT**) WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. RECORD S47-865

R99-265 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS (**CORNERSTONE COMMONS OF BRADENTON PROJECT**) WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECORD S47-866

R99-266 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS (**ROYAL PALM COVE APARTMENTS PROJECT**) WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECORD S47-867

R99-268 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS (**SABAL PALM HARBOR APARTMENTS PROJECT**) WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECORD S47-868

R99-269 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS (**CENTRE COURT APARTMENTS PROJECT**) WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECORD S47-869

BUILDING DEPARTMENT - DIRECTOR

Confirm **James A. Lee** as Director of the Building Department.

MANATEE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

Execute transmittal letter and contract 5187 (FY 1999-2000) with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, for new construction and renovation of existing Extension Service Offices, \$300,000.

RECORD S47-870

LAWSUITS

Approve a settlement with Manasota Memorial Park, Inc. in accordance with the proposed Stipulated Final Judgment, Settlement Agreement and Easement Deed with Manasota Memorial Park, Inc., \$678,058.75 inclusive of fees, costs, interest and severance damages in the Parcel 7 eminent domain matter, Manatee County versus Golf Lakes Residents' Association, Inc., 1994-CA-4955, **9th Street East.**

RECORD S47-871

S47-872

LEGAL AID OF MANASOTA

Execute funding agreement (1/1/00-12/31/00) with Legal Aid of Manasota, for free legal services for the indigent, \$39,962.

RECORD S47-873

CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Authorization to create new budget line item under promotions cost center for **special tourism marketing promotions**, \$5,000.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Execute funding agreement Fiscal Year 1999-2000 with Economic Development Council/Manatee Chamber of Commerce, not to exceed \$117,875. *<See * below>*

RECORD S47-874

MATERIALS AND SERVICES

1. **30th Avenue West** - Award IFB 99-4433DC to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications, S&R Construction, \$249,657.89; and authorize subsequent execution of the contract, date performance/payment bonds, and accept insurance certificate.
2. **Automotive Tire Service** - Award IFB 99-3908JS to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Callaghan Tire, for a total not to exceed \$25,000.

AUCTIONEERING SERVICES

Execute agreement with Certificate of Insurance with Tampa Machinery Auction, Inc., for professional auctioning services for surplus vehicles, equipment and other personal property.

RECORD S47-875

BELT FILTER PRESSES

Execute Change Order 1 to IFB 97-3809DC with Beach Construction Co., Inc., to replace two presses at the Southwest Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, found to be more deteriorated than known at the time of bid, for an increase of \$75,022 and adjusted contract of \$2,052,020.

RECORD S47-876

* Replacement Exhibit 1 accepted into the record 4/25/00.

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(Continued)

SURPLUS PROPERTY

1. Classify excess property as surplus per Florida Statute 274.05 to enable appropriate and authorized disposition of said property in accordance with Purchasing Code 99.37, Section 1.106; and authorize disposition of said property. RECORD S47-877
2. **R99-279** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF COUNTY-OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 125.38, FLORIDA STATUTES. RECORD S47-878
(File cabinet to **Manatee County Sheriff's Office.**)
3. **R99-280** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF COUNTY-OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 125.38, FLORIDA STATUTES. RECORD S47-879
(50 stackable chairs to **Anna Gayle Resource Center.**)

GOLF CARTS

Execute lease agreement with Yamaha Golf Cars of Florida, for 163 golf carts, not to exceed \$102,455.28. RECORD S47-880

LYCHEE ACRES SEWER AND WATER IMPROVEMENTS

Execute Change Order 2 to IFB 96-5568DC with DeLesline Construction, Inc., for an additional 60 days to the existing contract (executed 7/25/96); revised completion date of June 8, 1997, increase of \$41,967.95; and an adjusted contract of \$671,488.26. RECORD S47-881

TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING

Execute contracts on an as-required basis among Manatee County Port Authority and Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan, Inc.; Wade-Trim, Inc.; Lombardo, Skipper & Foley, Inc.; Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas, Inc. RECORD S47-882

G. T. BRAY AQUATIC CENTER

Authorize Parks and Recreation to submit monthly invoices to the School Board of Manatee County, for the use of the aquatic center for adaptive physical education classes. - S47-885

CORTEZ WATERFRONTS FLORIDA COMMITTEE

Execute letter supporting a grant application by the Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage to Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources to hire a consultant to develop design standards for new construction in the historic **Cortez Waterfronts Florida.**

FINAL PLATS**Lennox Gardens**

1. Final Plat.
2. Agreement with Pacific Equity Associates, guaranteeing completion of required improvements and temporary construction easement for private improvements (\$64,127.70).
3. Performance Bond: \$64,127.70 (Letter of Credit 9933, SunTrust Bank, Gulf Coast).
4. Agreement with Pacific Equity Associates, guaranteeing completion of required improvements and temporary construction easement for private improvements (\$36,540).
5. Performance Bond: \$36,540 (Letter of Credit 9919, SunTrust Bank, Gulf Coast).
6. Declaration of Restrictions.
7. Fiscal and Budgetary Information.
8. Maintenance Program.
9. Notice to Buyers.

Kew Gardens

1. Final Plat.
2. Agreement with Daniel Development, Inc., warranting required improvements, (\$44,817.38).
3. Defect Security: \$44,817.38 (Letter of Credit S997034, Northern Trust Bank).
4. Agreement with Daniel Development, Inc., guaranteeing completion of required sidewalks and bikeways (\$23,331.10).
5. Performance Bond: \$23,331.10 (Letter of Credit S997035, Northern Trust Bank of Florida).
6. Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Easements and Restrictions.
7. Conservation Easement from Daniel Development, Inc.

RECORD S47-886**HEARING OFFICER AGREEMENT**

Execute Extension of Agreement with James A. Paulmann as Manatee County Hearing Officer for a one-year term ending December 7, 2000. RECORD S47-887

REZONE - WOODY'S TOMATO

Authorize staff to initiate a rezone from General Commercial to Light Manufacturing for Woody's Tomato (4005 U.S. 19 North), to allow the entire property to be one zoning classification.

30TH AVENUE WEST

1. Contract for Sale and Purchase for a Warranty Deed and a Permanent Slope Easement from Alan D. Hunter, for right-of-way, \$15,000.
RECORD S47-888
2. Contract for Sale and Purchase for a Warranty Deed from Manuel Navarrete and Maria Guadalupe Navarrete, for right-of-way, \$7,700.
RECORD S47-889
3. Warranty Deed from Denise Jane Ann Loomis, a/k/a Denise J. A. Loomis, a/k/a Denise Jane Ann Loomis Haas, Parcel 109 for right-of-way required for improvements; Affidavit of Ownership and Encumbrances; Quit Claim Deed from Curt Haas.
RECORD S47-890
4. Warranty Deeds (3) for Parcels 131, 146 and 147 from Georgia M. Pope; Permanent Slope Easement; Affidavits of Ownership and Encumbrances; Partial Release from Household Finance Corporation; Satisfaction of Mortgage from Robert J. Duquette and Carmen J. Duquette.
RECORD S47-891

DEEDS AND EASEMENTS

1. Lake Manatee Watershed - Warranty Deed from William and Mary Jo Parrish, for 390 acres in the watershed.
RECORD S47-892
2. Lakewood Ranch Boulevard and State Road 64 - Drainage Easement from UMRR Joint Venture; Affidavit of Ownership and Encumbrances.
RECORD S47-893

(End Consent Agenda)

(Enter Ms. Brown)

AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS**Employee of the Year - Charles "Chuck" Terry**

Motion was made by Mrs. Glass, seconded by Mr. Bruce and carried 6 to 0, to adopt a Proclamation designating December 7, 1999, as **Charles "Chuck" Terry Day**.
RECORD S47-894

Recognizing Mr. Terry's accomplishments were Florrie Lynch, Fred Loveland, Carl Gaites, and Dwayne McKibben.

Retirement

Mr. Stephens presented a retirement plaque to **Richard Aalberg**, Agriculture and Natural Resources Department Director, for 24 years of service to Manatee County.

Len Bramble, Public Works Director, presented a retirement award to **Robert Elwell** for 22 years of service to Manatee County. Dan Gray and John Milligan highlighted the accomplishments of Mr. Elwell.

Carol Clarke, Planning Director, presented a retirement award to **Joanne Yahres** for 12 years of service to Manatee County. Bob Pederson and **Woodie Williams**, Planning Commissioner, spoke of Ms. Yahres' contributions.

SOUTHERN GARDENS - TEFRA HEARING

Public hearing (Notice in the *Bradenton Herald* 11/21/99) was held to consider the application for industrial development bonds proposed by the **Polk County Industrial Development Authority** (Authority), not to exceed \$9,000,000 principal amount of assisted living facilities revenue bonds of the Authority, the proceeds of which will be loaned by the Authority to the Florida Coalition for Housing Opportunities, Inc. (FCHO), and applied to the financing or refinancing of the acquisition and equipping of facilities in Polk County, Florida, and Manatee County, Florida. The Manatee County project includes acquisition and equipping a 42,000-square-foot, 69-unit assisted living facility to house up to 95 residents located on 2.4 acres at 1015 Seventh Avenue East, Bradenton (**Southern Gardens Assisted Living Facility**), and acceptance of \$3,000 to cover the County's costs and expenses associated with reviewing related matters.

Dan Schlandt, Financial Management Department, stated these are private activity bonds and referred to a letter of support from the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, and a letter from R. B. Shore, Clerk of the Circuit Court, urging caution if Manatee County is to be named on the bonds.

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(Continued)

Wilbur Dove, President of the National Coalition for Housing Opportunities, Inc., outlined the proposal to purchase assisted living facilities in Bradenton and Lake Alfred in Polk County. The facilities would offer low rates for low- to moderate-income families, and provide an additional eight jobs. Mr. Dove assured the Board that Manatee County would not appear on the bonds.

Discussion: Economic impacts to the community other than eight jobs; whether services to residents will be increased; review and establish future criteria for this kind of bond program; whether amenities could be added or the facility upgraded; whether costs would be reimbursed to the County if they exceed \$3,000; no effect on the amount of bonds that Manatee or Polk County may issue; etc.

Motion by Mr. McClash to accept \$3,000 or additional costs and expenses associated in reviewing and processing this application. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Glass and carried 6 to 0.

(Depart Mrs. Glass)

ORDINANCE 99-68 - "DOG PARK" AT G.T. BRAY PARK

Public hearing (Notice in *Bradenton Herald* 11/18/99) was held to consider

ORDINANCE 99-68 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCES NO. 90-32, AS AMENDED; AMENDING SECTION V RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION OF DOGS AND CATS TO BE AT LARGE; AND NO. 82-19, AS AMENDED; AMENDING SECTION VI(3) RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION OF DOGS AT LARGE; ALLOWING BOARD TO DESIGNATE PUBLIC AREAS WHERE ANIMALS ARE ALLOWED; REQUIRING THE REMOVAL OF ANIMAL FECAL MATTER FROM PUBLIC PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CODING OF AMENDMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Daniel Hopkins, Parks and Recreation Director, outlined the proposed three-acre off-leash dog run facility located in the northeast section of G. T. Bray Park. Mr. Hopkins stated there will be a fenced area for small dogs and puppies.

Discussion: Affect on current park facilities; maintenance; active community group will be involved; rules and regulations will be established; barking dogs; operational plan; etc.

(Enter Mrs. Glass)

Laurie Crawford, Manatee Citizens for Off-Leash Areas, spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Discussion: Liability if a dog attacks another dog or a person; dogs currently run loose at G. T. Bray; etc.

Jim Minix, Assistant County Attorney, advised that the County is self-insured and there will always be liability; therefore, adequate signage is imperative. He advised potential conflicts with the new Animal Services Ordinance will be addressed at a later date.

Motion by Mr. McClash to adopt Ordinance 99-68 and authorize Parks and Recreation to designate a "Dog Park" area in G. T. Bray Park where dogs will be allowed to run free in a fenced yard with appropriate facilities. Motion was seconded by Ms. Brown and carried 6 to 0.

RECORD S47-895

Recess/Reconvene. All members present except Mrs. Stein and Ms. Brown.

ZONING

Public hearing (continued from 11/16/99) was held to consider

PDR-99-03 (Z) (G) - RESERVE OF BRADEN RIVER ASSOCIATES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MANATEE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS OF MANATEE COUNTY, ORDINANCE NO. 90-01 (THE MANATEE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE) RELATING TO ZONING WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF MANATEE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF CERTAIN LAND FROM A-1 AND RDD-6 TO PDR; PROVIDING AN

EFFECTIVE DATE; AND APPROVAL OF A GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO ALLOW 508 (ADVERTISED AS 552) MULTIFAMILY UNITS AT A DENSITY OF 9.0 (ADVERTISED AS 9.78) DWELLING UNITS PER ACRE, GRANTING SPECIAL APPROVAL FOR A PROJECT LOCATED IN THE RES-6 FLUC.

Planning Commission recommended Approval with 19 Stipulations; GRANTING Special Approval for a project located in the RES-9 Future Land Use Category. RECORD S47-896

Erika Barrett, Planning Department, used a zoning map, an aerial and the applicant's conceptual site plan to outline the request and the surrounding areas. Ms. Barrett noted a correction to the map in the staff report, which moved the Evers Reservoir line across the south end of the site. The Reservoir is now adjacent to the southern border, and the entire project is outside the Reservoir boundary.

Using a site plan, Ms. Barrett illustrated the proposed 552 multifamily units and stated that the proposal included a recreation area with a pool, tennis courts, a recreation building, and an existing boat basin. On the south end is a play area for children. Ms. Barrett expressed concern over three-story buildings along Natalie Way and noted the gated emergency access from Natalie Way and the relocation of a traffic light from 51st Street East to State Road 70 and Natalie Way.

Ms. Barrett proposed amended Stipulation 15:

15. Provided that Manatee County enter into a reimbursement agreement...more fully set forth in Exhibit C attached hereto and incorporated herein (the Natalie Way Segment), ~~up to a total contribution of \$200,000~~ at a contribution level equal to that required by the reimbursement agreement. The reimbursement agreement must be executed prior to Preliminary Site Plan approval.

Ed Vogler, attorney for the applicant, entered resumes for Pat Neal, David Gustafson, Thomas McCollum and Betsy Benac.

(Enter Ms. Brown)

Thomas McCollum, representing the applicant, advised that buildings will be reduced to two-stories along Natalie Way to create the illusion of open space.

Betsy Benac, of Wilson, Miller, Barton and Peek, Inc., spoke favorably of the "head and shoulders" design of the two-story buildings that graduate to three-stories in the center.

Pat Neal, developer, stated that he has agreed to give John's Island and Sandy's Island to the County. Mr. Neal agreed to contribute \$200,000 to add an access road from 51st Street East to Natalie Way and relocate the traffic light to Natalie Way and State Road 70. He submitted construction site plans, photographs of the buffer and neighboring mobile home parks, notes for land use hearing, a letter to the Commission, an elevation and a petition from Windmill Manor residents in support of the project.

James Schlemann, Westwinds Village, and **D'Arcy O'Neil**, Windmill Manor, spoke in favor of the project and the relocation of the traffic light.

Discussion: Staff recommended 6.5 units per acre as density; relocation of traffic light to Natalie Way; whether developer will pay the entire cost of traffic light relocation and time frame for completion; increase developer's contribution; etc.

Mr. Vogler advised this is a joint participation project and Mr. Neal has agreed to pay \$200,000. If the project costs more, Mr. Neal expects the County to pay the balance.

Discussion: Project approval is contingent upon access road and light relocation; County right-of-way along Natalie Way south of project; connection to Honore Avenue south of the project; etc.

Carol Clarke, Planning Director, advised that the County right-of-way on Natalie Way south to Honore Avenue was given up in order to facilitate the connection to Lockwood Ridge Road, in January, 1999.

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(Continued)

Jeffrey Steinsnyder, Assistant County Attorney, advised that the residential gross acreage preclude the applicant from counting acreage that is below the mean high tide line. Mr. Steinsnyder advised that nine dwelling units per acre is the only figure that the Board can consider.

Based upon the staff report, evidence presented, comments made at the public hearing, the action of the Planning Commission, and finding the request to be consistent with the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan the Manatee County Land Development Code, as conditioned herein, Mr. Bruce moved to adopt Manatee County Zoning Ordinance **PDR-99-03 (Z) (G)** and approve the General Development Plan with Stipulations 1 through 14, 15 as presented by staff, and 16 through 19; granting Special Approval for a project located in the RES-9 Future Land Use Category, as recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Glass and carried 6 to 0.

RECORD S47-897

Recess/Reconvene. All members present except Mrs. Stein.

CENSUS 2000

Kathleen Thompson, Planning Department, advised that the Census 2000 Complete Count Committee is up and running, and the census office on Cortez Road is open, but not fully staffed. Ms. Thompson stressed the importance of an accurate census count.

(Depart Mrs. Glass)

Discussion: Anna Gayle Center, Headstart and local ministers can assist in contacting citizens; census impacts amount of state and federal money brought to Manatee County; etc.

THE ESTUARY

Robert Pederson, Planning Department, used a site plan, a conceptual greenway map and a cross-section elevation to report on the Estuary Greenway and vacation of rights-of-way in preparation for hearings to be held on December 14, 1999 (R-99-190 and PDR-98-20). He also highlighted some of the issues discussed at a neighborhood meeting held on November 30, 1999; traffic circulation; mangroves; timing of required improvements and rights-of-way; evacuation zones and emergency response routes; county easements and setbacks; greenway connection, blueway connection and recreation access; Palma Sola Bay water quality; fences or walls around the development near the greenway.

(Enter Mrs. Glass during presentation)

Discussion: County vacation of current non-improved right-of-way; bicycle/pedestrian/greenway path; 9th Avenue access is gated off; trash dumping on the site; easements; waterline maintenance; funding and the entities that are part of the agreement; etc.

Charles Hunsicker, Planning Department, advised that the team of agencies working on the project include the National Fish and Wildlife Service; Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Southwest Florida Water Management District; Manatee County and the Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is also contributing \$200,000, which will be matched by Manatee County to construct the pedestrian way from Perico Bridge to Manatee Avenue.

Mr. Hunsicker stated that the target start date for the project is 2003. He recommended an agreement to accelerate funding to the MPO to have the blueway construction timed with the restoration.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTSTropicana Location Decision

Mr. Stephens announced that at 1:00 p.m. Tropicana will announce its decision for office relocation.

Sarasota Herald-Tribune Editorial

Mrs. Glass commented on the editorial in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* and stated that the Board has an excellent working relationship with Sarasota County and its Commissioners. She stated that the facts and figures in the editorial were not accurate and she would like to meet with Mr. Padgett and the editorial board of the *Herald-Tribune*.

Wares Creek Project

Mrs. Glass requested information about the plans for the Wares Creek participation project with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Stephens advised that Mayor-elect Poston met with County staff regarding the Wares Creek Project and he requested a report from Mr. Padgett regarding the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

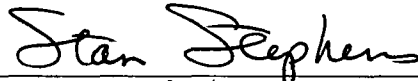
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

APPROVED:



Clerk



Chairman

3/21/00

Adj: 12:09 p.m.
/pat

