

MINUTES - Corrected
SPECIAL MEETING – Capital Projects Review
CHARLOTTE HARBOR
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 10, 2009 – 10:30 a.m.
County Administration Building – Room B-106
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Members Present

James Herston, *Chairman*
Michael Haymans, *Vice Chairman*
Grace Amodeo, *Secretary*
Evelyn Loeffler
David Schmidt
Charlotte Ventola

Staff Present

Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager
Seann Smith, Planner II
Todd Taylor, Management/Budget Analysis

Guests

Dennis Murphy, City of Punta Gorda Growth
Management Director

Members Absent

Nathaniel Cooley - Excused

I. Call to Order

Vice Chairman Haymans called the June 10, 2009 special meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee to order at 10:32 a.m. in Room B-106 of the Charlotte County Administration Building.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chairman Haymans led the members and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Roll call was taken; Secretary Grace Amodeo confirmed a quorum was present. At 10:40 Chairman Herston arrived and the gavel was passed to him to Chair the meeting.

IV. Review of Work Plan (2004 – 2009)

Ms. Forester stated that based on the discussion that took place at the May 28 Advisory Committee meeting she developed Attachment A that shows the projects that have budgeted and funded by Tax Increment since 2004. The purpose of this meeting was to get a recommendation on Capital Improvement Projects for FY2010. In order to plan for FY2010 she had included a column with some suggested allocations of TIF in order for the Committee to consider when reviewing the CIP project sheets. She estimated a total of \$449,428 for new TIF available in 2010 the total would also include any interest earned from the existing trust account.

Discussion took place on the scope of the Gateway project and the financing of the project as well as the availability of easements to provide the continuous pedestrian connection between the two parks – Bayshore Live Oak and Chester Roberts and use of tax increment for infrastructure such as water and sewer vs. beautification projects. Ms. Ventola stated she was concerned with the use of tax increment for ~~the~~ more parks and thought TIF funds should be used for the underlying infrastructure. During the discussion on financing, Ms. Ventola mentioned the amount of TIF generated by Punta Gorda and the need to extend the CRA to cover debt on the parking garage.

Dennis Murphy requested to be recognized to provide clarification on the subject of Punta Gorda CRA and noted that the amendment to the plan was to update the work plan and the original plan had a time frame of 30 years.

Ms. Forester suggested an addition of \$200,000 of FY2010 TIF for construction of the Harbor Walk project and an additional \$50,000 in design towards Phase II. At the last meeting, the Committee had recommended that the seawall repair/replacement be included in Phase I of the project. Discussion followed regarding the scope of contract with Kimley-Horn. Ms. Forester noted that when the RFP developed and the contract

negotiated the Phase I component was consistent with the concept plan that had been previously developed by Wilson Miller and submitted to FDOT for grant funding for the parking area, lighting and sidewalk. Ms. Forester also noted that FDOT did not see a need to improve the seawall based on preliminary discussion with them. Ms. Forester noted that she has requested clarification on what will be eligible expenses under the FDOT enhancement grant program and noted that perhaps the seawall would be eligible under FDOT grants. Ms. Forester noted that the current contract only covers 100% design through construction for Phase I. Completing Phase II will require additional funding for engineering/design.

Mr. Schmidt commented on the new sidewalks and stated he was concerned on how they were being installed. Mr. Herston explained that the sidewalks would need to meet FDOT requirements which were very strict.

Mr. Herston noted that he requested Kimley-Horn to provide an aerial of the property with the concept plan laid over it to determine the impacts and verify the plans. Mr. Haymans noted that he had sent a letter to Mr. Van Buskirk with pictures of the seawall and power lines and requested a meeting on site to discuss the plan.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Committee agreed to include an additional \$50,000 for design work for FY2010.

Ms. Forester noted that on Attachment A, page 3 she had added \$100,000 under the Stormwater Management project for FY2010. Mr. Herston asked for a clarification on the "includes land acquisition" under the project description. Ms. Forester noted that the \$3,000,000 listed on the construction line item includes land acquisition and construction was combined instead of two separate line items. Mr. Herston noted that based on the presentation by Ms. Vernon at the last meeting, we are not sure when SWFWMD will complete the tasks to determine what needs to be constructed. Ms. Forester agreed and noted that SWFWMD will be bringing an agreement to the BCC that will include the next phase of design and allow the grant funding to be secured. But funding for construction could be delayed.

Ms. Forester than noted on page 4 of the Attachment A the \$29,000 for the part-time events coordinator budgeted for FY2010. She informed the committee that Tanya Fitch was no longer employed by the County and administration was evaluating whether that position would be refilled. Ms. Forester noted that if there was consensus that the position was still important to the area then other options such as contract employment for a ½ time position could be considered. The consensus of the Committee was to keep that amount budgeted.

Ms. Ventola commented that she would like to see how much was spent under each contract each month as an update to the work plan.

V. Review of Existing CIP Projects

Todd Taylor gave a brief overview of the CIP project sheets.

- a. Charlotte Harbor Gateway – Attachment B. The Committee agreed to maintain the new \$FY10 under construction as noted, which includes the \$200,000 for FY 2010 TIF and funds previously budgeted on the Charlotte Harbor Work Plan. The committee also agreed to add \$50,000 under New \$FY10 for additional design for Phase II.
- b. Watershed Management Plan – Attachment C. The committee agreed to eliminate any new funding for this project in FY2010.

VI. Consideration of Additional Capital Projects (Reclaimed Water Line)

Ms. Forester noted that construction of a reclaimed water line had been discussed for many years but funding had not been available. Ms. Forester noted that there maybe an opportunity to receive either a grant or low interest loan from DEP to construct this

project if the design was completed. She noted that by not funding the watershed management plan in FY2010, they could recommend to the BCC to use TIF funds to begin the design of the line.

Mr. Herston noted that the description of the project was only to Melbourne and US41 and he would like to recommend that the scope of the project be extended to the west side of US41. After further discussion, the Committee agreed that the line should be extended to the Historical Center on Bayshore Drive, which would allow reclaimed water to be used at the park. Ms. Forester will follow-up with CCU and get an update on the estimate for the additional scope of work. Consensus was reached to submit a new CIP project sheet for the Reclaimed Water Line.

Dennis Murphy noted that the City was very interested in bringing the line over the bridge to make reclaimed water available. He also noted that SWFWMD was also very interested in the project.

VII. Review of Recommendations

Mr. Haymans made a motion to recommend to the BCC that the FY2010 Capital Improvement Project sheets be approved as follows:

Gateway Project will include \$447,000 in new funds for construction and \$50,000 for design/arch/engineering; there will be no new money allocated to the Watershed Management Plan; and a new Project Sheet – Charlotte Harbor Reclaimed Water Line will be submitted. The project description will include a waterline from Mary Lou Park to the Charlotte County Historical Center on Bayshore Road. \$100,000 will be allocated for design in FY10.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion passed unanimously (6-0). Ms. Forester will make the changes and submit them to the Budget office.

Todd Taylor noted that the BCC CIP workshop is scheduled for June 26.

VIII. Public Comment

Dennis Murphy complimented the committee on the gateway sign and landscaping and noted that the City is looking to apply for FDOT funding as well to continue to implement their program.

IX. Committee Comment (Mr. Haymans noted that ~~it~~ Committee Comment was not on the agenda and requested that it be added.)

Mr. Schmidt noted that he may not be available for the next meeting.

X. Next Meeting

June 25, 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager

Approved: 06/25/09