

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CHARLOTTE HARBOR
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, April 19, 2010 – 11:00 a.m.
County Administration Building – Room 119
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

(These minutes are not official until they have been approved by the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee.)

Members Present

James Herston, *Chairman*
Nathaniel Cooley
Evelyn Loeffler
Charlotte Ventola
Garland Wilson

Staff Present

Commissioner Richard Loftus
Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager
Seann Smith, Planner II
Simone Petche, Recorder

Members Absent (Excused)

Michael Haymans, *Vice Chairman*
Grace Amodeo, *Secretary*

Guests

Dale Phillips (in place of Deputy Miller)
Gene Pawlowski, Chairman of Spokes and Trails

I. Call to Order

Chairman Herston called the April 19, 2010 meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee to order at 11:01 am in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Building.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Roll call was taken; Ms. Ventola confirmed a quorum was present. Mr. Garland Wilson introduced himself and said that he is looking forward to serving on the Committee.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Chairman Herston asked that the Neighborhood Watch Meeting item under Staff Comments be placed under Old Business as a discussion item under the Sheriff's Office Update.

V. Approval of Minutes

A motion was presented by Ms. Loeffler and seconded by Ms. Ventola to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2010 Special Meeting as written and the March 1, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee with the following correction:

- ***Change the spelling of 'Carlen Wilson' to 'Garland Wilson' under Public Comments on page 3.***

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Commissioner Comments

None

VII. Public Comments

Cliff Kewley, who was involved with the operation of the Charlotte Harbor Regatta, suggested that plans for the Gateway Harborwalk Park be modified so that small boats and kayaks can be launched at the beach. The Committee discussed this option and agreed that they would like to see more information about it. Mr. Herston asked Mr. Kewley if he could find posters from the 2001 Nationals or 2004 Regionals and that he report back to the Committee with additional information.

Ms. Wehbe reported that she attended a Team Punta Gorda meeting regarding bicycling in the area. She introduced Gene Pawlowski, who is the Chairman from Spokes and Trails. Mr. Pawlowski stated that as of now, there is no way for cyclists to cross into southbound Tamiami Tr. He would like to create rings around the harbor for pedestrians and bicyclists. Chairman Herston asked him to keep in contact with the Board about future developments.

VIII. Development Review Report

Chairman Herston reported there were no new developments.

IX. Old Business

a. Sheriff's Office Update – In place of Deputy Miller, Dale Phillips reported on the Sheriff's update. She said there have been numerous proactive patrols, both in vehicle and bike patrol and several arrests made in regards to the Open Container Law as well as vagrant arrests. There have been no calls for criminal behavior. The Frontier Days event went smoothly, with no problems occurring with traffic or patrons. Ms. Phillips thanked the public for its outreach in the Neighborhood Watch. Discussion followed on whether to hold training for a Neighborhood Watch at the Sheriff's office. Ms. Phillips told the Board how a Watch could be developed, along with the rules and regulations. She encouraged the use of a Watch and said that it would be beneficial to have additional residents involved. The Board agreed it was a good idea to do the training and Ms. Phillips asked Ms. Forester to call her to schedule a date. Chairman Herston asked how effective she thought the Open Container Law has been. Ms. Phillips replied that although it has not been an active law for a long period of time, she believes it has been effective.

b. Approved 2010 and 2011 Work Plan (Attachment 1)

Ms. Forester provided the Work Plan to members as an informational sheet.

c. Small Scale Map Amendment – Property Owner Response

Ms. Forester asked the Committee for recommendations on moving forward on the small scale map amendment and what boundary the CRA would pursue. She reminded the Board that certified letters and follow-up letters were sent out to residents in the Charlotte Harbor area, asking permission to change their zoning to NBR. Although there were a cluster of 'yes' respondents, several residents did not reply. The Board debated whether or not to change only the small area where residents gave permission. Ms. Forester noted that since only a small section of the area was being changed the authorization to process the change is handled differently than if a community-wide plan was being adopted. The Committee supported the following:

- The section from Oakley to Sibley Bay be changed to NBR
- The section on Sibley Bay and Jackson will remain NBR
- The two parcels on US41 changed to commercial
- Non-responsive residents will be contacted again (Ms. Loeffler volunteered to speak to the Pastor at the Methodist Church)
- Changes to the zoning code, including how to recognize the difference in density (current Coastal Residential properties have 3 units per acre and NBR allows 10 du/acre) will be brought back to the committee for review and input.

Ms. Forester will request input from Mr. Rooney, Assistant County Attorney on proceeding with these changes for the next meeting.

d. Revised Rules and Procedures (Attachment 2)

Ms. Forester provided a copy of the Revised Rules and Procedures to members as an informational item.

e. Housing Rehab Grant Program –Applications for Approval (Attachment 3)
Ms. Forester requested approval to move forward with all applications. She noted that there were three changes on the Attachment, resulting in remaining funds of \$12,682. Board members questioned what the application policy was for multi-family units. **Mr. Cooley made a motion to approve all applications, excluding #5 and #15 since they were multi-family units.** Mr. Cooley requested further clarification on the amount of funds allocated to #5 and #15. Ms. Forester stated that the policy was previously interpreted to include up to \$2,000 per unit up to 6 MF units. Previous applications had included funding \$6,000 for a triplex. **Mr. Cooley amended his motion to approve all applications and Ms. Ventola seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

X. New Business

- a. YMCA Concept Plan for Dozler Property – Rod Berger presented to the Committee the plans for the YMCA facility, which would be used for various activities, including executive retreats and weight loss camps. He asked the Committee if this idea is something it would be interested in pursuing. Board members discussed the plans and gave its consensus of approval.
- b. Vacant Lot Management Plan Status Report
Ms. Forester reported that she has a draft that will be going to the Charlotte County Purchasing Department to request a quote from a contractor to mulch overgrown lots and spray pesticides for invasive trees. She will keep the Board posted.
- c. Reschedule July and September Meetings Dates Due to Holidays
All members agreed to meet on these new dates:
 - Tuesday, July 6, 10am – Noon
 - Tuesday, September 7, 10am - NoonIt was noted that Mr. Wilson will not be able to attend on July 6.

XI. Correspondence/Communications

- a. The Minutes from the Punta Gorda CRA meetings of April 7, 2010 were handed out to Board members.
- b. 2009 Annual Report
Ms. Forester noted that the Annual Report was filed with the Board of County Commissioners and with the State.
- c. Elizabeth Spicer – March Report
Ms. Spicer was not present at the meeting, but submitted a written report for March. Several weddings were scheduled for the month, and the Pre-Mother's Day event and Dog Show were successes. Plans for summer camps at Bayshore Live Oak Park will soon begin.

XII. Public Comments

Ms. Wehbe distributed information from Team Punta Gorda on the Bicycle Loaner Program and proposed bicycle trails.

XIII. Staff Comments

- a. Sign Code Letter Discussion
Ms. Forester asked the Board if 1) an informational newsletter about sign codes could be distributed to commercial/industrial property owners and 2) if Sean Horton could speak at next month's meeting on the topic of code enforcement. The Board gave its consensus of approval for both items.

XIV. Attorney Comments -none

XV. Member Comments

Ms. Loeffler proposed adding a Rules of Procedure item on next month's agenda since the term for members is indefinite. Ms. Ventola suggested that the Board delay until the County Attorney can review. Mr. Cooley stated that his business in the Charlotte Harbor area has been having lighting issues and asked for suggestions from the Board to resolve this. Chairman Herston made recommendations and suggested that the Committee adopt a period style of lighting and requested that the item be added to next month's meeting agenda.

XVI. Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee will be held on **Monday, May 3, 2010 at 11 a.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Center.**

XVII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 12:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Simone N. Petche, Recorder

/snp

Approved: _____