

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CHARLOTTE HARBOR
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, May 9, 2011 – 10:30 a.m.
County Administration Building – Room 119
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Members Present

James Herston, Chairman
Michael Haymans, *Vice Chairman*
Grace Amodeo, *Secretary*
Nathaniel Cooley
Charlotte Ventola
Garland Wilson

Staff Present

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager
Roxann Read, Planner II
Elizabeth Spicer
Kathy M. Knee, Recorder

Members Absent

Eddie Hale

Guests

Deputy Miller

I. Call to Order

Chairman Herston called the May 9, 2011 meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee to order at 10:34 a.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Building.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Herston led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Roll call was taken; Secretary Grace Amodeo confirmed a quorum was present.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda – Jim Herston noted the following items should be added under Old Business: Watershed Plan Update and Comp Plan Special Meeting; under New Business, an item should be to discuss CCU's North Shore Project.

V. Approval of Minutes

A motion was presented by Charlotte Ventola and seconded by Grace Amodeo to approve the Minutes of the April 11, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee as written. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Commissioner Comments – None.

VII. Public Comments – None.

VIII. Development Review Report – None.

IX. Old Business

Elizabeth Spicer Report/Bench Project Call for Artist Application Form - Ms. Spicer's Monthly Report and the Bayshore Budget & Expense Report were forwarded with the meeting packet. Debrah Forester distributed an Artist's Application form to Committee members. Ms. Spicer pointed out that events are actually starting to make money for the CRA. Ms. Spicer also noted that she met with Debrah Forester, John Jackson and the Attorney's Office to finalize the contract language to insure the rights to the bench art remain with the County. Ms. Spicer reported she has found someone to do the bench plaques which will include the artist's name and the sponsorship for the bench.

Sponsorship for a bench will cost \$250. The winning artist will be awarded \$250 and a prize package for area restaurants and stores; the other artists will get perpetual recognition on the bench they painted. July 1 is the deadline for submissions.

Discussion followed regarding where the sponsorship money should go. Grace Amodeo suggested the money go back into Bayshore Park budget for future projects and not into Parks and Recreation funds. Ms. Spicer would like to have the funds available for marketing and advertising future events. Nate Cooley agreed with the suggestion of using funds for future event marketing.

Charlotte Ventola said she would like to be a bench sponsor and asked for a sponsorship application. Mike Haymans asked about the maintenance responsibility of the benches. Ms. Spicer said a yearly coat of polyurethane and UV protection would be needed on each bench.

Garland Wilson asked if dogs are allowed in Bayshore Park. Ms. Spicer noted that the Community Services Department is currently reviewing its policy but to date police have been tolerant if dogs are on a leash.

Discussion followed regarding a gazebo type structure for use as a kayak launch, bait shop and snack bar. Community Services would collect a fee from the vendor. Garland Wilson said a structure would be better than setting up a vendor stand in the parking lot. Mike Haymans noted that this is a seasonal business and asked if it really warranted a structure. Discussion moved on to the rights of vendors at events. It was noted that Community Services is working on vendor practices.

Chairman Herston asked to go to Item IX.G. – NBR Zoning Changes. Debrah Forester reported the new Comp Plan will go into effect on June 1 and the Zoning Code changes will reflect what happens in the Comp Plan. The application for zoning changes has not yet been submitted. The land development code is being rewritten and Growth Management will reflect changes in the NBR if they agree with the Comp Plan.

Deputy Miller was asked if he thought the vegetation removal was helping to keep vagrants out of the area. Deputy Miller reported it was working because without vegetation the vagrants do not have a place to hide their tents. Deputy Miller noted that vagrancy is not just a Charlotte Harbor issue it is happening all over.

2012 Work Plan Priority List – Debrah Forester distributed a priority project list with a ranking column prior to the meeting and mentioned the Bayshore Parmley item should be shown as number 9. Ms. Forester reviewed the list and asked Committee members to rank the projects. A discussion followed regarding individual selections with all members agreeing that Phase 1 – Harbor Walk and Phase II – Harbor Walk were the top choices; Melbourne Bridge Replacement came in as number 3 by popular vote. Mr. Herston asked Ms. Forester for cost estimates for all 9 projects noted on the list.

Community Redevelopment Sub-District Map – A copy of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area Planning Sub-District map was included in the meeting packet. Ms. Forester stated this is a draft map proposed to be included in the Redevelopment Plan. Unlike the Comp Plan, the Redevelopment Plan does not need to go to DCA for approval. This map shows existing and suggested boundary designations and road features discussed at earlier meetings. Ms. Forester explained the boundaries and the corridors/gateways into the neighborhoods. There was some discussion

between staff and Committee members for clarification purposes. A revised draft will be brought to the June meeting.

Whidden Park Property Owners Meeting – A copy of the invitation/agenda for the May 24 meeting for Whidden Park property owners and tenants was included in the meeting packet. Ms. Forester reviewed the Agenda.

Harbor Walk Project Phase I Status Report – Ms. Forester reported that FDOT has the plans and a response should be received by May 20. A right of way entry agreement is being worked on with the owner of the former Raw Bar.

Melbourne Bridge Update – Ms. Forester noted that negotiations are being held with the contractor and the total costs will not be known until negotiations are finalized.

NBR Zoning Changes – reported above.

Watershed Water Management Plan – Ms. Forester reported the plans were submitted to the Water Management District and the consultant was advised there were two areas of concern but both were on private property. Both the consultant and Joann Vernon from the County Public Works recommended that these BMPs be removed from the permit so this project may move forward. Jim Herston asked for the RAI (Request for Additional Information). Ms. Forester will obtain a copy of the RAI and forward it to members by e-mail. The consensus of the Committee was to go along with Ms. Vernon's recommendation and it was requested that Ms. Vernon will be invited to June's meeting for an update.

Comp Plan – Ms. Forester suggested a special meeting be dedicated to talk about the Comp Plan and will work with Committee members and Growth Management to determine the best date.

X. New Business

Waterfront Activities Subcommittee – Ms. Forester noted that Garland Wilson, who is on the Marine Advisory Committee and Cliff Kewley, who is on the Beaches & Shores Committee suggested the creation of a Waterfront Activities Subcommittee. Mr. Kewley mentioned he was anxious to improve access to the harbor for small watercraft and thought the property on Shear Street might be a good location for access.

A motion was presented by Jim Herston, seconded by Nate Cooley and unanimously approved to create a Waterfront Activity Subcommittee. There was a suggestion that a second committee member be on the committee which turned into a discussion about Sunshine and how many committee members could be on a subcommittee. Staff will talk with the County Attorney's Office and report back to the Committee. **A motion was presented by Jim Herston, seconded by Grace Amodeo and unanimously approved to abolish the Waterfront Activity Subcommittee. A motion was presented by Jim Herston, seconded by Nate Cooley and unanimously approved to appoint Garland Wilson as the Advisory Committee representative for waterfront activities.**

2012 CIP Sheets – Budget is preparing Gateway, Trails and Wayfinding and Watershed Master Plan CIP sheets which should be available for the next meeting.

July Meeting Date – Due to the 4th of July holiday, Debrah Forester suggested the July Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee meeting be rescheduled to Monday, July 11 at 10:30 a.m.

CCU Grant Application – Debrah Forester reported that CCU is preparing a grant application for a central sewer project in the North Shore area which is adjacent to Charlotte Harbor CRA boundaries. Grant funds would help offset the costs of sewer installation. CCU asked if the Advisory Committee would write a letter of support due to the projects location. This item will go before the BCC on June 24. Discussion followed. Garland Wilson asked staff to e-mail project information to him. It was the consensus of the Committee that there was not enough information to make a decision today.

XI. Correspondence/Communications

The following correspondence/communications were distributed with the meeting packet:

- Minutes from the April 6, 2011 Punta Gorda CRA meeting.
- Correspondence regarding Phosphate Mining/Colonel Pantano.

XII. Public Comments – Cliff Kewley suggested the Committee think about the structural issues that are in place. Charlotte Harbor is Coastal Residential and existing houses would not be able to be upgraded with the 50% rule and most is in a flood zone. If someone wanted to improve a house you cannot get the block houses up to minimum elevation and this would be an impediment. It does not seem as though existing housing stock has a place in the future.

XIII. Staff Comments – None.

XIV. Attorney Comments - None.

XV. Member Comments – Charlotte Ventola noted she successfully made her home into a small confined home instead of building up on stilts. Grace Amodeo stated the July meeting has already been rescheduled to July 11; room availability will be verified by staff. Garland Wilson asked that the member contact list be updated and distributed.

XVI. Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee will be held on **Monday, June 6, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Center.**

XVII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy M Knee

Kathy M. Knee, Recorder

/kmk

Approved: 6/6/11