

The CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH Downtown Redevelopment Board Minutes

City Hall Commission Chambers Regular Meeting 301 South Ridgewood Avenue Tuesday, January 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if any person decides to appeal any decision made by this Board at this public meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and, for that purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The City does not prepare or provide such a record.



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A meeting of the Downtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday. January 9. 2018. at 12:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida. The following people were present:

Board Members Present

Mr. Daniel Harshaw

Mr. Russell Holloway

Ms. Quanita May

Mr. Jake Nicely

Ms. Cathy Washington (Planning Board Representative)

Mr. Scott Weidman

Board Members Absent

Dr. Kent Sharpies. Vice Chair

Ms. Sheryl Cook

Staff Members Present

Mr. Reed Berger. Redevelopment Director

Mr. Jason Jeffries, Redevelopment Project Manager

Mr. Robert Jagger. City Attorney

Ms. Becky Groom, Board Secretary

Call to Order

Ms. Washington called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Groom called the roll and noted members present as stated above.

Election of Officers

Mr. Jeffries stated Mr. Budiansky had served the maximum number of terms on the Board and was no longer eligible to serve. Mr. Jeffries stated Dr. Sharpies had served the maximum number of terms as Vice Chair and was not eligible to continue to serve as Vice Chair but was eligible to serve as Chair.

Mr. Weidman nominated Dr. Sharpies to serve as Chair.

Mr. Jeffries stated Dr. Sharpies had declined to serve as Chair in the past.

Mr. Weidman withdrew his motion to nominate Dr. Sharpies as Chair. The Board agreed to delay election of Chair until the next meeting.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Ms. May, seconded by Mr. Harshaw. to nominate Mr. Weidman to serve as Vice Chair. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

The meeting continued with Vice Chair Weidman chairing the meeting.

Approval of Minutes - December 5, 2017

Board Action:

A motion was made by Ms. May. seconded by Mr. Nicely, to approve the minutes of the December 5. 2017. meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Board Comments

Ms. May asked the vacancy rate in the downtown.

Mr. Jeffries stated the vacancy rate in the retail district, which covers Orange Avenue to the Post Office for ground floor space, was 11%. Mr. Jeffries stated there were a number of large buildings that were vacant, such as the former bank building, and those buildings were at 20% vacancy.

Big John asked why Riverside Park was no longer being used for bike events.

Mr. Jeffries stated he did not know.

Ms. May expressed concern about safety and parking issues in the downtown.

Mr. Jeffries stated the Downtown Development Authority would be looking at those items in conjunction with the new development projects that would be occurring in the downtown.

Mr. Jeffries stated at the next meeting, the priority list developed by the Downtown Redevelopment Board in conjunction with the DDA would be presented for discussion by the Board, which would include parking meters and the vacant Cosmopolitan project. Mr. Jeffries stated the Cosmopolitan PD project was approved in 2005 but never constructed; and last year the property owners requested the property be rezoned to a more traditional redevelopment zoning.

Big John stated he contacted the Property Appraiser's Office; and from 1997, this Redevelopment District has collected \$23,171,159.

Big John stated the armory building was planned to be torn down: the Orange Avenue recreation building was going to be torn down; the former Police Department building was going to be demolished: and the Josie Rogers house could be moved.

Mr. Harshaw asked if there were any RFP's out for demolition of buildings.

Mr. Berger stated there were no RFP's at that time.

Mr. Harshaw asked what the 5 major projects are for the downtown.

Mr. Jeffries stated major projects are the Brown & Brown development: City Island: Courthouse consolidation; the Armory: and the First Baptist Church property sale.

Mr. Harshaw asked for an update on road construction improvement projects at the next meeting.

Mr. Harshaw stated at a recent merchant's meeting, there was discussion with a representative from the Police Department about the panhandling issue in downtown. Mr. Harshaw asked if there could be restrictions placed on panhandling at major intersections.

Mr. Jagger stated there were ordinances that dealt with blocking or camping on sidewalks, but the act of panhandling was protected by the First Amendment.

Mr. Nicely left the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Mr. Weidman stated if people stopped giving money, panhandling would stop.

Ms. Washington expressed concern about people panhandling while standing in the medians along International Speedway and Nova Road. Ms. Washington stated she would attend the next Compstat meeting to discuss this issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Scott Weidman, Chair

Becky Groom, Recording Secretary