Minutes

Immokalee Lighting and Beautification MSTU Advisory Committee Meeting
August 22, 2012

A. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Cherryle Thomas at 10:03 a.m.

B. Roll Call and Announcement of a Quorum.
Advisory Committee Members Present:
Cherryle Thomas, Bill Deyo, Lucy Ortiz, Andrea Halman and Norma Ramirez

Action: A quorum was announced as being present.

Others Present: Richard Tindell, Robert Kindelan, and Cristina Perez
Staff: Jeffrey Nagle, Christie Betancourt, and Penny Phillippi.

C. Introductions. Cristina Perez was introduced as the Code Enforcement Supervisor for Immokalee.

D. Announcements: Ms. Thomas announced that the Immokalee Christmas Around the World will be held on 12/8/2012 this year and that Guinness Book of Records will be there to count floats. Ms. Thomas added that if Immokalee places 2nd in the book of records then Good Morning America will do a story on the event. No other announcements.

E. Adoption of the Agenda.
Action: Ms. Ortiz made a motion to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Ms. Halman and the motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

F. Communications.
   - Mr. Nagle passed around the Communications Folder which contained the following: Notice of MSTU Public Meeting.
   - No Littering Flyer.
   - Keep Collier Beautiful Coastal Cleanup Flyer.
   - Carson Road Sidewalk project plans.
   - Proposed ramp modifications for the Main Street Improvement project.
   - Photos of August 13 light pole knock down.

G. Approval of the Minutes.
Action: Ms. Ramirez made a motion to approve the minutes for the month of May and June 2012. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ortiz and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

H. Old Business.
      Mr. Nagle reported on the current budget, provided Purchase Order and Expenditures Reports to the Committee. It was noted that the Purchase Order report was incorrect and will be revised and emailed to the Committee Members. The reports were accepted by consensus.
Ms. Perez from Code Enforcement announced that a Community Clean Up on Saturday September 8, 2012 will be conducted along Delaware Avenue. The Code Enforcement Task Force meets every last Tuesday of the month, at 10:00 am at the Health Department, to review blight issues and break in’s of foreclosed properties in Immokalee, all were invited to attend those meetings. Ms. Perez added that the Sheriff’s Department will perform a Sweep in September. Ms. Thomas stated that it seems like all the enforcement efforts have been focused on the west side of town and asked that the east side also be considered for these efforts. Ms. Thomas inquired who is typically responsible for mowing the lawn area between the edge of roadway and the sidewalk on a residential property. She indicated that some residents had called her about the maintenance in the area on the south side of New Market Road near the “Triangle area”. Ms. Perez and Ms. Philippi responded indicating that it was the lot owner’s responsibility to maintain that area. Ms. Thomas asked if anyone knew who was mowing the area behind the 1st Baptist Church. Attendees responded with an assumption that it is FDOT.

c. Project Manager (PM) Report - Mr. Nagle reviewed the MSTU Project Managers report with the Committee.
   i. Carson Road sidewalk project – Mr. Nagle provided the Committee with an updated Opinion of Probable Cost for the project and identified some additional design improvements and adjustments made to the plans prior to preparing the RFP. The added improvements increased the engineers estimated project budget from +$95,000 to +$100,000. He stated the RFP is almost complete and will be ready for solicitation by the end of August or early September. Mr. Nagle inquired of the Committee if they wanted to increase the budget amount of $105,000 approved at the last meeting to reflect the new engineers estimate. The Committee declined and will wait to see what the bids are before considering a revised budget.
   ii. Main Street Improvement project - The Committee Members were informed that the MSTU has received 100% construction plans for the project from JRL, however there are concerns with the ownership at some of the road intersections where sidewalk and handicapped ramps are proposed. Stewart Title performed the Ownership and Easement research and found no easements in the target area. A meeting with JRL, RWA, and FDOT has been schedule for Friday 8/24/12 to find a solution.
   iii. Street Lighting – Mr. Nagle informed the Committee that there had been a median light pole knocked down over this past weekend at Main Street and 9th Street. A new Lumec standard blue color for the light poles was presented to the Committee for comparison with a piece of existing blue light pole as an alternative and
anticipated cost savings when ordering replacement lights. The Committee all agreed that the new standard blue should be specified when ordering new light poles for knock down replacements in the future. Ms. Thomas stated that Deputy Taylor has told her that the blue lights at the intersections of Main and 2nd and 1st and Delaware are not working and asked that Mr. Nagle investigate the reason why and coordinate repairs with the appropriate MSTU vendor.

iv. Holiday Decoration - The Committee was informed that a total of 40 Lighted Angel decorations are anticipated and planned to be installed along Main Street from 1st Street to the Triangle at New Market Road. Mr. Nagle has obtained the structural EPA information from the Angel manufacture and is preparing a general use permit for FDOT approval. The permit must be in by mid-September before the County is relieved of the permit issuance responsibility. Ms. Phillippi indicated that we have only 12 more weeks until the decorations have to be installed for the Holiday season.

v. Ninth Street Sidewalk replacement – The Committee was informed that through discussions with Collier County Transportation Department staff has recommended preparing the R.O.W. permit and asking for a waiver from the required lot owner signature since one owner is deceased and the other has not been located. Ms. Phillippi indicated that the amount of time spent by the Immokalee MSTU Project Manager on coordination for this project might be more than the actual project costs.

d. Contractor Reports.

i. Maintenance Report - The Committee was directed to review the report from CLM. Mr. Kindelan reviewed his report. CLM has been trimming the bougainvillea hedges in the medians to provide a level top to the hedge row as directed by the MSTU Project Manager. CLM performed paver area pressure cleaning last month and review the dirt that remained on the pavers after cleaning with the MSTU Project Manager in the field. CLM will schedule another test pressure cleaning with Mr. Nagle next week to determine why the pavers did not come clean. Mr. Kindelan indicated that the site furnishings are looking a little dirty and that they used to clean the bench slats with bleach and water; however he stopped doing that because the bleach residue can damage the clothing of pedestrians and that it also pitted the plastic/rubber slat material. The benches will be pressure cleaned in the future. The irrigation that is not functioning at the Casino area on 1st Street, as recently brought to the attention of CLM, will be reviewed today. Mr. Kindelan also pointed out to the Committee that the porous irrigation pipe
(soaker hose) will be checked for leaks where the juniper is dying and recommended that the system be upgraded to a regular irrigation system (Netifim drip pipe). Ms. Halman asked if the MSTU can change the plants in the medians to get away from the bougainvillea. Mr. Nagle responded indicating that he is considering a new plant palette for the medians however, the new plant materials being considered may present a concern with pedestrian trampling it and perhaps some time of post and chain barrier may have to be incorporated in the design. Mr. Kindelan added that the bougainvillea in the medians is continuously trampled by pedestrians, however the Jasmine groundcover is not trampled and a that a planting design with more Jasmine could be considered. Ms. Thomas added that there is a lot of pedestrian crossing through the medians on South 1st Street, near the Coral Palms area.

ii. Landscape Architect Report - Mr. Tindell from JRL reviewed the Landscape Architect Report and the photos provided. Mr. Tindell again pointed out the missing shrub material at the Sheriff’s office frontage along South 1st Street that should be replaced and identified 1 dying Crape Myrtle tree in a 1st street median that has significant dieback on it and requires corrective pruning and 1 dead Crape Myrtle near the Casino on 1st Street that needs to be removed and replaced. Mr. Tindell suggested that the 1st Street Crape Myrtle be replaced with a nicer evergreen tree since the existing Crapes are past their prime and starting to decline adding that perhaps a flowering Tababuia tree might look nice there. Mr. Nagle indicated that he had met with CLM on site a couple of weeks ago and directed him to prune all the Crape Myrtle trees up to a height of 10 feet from the ground (evenly) per our contract with CLM. A discussion regarding the deterioration and damaged disposition of the existing brick planters along Main Street ensued. The Committee collectively directed CLM to review the planter conditions and provide recommendations as to which planters should be repaired and which should be removed and provide the MSTU with a quote for the work to be performed. Mr. Tindell closed his report by thanking the MSTU Committee members for providing JRL the opportunity to work with them and that his contract with the Immokalee MSTU will be ending tomorrow 8/23/2012. He added that he would be pleased if the Committee saw fit to extend his contact for landscape architectural consulting services. Mr. Nagle indicated that this item is on the agenda to be discussed under New Business.
e. Community Redevelopment Agency Report.
   i. Stormwater Project – Ms. Philippi provided an update on the project schedule informing the Committee that the project is 75% complete and that the resurfacing of 2 streets associated with the project is next on the schedule. Additionally, at the moment, Mr. Muckel is attending a meeting with the Big Cypress Basin to discuss further funding assistance of $400,000 for design of Phase II, Immokalee Drive. Ms. Ortiz asked gets the money for the fill dirt coming out of the pond site on the current storm water project. Ms. Philippi responded indicating that it is the contractor. Ms. Thomas asked who is mining the dirt by the Marian Feather site. No one knew.
   ii. Crosswalk Project – Ms. Philippi informed the Committee that the $140k from the CDG B has taken 6 months for the County to prepare the RFP and that it could take another 6 months for the feasibility study and design process which would push the project into 2014. However, the grant funds require the project to be completed by 12/31/2012. Therefore, the money will have to be returned to the funding source. The MSTU Committee was asked if they might consider partnering with the CRA and sharing some of the study’s cost of $20k. Ms. Halman asked why the County took 4 months to prepare the RFP. Ms. Philippi responded indicating that Purchasing had no answer or recommendations for speeding up the process, adding that she is still discussing the issue with Purchasing.
   iii. 1st Street Plaza RFQ update – Ms. Philippi informed the Committee that the No. 1 selected professional for this project is Corban Architecture.

I. New Business.
   a. MSTU member renewal: Mr. Nagle informed the Committee that Ms. Ramirez and Ms. Ortiz have completed the online application as shown on (Enclosure 9) for review.

   Action: Mr. Deyo made a motion to approve the MSTU membership renewal for both Norma Ramirez and Lucy Ortiz, it was seconded by Ms. Halman and the motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

   b. JRL Design contract renewal: Mr. Nagle indicated that the JRL contract for landscape architectural consulting services will expire tomorrow on 8/23/2012 and inquired how the Committee would like to proceed. The Committee directed staff to file an extension of the current JRL contract for the next 30 days to allow the Committee to review the other short listed landscape architectural firms in the County’s library of vendors. Mr. Nagle added that Mr. Tindall has formed a new firm titled Green Works Studios which is one of the 5 shortlisted firms that the County selected. Ms. Thomas asked if the Immokalee MSTU will have a chance to select who they want to be their
landscape consultant or will it be assigned to them. Mr. Nagle responded indicating that he will investigate their concern and will provide a response to the Committee as soon as he receives an answer.

**Action:** Mr. Deyo made a motion to approve the extension of the current JRL landscape architecture consulting contract for an additional 30 days from 8/23/2012, it was seconded by Ms. Ortiz and the motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

c. Street Light replacements: The Committee was directed to 3 estimates from Southern Signal for the replacement of currently missing light poles along Main Street and 1st Street, specifically located at Walgreens & Main Street, Eustis Avenue & 1st Street, Popeye’s Chicken & Main Street and McDonalds & Main Street. Mr. Nagle explained that the current available MSTU budget for street lights is approximately $17,000 and that there is not enough budget remaining to replace all 3 of the lights. Possibly 1 light could be replaced at this time prior to the 2013 fiscal year budget. The Committee directed staff to proceed with coordinating the light replacements as far as the budget will allow with the exception of the replacement of the McDonalds & Main Street light.

**Citizen Comments.**

a. None

J. **Next Meeting Date.**

Ms. Phillippi suggested that the MSTU members consider holding their next meeting as a joint meeting with the CRA Advisory Board members on September 26, 2012 at 10:00 am at the Southwest Florida Works building. The Committee directed staff to coordinate the next meeting with the CRA Advisory Board.

K. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.