

MINUTES

Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee

February 19, 2014

750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, FL

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mike Facundo, CRA Chair at 8:45 a.m.

B. Roll Call and Announcement of a Quorum.

Advisory Committee/EZDA Members Present:

Floyd Crews, Frank Nappo, Carrie Williams, Mike Facundo, Ski Olesky, Estill Null and James Wall (9:20).

Advisory Committee/EZDA Members Absent/Excused:

Cristina Perez, Robert Halman and Julio Estremera.

Action: A quorum was announced as being present for all boards.

Others Present: Bill Howell, Chief Paul Anderson, Paul Midney, Amanda Campos, Steve Hart, Wayne Arnold, Richard Yovanovich, Jerry Blocker, Pam Brown, Everett Loukonen, Commissioner Nance, Jim Flanagan, Mr. & Mrs. Juan Vidaurri, Jean Volcy, Ernest Freeman and Maria Adams.

Staff: Brad Muckel and James Sainvilus.

C. Introductions. The board members present and members of the public introduced themselves.

D. Announcements.

a. BCC Agenda Items

Staff announced that one CRA item was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on February 11, 2014 which was related to the Big Cypress Basin funding Agreement.

E. Adoption of Agenda

Action: Mr. Olesky made a motion to approve the Agenda, Ms. Williams seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

F. Communications.

The folder containing the Public Notices was presented to the board.

G. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes for the January 08, 2014 Joint Meeting of the CRA, EZDA & MSTU board.

CRA/EZDA Board Action vote.

Action: Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 08, 2014 CRA, MSTU and EZDA Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Olesky and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote

H. CRA New Business

a. Commissioner Nance

Commissioner Nance provided a brief update to those present on a number of topics either directly or indirectly affecting the Immokalee Urban Designated Area. Topics discussed included:

- Discussion points between Commissioner Nance and Mr. Billy Hattaway, FDOT District One Secretary: SR29 Loop Road (need new intersection at Westclox and SR29, “mid-loop” connections on New Market Road, mitigation for the loss of Immokalee Airport Park), Seminole Tribe involvement with Main Street crosswalk improvements.
- The Southwest Florida Education Center: nearly unfunded and downgraded to a demonstration center. Special thanks to Southwest Florida Agricultural Council for its intervention to reinvigorate the Center, appeal for \$4.9 million and full-time Center Director.

- Citrus Greening Disease: the disease has been around for over 100 years with origins in Asia. If something isn't done about it within 5 years, the destruction on the industry will be catastrophic. A research team at The University of Florida has recently been successful in tracing the genome. The Farm Bill will allocate \$125 million over five years dedicated to further research. To date, it is estimated that the citrus industry has lost \$5 billion and 8-10 thousand jobs nationally due to citrus greening, and a 25% production loss in SW Florida alone.
- Collier County Airports: now being managed by the County Manager. Public meeting on March 3, 2014 in this room to discuss making our airports competitive from a marketing standpoint. Airglades Airport is competing for a \$400 million FAA grant.
- Lake Trafford Restoration: The SFWMD and BCB are both interested in furthering this effort. The Immokalee CRA is supported in continuing its stormwater water management efforts, which is a very positive focus for the area. The Commissioner encouraged the CRA to reach out to County Staff and the Board regarding the status of related projects in Immokalee.
- The MPO 2040 LRTP Update: It is important to stay involved in this review process due to the affect on roads in and around Immokalee. Lucilla Ayer, MPO Director, is well connected with District 1. Josh Rincone from Immokalee is now on the CAC. Additional representation is needed at the PAC and CAC meetings for Immokalee. The SR29 improvements can be moved up on the LRTP list of rankings if persistent.
- Site Improvement Plan Program: Staff should be allowed to reinstate the SIP program for mobile homes, which ended in 2003. Only 37 of the 77 Immokalee Mobile Home Parks had a plan. The Program needs to be reenergized. The BCC already voted unanimously to reinstate the Program. Commissioner Nance is working on getting the process started. Discussions are just beginning.
- Economic Development: all of these points lead back to economic development. Immokalee job creation is on the front burner. Market Street Strategies has just been hired to perform a competitive assessment and produce a target business analysis for Collier County. Previous plans were focused solely on residential development and businesses that support that industry. Nothing in previous plans focused on large-scale economic development.

- b. State Road 29 Immokalee PD&E Study – Presentation (Enclosure 2a,2b, 2c & 2d)
Bill Howell from Lochner gave a presentation related to the FDOT SR29 Immokalee Loop Road and 2040 LRTP. Four alternatives are now under consideration. All are consistent with the Walkable Community theme.

Floyd Crews: I thought we were getting away from that theme.

Mr. Howell reported the list of projects in the 2040 LRTP's Cost Feasibility and Needs Plans that fall in or around Immokalee.

The Advisory Board exhibited its discontent towards the rankings and general location of these projects.

Carrie Williams: We need to have a meeting with Lucilla Ayer in Immokalee prior to the April MPO Board meeting.

Action: *Mr. Olesky made a motion requesting staff draft a letter under Chairman Facundo's signature requesting Lucilla Ayer attend the March CRA Advisory Board meeting to discuss the rationale behind each of the Immokalee projects identified in the LRTP . Ms. Williams seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.*

- c. Annual Report 2013 (Enclosure 3a & 3b)
Staff pointed out the 2014 CRA Annual Report in the agenda packet and called for questions/comments. None were heard.
- d. Red Flag Item: Blood Linz Ink Tattoo – North First Street (Enclosure 4)

The owners of Blood Linz Ink Tattoo requested immediate assistance from the CRA Advisory Board regarding the County's refusal to issue an occupational license for the company's leased space on North First Street. The space is zoned VR (village residential) and falls within the Immokalee Main Street Overlay. VR only allows for C1. Tattoo Parlors are only permitted in C4 zoning districts. The Advisory Board noted the situation and will take it into consideration later in the year during its review of the Immokalee Overlays. No immediate solution could be provided. Other rental properties in Immokalee were suggested.

I. CRA Old Business

- a. CP-2013-8 Proposed Amendment to the IAMP for large scale retailer - Q&A (Enc 5)
An email from County Planning Staff was presented to the Advisory Board requesting that it postpone its vote while the applicant updates certain information contained in the back-up documentation in its application packet. Mr. Wayne Arnold reported that his firm was currently updating the economic impact data in their packet and that the application would now go before the CCPC in April. He added that over 375 people attended the public meeting in Immokalee last month and thanked CRA staff for its assistance with logistics. The crown had an overall positive feedback. The Advisory Board vote was postponed until further notice.

b. Land Development Code

- i. Map (Enclosure 6a): no discussion
- ii. Workshop – update (Enclosure 6b): workshop dates for the Immokalee Land Development Code Update were agreed upon: 4/15/14, 4/22/14 and 5/13/14.

- c. First Street Plaza Zocalo – Update: Mr. Sainvilus provided an update on the status of the project. Members of the Advisory Board and public requested that Barry Williams, Director of Parks & Recreation, come to the March meeting to discuss maintenance and usage of this facility.

Action: *Ms. Williams made a motion requesting staff draft a letter addressed to Barry Williams for Chairman Facundo's signature requesting Mr. Williams attend the March CRA Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Crews seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.*

- d. Advisory Board vacancies: staff announced that there were still vacancies on the Advisory Board. Board members requested that staff look into the possibility of amending the enabling ordinance to broaden the prevue of allowable Board members.

e. CRA Project Manager Report (Enclosure 7)

- i. Drainage and Sidewalk Improvement Projects: an update was proved by staff for the two drainage and sidewalk improvement projects currently underway (Immokalee Drive and Colorado Avenue).

ii. Façade Grant Program:

1. Kountry Kitchen: Staff provided an update with pictures for this project which his currently under construction.
2. Paralegal & Notary Services: Mr. Jean Volcy requested a second 180-day extension for his grant Agreement which is currently set to reach its one-year expiration date on 3/11/14.

Action: *Mr. Olesky made a motion requesting staff request of the CRA Board a second 180-day extension to Mr. Volcy's Façade Program Grant Agreement. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.*

- iii. Crosswalk Improvement Project (Enclosure 9): Staff provided an update on the Immokalee Crosswalk Improvement project, which is currently being undertaken by AIM Engineering.

Carrie Williams requested that staff arrange a special FDOT LRTP Workshop in Immokalee for early March before the March 19th Advisory Board meeting so that the Advisory Board has a change to review all of the provided project information before an informed discussion with Lucilla Ayer at the March Advisory Board meeting. Ms. Williams also requested that the March agenda be focused solely on the LRTP and Crosswalk Improvement Project.

- f. IBDC Manager Report: No report
- g. MSTU Project Manager Report (Enclosure 11): Mr. Sainvilus provided a report on the current MSTU project.
- h. Code Enforcement – Highlights: No report.
- J. Citizen Comments: None we heard.
- K. Next Meeting Date: CRA & EZDA Meeting March 19, 2014 at 8:30 A.M.
- L. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:19 am