

MINUTES

Immokalee Local Redevelopment Agency February 15, 2012

A. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Michael Facundo, Chair at 8:30 A.M.

B. Roll Call and Announcement of a Quorum.

Advisory Committee/EZDA Members Present:

Michael Facundo, Floyd Crews, Kitchell Snow, Eva Deyo, Julio Estremera, Ski Olesky, Jeffrey Randall, Carrie Williams, Daniel Rosario, and Angel Madera.

Advisory Committee/EZDA Members Absent/Excused:

James Wall, Robert Halman and Lt. Drew Lee.

Action: A quorum was announced as being present.

Others Present: Mitch Hutchcraft, Angela Fitch, Byron Tweeten, Bernardo Barnhart, Lois Gomez, Steve Hart, Pam Brown, Tim Nance, Marvin Courtright, Thomas Vergo, Magda Ayala, Jerry Blocker, and Randy Johns.

Staff: Penny Phillippi, Brad Muckel, Marie Capita, Rosemary Dillon, and Christie Betancourt.

C. Introductions. All present introduced themselves to the Committee.

D. Announcements.

E. Adoption of Agenda.

Action: Ms. Deyo made a motion to accept the Agenda with the addition of I.b. Tallahassee Report and I.c. Growth Design Corp.; Mr. Olesky seconded the motion and the Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

E. Communications.

a. The Communications Folder containing the Public Notices and various news articles.

F. Consent Agenda.

a. Approval of Minutes for the January 18, 2012 CRA Advisory Board meeting.

Action: Ms. Deyo made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, the motion was seconded by Mr. Olesky and the Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

G. Old Business.

a. IAMP – Update

Ms. Phillippi had no update. Floyd Crews indicated that he still had issues about the density, the industrial area on the FLUM and Lake Trafford.

Action: Floyd Crews made a motion to hold workshops in each overlay area. Jeffery Randall seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Action: Floyd Crews made a motion to find an outside planner from a small community to review and critique the IAMP. Ski Olesky seconded the motion. The motion failed with a vote of 1 in favor (Floyd Crews) and 9 opposed.

b. Immokalee LDR's

Ms. Phillippi announced that the LDRs would be held back until the Master Plan is approved.

- c. MSTU Update
Ms. Phillippi stated that the applicants have been interviewed for the Project Manager position has been advertised and it is anticipated that the new PM begin in early March.
- d. Downtown Immokalee Stormwater Project
Brad Muckel, Project Manager, stated that he is waiting for DEO to provide a letter approving a six month extension of the contract for the construction of the project. He informed the Committee that Higgins requested use of the 9th Street Plaza property for staging the stormwater construction project.

Action: Carrie Williams mad a motion to recommend to the BCC that Higgins be allowed to store materials on the property owned by the CRA on 9th and Main Streets. Mr. Olesky seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

- e. Code Enforcement Highlights
Kitchell Snow stated that Code Enforcement will be conducting a Community Clean up on March 10, 2012 and stated they would be using the 9th Street Plaza property for a staging area.
- f. IBDC Manager Report
Marie Capita, IBDC Manager, reported that the SBA signing of the Strategic Alliance Agreement with the IBDC was in the Sunday newspaper. Copies of the article were included in the Communications folder. She provided a list of all upcoming trainings and encouraged attendees to inform all local contractors that Section 3 training will be held this coming Saturday (February 18th).
- g. CRA 2012 Operational Plan
Ms. Phillippi stated she and staff met with the consultant to advise him that the Plan was not acceptable. He has since revised the document and it is currently under review by staff.
- h. Immokalee Residential Infrastructure Program
Ms. Phillippi reported that the Empowerment Alliance is hesitant to call for a new inspection because the punch list will grow and they need to be prepared to execute the work quickly. She asked the Advisory Committee whether or not they want to pursue the action.

Action: Carrie Williams made a motion not to pursue the activity further. Julio Estremera seconded the motion. Ski Olesky abstained from the vote as he serves on the Board of the Empowerment Alliance, nine Committee members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed by majority vote.

- i. First Street Plaza – Update
Ms. Phillippi informed the Committee that Commissioner Hiller brought the grant award back to the BCC for reconsideration on Tuesday. The motion for reconsideration died for lack of a second. The purchase of the parcel will be presented to the BCC on February 28, 2012.

- I. New Business.
 - a. Immokalee Foundation Presentation

Lois Gomez made a presentation of the Take Stock in Children Program. She stated that only 57% of the students at HIS graduate from High School. However, 97% of the children in the Take Stock Program graduate from High School. There are currently 144 children in the program, 45 in college. Twenty two new children in 7th and 8th grade in the program need a mentor. The program requires they be drug free, maintain a certain grade point average and meet with a mentor once per week in order to receive a full scholarship to a Florida college.
 - b. Tallahassee Visit Presentation

Steve Hart made a brief presentation about his informational visit to Tallahassee. He provided an update on all of the bills that would have impacted the Enterprise Zone and CRAs. All of the Bills discussed died in Committee.
 - c. Growth Design Corporation provided a Powerpoint presentation on a potential industry for Immokalee. They stated they are working on a feasibility study that should be completed within 60 days.
- J. Citizen Comments.

Pam Brown provided the attendees and the Advisory Committee with a list of questions about the IAMP that had been generated at the last meeting of the Civic Association.
- K. Next Meeting Date. Regular Meeting March 21, 2012 at 8:30 A.M.
- L. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.