

WINTER HAVEN COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING

City Hall – John Fuller Auditorium
451 Third Street, N.W.
Winter Haven, Florida

June 12, 2006

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Potter, in the John Fuller Auditorium of Winter Haven City Hall, 451 Third Street, N.W., Winter Haven, Florida.

Board Members Present:

Jeff Potter, Mike Easterling, Yvonne Brooks, Nat Birdsong and U. J. Johnson III.

Staff Present:

Dale Smith, Assistant City Manager/Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Director, John Murphy, City Attorney and Ann Bass, Executive Assistant.

Others Present:

Marcie Dershimer, President of Ritz Theatre 100; Stella Heath; Kerry Wilson, Main Street and Mrs. U.J. Johnson;

Approval of Minutes:

***Motion by Board Member Easterling** to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2006 Meeting.*

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chairman Potter welcomed Dale Smith to the meeting. Mr. Smith advised that he is the CRA Director replacing Mike McMahon.

2006 Preliminary Tax Increment Report:

Dale Smith read the 2006 Preliminary Tax Increment Report into record; there was no discussion.

Project Updates:

Dale Smith read the Project Updates Fact Sheet.

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Florence Villa Improvements – Phase IV:

Board Member Easterling asked if URS's survey is included as part of the \$348,000 cost of the Florence Villa Improvements Phase IV project.

Dale Smith answered yes; the survey and design is included in the project.

Winter Haven Area Transit (WHAT):

Chairman Potter asked, "Who is the Public Art Committee?"

Board Member Brooks stated, it is a committee comprised of Leisure Services, Mainstreet, and WHAT staff from the County that approved the concept of a mosaic floor tile depicting Polk County and tile borders beneath the windows reflecting scenes specific to Winter Haven.

Board Member Easterling asked if the EDI Grant Application is going to move us forward in funding for parking garages.

Dale Smith stated, it will keep us moving forward in a timely manner. We have to continue applying every year. As long as we are spending the Federal dollars, we are moving forward, and it is imperative that we keep our projects identified. We will reapply for additional funds for parking garages.

Latimore Landings:

Board Member Birdsong indicated in a conversation with the owners that 33 units have been pre-sold.

Dale Smith stated, the City was told 40 units needed to be pre-sold in order to start construction; they are getting close.

John Murphy anticipates having a development agreement prepared for the next Board Meeting, in final form that staff will agree upon, to present for consideration.

Ritz Theatre 100 Funding Agreement:

Dale Smith read the Ritz Theatre 100 Funding Agreement Fact Sheet into the record. He stated, at this time we would like to get a consensus from the Board to move forward

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with the concept of the Funding Agreement of the CRA matching dollar for dollar funds raised up to \$250,000.

Board Member Easterling made a motion to move forward with the agreement.

Chairman Potter likes the idea that the agreement is going to the Downtown Advisory Committee first for approval and then back to the Board.

Board Member Brooks asked if a walk-through of the Ritz Theatre by the Downtown Advisory Committee was possible.

John Murphy advised that the Advisory Committees are not the Sunshine Committees per se, and he didn't see any problem in getting them together and conduct a walk through of the Ritz Theatre building.

Chairman Potter stated that actually the next scheduled meeting could be a walk through meeting.

Dale Smith stated, we could do a walk through and afterwards come back to City Hall for the meeting.

Marcie Dershimer, President of Ritz Theatre 100, addressed the Board requesting a letter of support regarding the Ritz Theatre building renovations with matching moneys up to \$250,000. This letter will be included in the state Division of Historic Preservation Grant Application due on June 20th.

John Murphy advised with the motion on the table to move forward with the funding agreement, a letter of support would be in order.

Chairman Potter asked for a motion to accept the concept to move forward to the Downtown Advisory Committee for their thoughts and comments on the funding agreement.

Board Member Birdsong made a motion to move forward to the Downtown Advisory Committee for their thoughts and comments on the agreement; all agreed.

Chairman Potter asked do we want to have a motion for a Resolution.

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John Murphy stated, you could decide that the consensus of the Board is with a letter of support which staff will assist with and the Chairperson could sign.

Chairman Potter reaffirmed that the consensus of the Board is to write a letter of support that will be forthcoming and Marcie Dershimer will be notified when it is ready.

New Business:

None

Comments from the Public and Board:

None

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.