

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOCA RATON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2007
*1:30 P.M.

*The Regular Meeting of the Boca Raton Community Redevelopment Agency was called to order by Chairman Baronoff at approximately 2:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

Chairman Peter R. Baronoff
Vice Chairman M.J. Mike Arts
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams
Commissioner Bill Hager
Commissioner Susan Whelchel

Also attending the meeting were:

Boca Raton City Manager Leif J. Ahnell
Boca Raton City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser, Attorney to the Agency

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

There were no amendments to the agenda.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2007

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Arts, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote; Chairman Baronoff, Vice Chairman Arts, Commissioners Abrams, Hager and Whelchel voting yes.

REGULAR BUSINESS - PART I - QUASI-JUDICIAL & RELATED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no items for consideration.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

No one came forward to speak.

REGULAR BUSINESS - PART II – RESOLUTIONS AND REGULAR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no items for consideration.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There were no items for consideration.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. North/South Linkage / Pedestrian Plaza (a.k.a. The Spine) Update

Chairman Baronoff advised that the meeting with Crocker Partners took place approximately a week ago. He explained that they now have all the parcels in the area under some form of agreement. Also, while Crocker Partners had a list of items they wished to discuss with the City, no quantitative information was forthcoming. It was agreed that Crocker Partners would discuss

these items with City staff in relation to what they want to develop in the spine area. At this point, issues concerning TIF (Tax Increment Financing) and density were not discussed, other than to note that Crocker Partners would meet with staff over same. Chairman Baronoff reported that, at the end of the meeting, he suggested a meeting be scheduled between Crocker Partners and City staff; a date has not yet been set. At this time, staff is awaiting quantitative proposals for review, after which they would be brought forward to the CRA for consideration.

2. Downtown Boca Raton Advisory Committee Update

Ruby Childers, Manager of Administrative Services for Development Services, gave the update, advising that the Committee met on September 19, 2007 and reviewed and approved a motion to accept the downtown master plan update as a framework for realizing the vision for the downtown. They also drafted a resolution for future Council consideration that includes elements of the master plan update and designates the Committee as the steering committee for implementation oversight, as recommended by the update. Upon final review of the resolution, it will be brought to Council in October. The tentative master plan update implementation schedule was then reviewed. Ms. Childers advised that this schedule would ensure that the concepts of the master plan are incorporated into items such as the multimodal transportation district, pattern books and downtown design guidelines, and Downtown Development Order amendments. The implementation schedule may be considered in conjunction with the resolution. Ms. Childers concluded her presentation and answered questions from the CRA. It was noted that, once staff receives more concrete, detailed proposals from Crocker Partners, the CRA would likely have the Downtown Boca Raton Advisory Committee review same as well. Responding to a query regarding Crocker Partners' October 31, 2007 deadline for obtaining an agreement with the City, Chairman Baronoff advised that the sooner information is received by staff the better since, right now, there's nothing that either the CRA or staff can review other than a framework for what they'd like to have reviewed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

The City Attorney had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Vice Chairman Arts asked for an update on the former cartoon museum building. The City Manager explained that it was moving forward and the bookstore should be open in Spring 2008. He advised that the building would probably be turned over to Vald Svekis, owner of the bookstore, in December or January for interior renovation; however, the exterior portion of the work would be done before then. Mr. Ahnell also reported that plans for restaurant space on the first floor were moving along; in addition, public access areas on the second floor were being worked on. Responding to the Agency, Mr. Ahnell advised he did not believe anything would be open for the holidays; however, much progress is being made and the exterior of the structure should be completed by the end of the year.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Abrams, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote; Chairman Baronoff, Vice Chairman Arts, Commissioners Abrams, Hager, and Whelchel voting yes.

The regular meeting of the Boca Raton Community Redevelopment Agency adjourned at approximately 2:11 p.m., Monday, September 24, 2007.

Peter R. Baronoff, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sharma Carannante, City Clerk

CRA Meeting
Recorder: VH/SC