

**Mid Town Community Redevelopment Area
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 2, 2009
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Building Inspection Conference Room, City Hall**

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members: Bill Mutz, Tim Mitchell, Earl Johnson, Gow Fields, Carole Philipson,
Staff: Tamara Sakagawa, Heather Huebner

Packets

- 710 E. Magnolia Street – Curtis Logan Property
- E. Parker St. Multimodal Connector
- 1045 N. Vermont Avenue
- Platform Art/University of South Florida: Fundraising Update
- Correspondence with Mr. Reggie Ardis and Public Meeting
- FY 2010-2019 CIP Budget
- Proposed Main Street Transportation Enhancement Project

Housekeeping

Board Members

Staff is working to bring Keith Merritt on as the new Advisory Board member. Keith lives in the Lakeshore Neighborhood and will be a good addition to the board.

Old Business

710 E. Magnolia Street – Curtis Logan Property

710 E. Magnolia Street was originally presented to the Advisory Board as a demolition/new construction project; however after speaking with Planning Staff regarding the variance necessary to build a new structure it was apparent that the project would work better as a rehabilitation of the existing home.

The final deal was structured so that Keystone Challenge Fund will buy the home from Curtis Logan for the value of the land, manage the rehabilitation, and upon Certificate of Occupancy, sell the home to the CRA. Mr. Logan will then enter into a long-term lease with the CRA. Mr. Logan will be responsible for all relocation costs.

E. Parker Street Multimodal Connector

Staff recently held a public meeting for the improvements to East Parker Street between North Massachusetts Avenue and North Lake Parker Avenue. The meeting was held Monday, June 22 at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church from 5 pm – 6 pm. Staff and city attendees included seven city employees, one FDOT representative, and Commissioner Gow Fields. Five residents and two non-residents attended the meeting.

No comments were given in writing at the meeting; however feedback from the meeting was good. Remarks were addressed at the meeting by staff or by letter after the meeting. Residents also expressed support regarding the ADA enhancements at the transit stops.

1045 N. Vermont Avenue – Properties owned by David Wilson

At the June 2009 Advisory Board meeting, staff was given the approval to move forward on an offer in the amount of \$130,000 for property owned by David Wilson at 1045 N. Vermont Avenue. In the negotiations that ensued following the initial \$130,000 offer, staff determined that Mr. Wilson is willing to accept \$140,000, with the LCRA to pay the realtors commission (which is 2% to the LCRA’s realtor, Russ Rhoads).

The Advisory Board approved the contract for \$140,000 and realtor’s fees.



Platform Art/University of South Florida: Fundraising Update

At the last meeting, Board Members agreed to support Platform Art and their next event, Platform 14: Art and Architecture. Trent Green, Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at USF’s School of Architecture and Community Design has been invited to participate in the event.

Cynthia Haffey with Platform Art and Staff worked to create talking points to present to the list of potential donors. To date three groups have committed to supporting the project.

New Business

Correspondence with Mr. Reggie Ardis and Public Meeting

Staff shared with the Advisory Board a letter written by Mr. Reggie Ardis to Tamara Sakagawa, CRA Manager “concerning the LRMC possible future purchase of homes in the Morrell/West Lane property district.” The response to Mr. Ardis written by Ms. Sakagawa was also shared with the board.

FY 2010-2019 CIP Budget

The draft CIP for 2010-2019 was handed to the board members. The draft has been presented to the City Manager’s office for preliminary discussion. They are awaiting the Mid Town CRA Advisory Board’s comments before proceeding further.

FYI

FDOT Transportation Enhancement Program – Proposed Main Street Transportation Enhancement Project

City Planner Chuck Barnby, has been evaluating numerous options for a second Transportation Enhancement Program application through the Polk TPO. Staff is looking to submit an application for a road-diet project on Main Street between Bartow Road and Lake Bonny West. This project would include landscaped medians, an asphalt overlay, striping of bicycle lanes, transit and the addition of paved shoulders for the 600 foot section between Fern Street and Lake Bonny.

The Mid Town CRA Advisory Board committed to paying \$88,000 of the \$688,000 project (\$600,000 is funded through the grant).

Next Meeting, **Thursday, August 6 2009, 3:30 – 6:00pm, City Commission Conference Room.**

Adjourned at 4:30 PM.