Community Redevelopment Advisory Board Minutes

July 25, 2019 at 12:00 pm.

Chapman Room
401 S. Park Ave. | Winter Park, Florida

Present
Teri Gagliano, Javier Omana, Jeff Stephens, Woody Woodall, Mike Emerson, Lambrine Macejeswski, John Caron

Absent
Meeting called to order
Chairman Javier Omana called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Approval of minutes
Motion made by Teri Gagliano, seconded by Jeff Stephens, to approve the June 27, 2019 minutes. Motion passes 6-0.

New Business Items

1. Review of the CRA Meeting July 22, 2019
   Assistant Division Director, Kyle Dudgeon, provided a brief overview of the items presented to the City Commission on Monday, July 22, 2019.

   Capital planning projects such as the 17-92 project, which includes intersection improvements, pedestrian walkway improvements, decorative lighting, additional landscaping improvements, and Harper streetscape project, which is very similar to other streetscape projects completed in the past. Also included in that was the MLK Park area south parking area. This would be about 60 spaces in and around the MLK area.

   There are two different storm water projects: one is improvement to the aesthetics and one is installation. Staff will be working with the Public Works Department to discuss capacity limitations and fiscal impacts of both projects.

   Downtown improvements included street lighting, trash and recycling cans, irrigation in Central Park, and Central Park stage redesign. Staff is working to ensure the design is conducive to the Winter Park area but plan presented to the CRA AB may not be the final design. Public restrooms are also a possibility and will be part of the discussion. Board inquired if the $250,000.00 included public restrooms. Staff advised that the amount includes improvements to street lighting, trash and
recycle receptacles, Central Park irrigation and design for the Central Park stage but not actual building.

Board discussed not having public restrooms available in the park area and how it doesn’t make sense to have such a beautiful park area and the Farmer’s Market but not offer public restrooms therefore forcing visitors to use the restroom facilities of the nearby businesses. The Board also inquired as to why there are not public restrooms at the SunRail station and cited an example of a family that was waiting for the AmTrak, which was two and a half hours late. The family had no idea where a restroom was, and stated how they had to venture across the tracks and down Park Ave to find a public restroom. The Board views this as a safety issue for those using the SunRail to visit Winter Park. Board also inquired if incorporating public restrooms at the SunRail station would provide any cost savings since the structure is already there.

West Comstock Parking - Mr. Dudgeon discussed the possibility of additional perpendicular parking spaces on West Comstock. He stated that parking spaces would correspond with the existing parking lot on the north side of Comstock Avenue. The costs for 65 perpendicular parking spaces would be approximately $150,000.00. Board suggested going upwards with additional parking and the effect it has on visitors to the area. Staff answered questions related to parking needs for the area.

Center Street improvements - Sustainability is working on improvement projects to assist merchants in the area. Staff will bring back additional information and details at a future meeting as more information becomes available. Board voiced concerns over access and parking availability for merchants and employees in that area.

Shady Park Splash Pad - needs to be updated as it has been out of service for some time now. Staff is coordinating with Parks & Rec Department to see if there is an opportunity for the CRA to assist with creating a new splash pad area. The computers and equipment are outdated at this point and it would probably be best to look into a full re-design.

CRA quarterly traffic analysis - additional contractual services dollars will be used towards researching options to assist with this task.

Hannibal Square - Design improvements with the goal to increase and improve the tree canopy in the area. No dollar value has been assigned at this point, but staff wanted the item to be included on the project list.
City of Winter Park Women’s Club - They have submitted a façade improvement request of $20,000.00 to be used towards new doors, windows, etc. This item was presented to the Agency and they approved the request.

A request was submitted for a place-holder of $100,000.00 was allocated for affordable housing. Staff posed the question - “Is there an opportunity for us to consider something in addition to what we currently offer?” $60,000.00 is currently in the budget for home renovation, driveway, & paint. Since its inception, the Home Renovation program has completed 140 homes in the CRA district.

Parking structures are in the CRA Plan - $150,000.00 has been put aside for parking strategies. A downtown circulator was also included as part of the study.

A request for $1,000,000.00 in Denning/Fairbank traffic and stormwater improvements - this is an open-ended place-holder. An area of particular interest was the Lake Rose area. Another suggestions was the opportunity for property acquisition in the area, referencing the dry cleaner property on Fairbanks.

Another $1,000,000.00 request was submitted for MLK parking & landscaping improvements.

Board inquired if there is any opportunity for the Denning Drive project to extend to Mead Gardens. Discussion ensued and staff suggested the question be presented to the Orange Ave Steering Committee.

In short, staff is updating the budget to accommodate all of the referenced items to be brought back to the Commission in August. The CRA Agency meeting is August 12th, 2019.

CRA Project Update

New York Ave. Capital Improvement- Curbwork and ADA compliance at certain intersections, crosswalks, easements at Fairbanks and New York Ave to assist with the turn radius, and working with Florida Department of Transportation to install mast arms to replace the wires. New York does not offer as much opportunity because it does not have the same easement that Denning Dr had.

Parking Sensors - Two sensors have been installed at the Panera garage as a pilot test. Staff is working with the owners of the parking garage to gain 100% approval to install the sensors on the entire 4th floor of the garage. Staff considered outsourcing the project but the maintenance costs were exorbitant. Staff is now working interdepartmentally with the IT department who is more than capable of handling the program.
Tree Grate Project - The project is under way to replace some of the planter beds with tree grates and remove the dirt and mulch currently in place. This will be a safety improvement as well as an aesthetic improvement to the area.

Bus Shelters - Staff spoke with Lynx and they look to improve 25-30 bus shelters in the Orlando area per year as that is what they can afford. Lynx is also conducting a route efficiency study which may prioritize the order in which they improve the shelters.

Board member has an issue with crosswalk at Morse Blvd and Virginia Ave. as the cars do not stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk, causes a danger to pedestrians. Board suggested a raised walkway or a flashing light, or both at the location.

ADJOURNMENT:
Next meeting scheduled for August 22, 2019 at 12:00 pm.
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

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Chairman, Javier Omana.      Board Liaison, Laura Halsey