

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF STUART
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT BOARD HELD IN CITY HALL, 121
SOUTHWEST FLAGLER AVENUE, STUART, FLORIDA ON TUESDAY, MAY
3, 2011**

Those present: Frank Wacha, Jr., Chairman
Jean Laws Scott
Sharon Fitzke
Pete Walson
Samia Ferraro
Johnnie Bell

Those absent: David Collier, Vice Chairman

Also present: Ed Morley, Chief of Police
Teresa Lamar-Sarno, CRA Coordinator
Joly Boglioli, Assistant Financial Services Director

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman

Samia Ferraro called the meeting to order at 4:12PM

II. ROLL CALL: Secretary

Those answering roll call and others present are referenced above.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 5, 2011

MOTION: Pete Walson

SECOND: Jean Laws-Scott

Motion carried 5/0

Public Comments:

Board Comments:

1. Presentation by Habitat for Humanity

Presentation: Margo Graff

Public Comments: None

Board Comments: None

2. Policing Plan Update for the CRA

Presentation: Chief Ed Morley

Public Comments: None

Board Comments:

Samia Ferraro said the report was very comprehensive and asked if the CRA didn't fund the program would the City would take over the funding.

Chief Morley replied that the City Manager and City Commission would need to answer that.

Sharon Fitzke wanted to clarify that the crime rate went down when the CRA had 24 hour policing.

Chief Morley said it did.

Pete Walson congratulated him on the statistics.

3. FY 2012 Budget Review

Presentation: Teresa Lamar-Sarno

Public Comments:

Board Comments:

Pete Walson asked about the 60% increase in the life and health insurance.

Dan Hudson said the figures were run by the preference of the individual employee so it would fluctuate.

Pete Walson asked about the increase in the Xerox copier.

Joly Boglioi said the copier cost used to be covered by one department and now it is being shared by all departments that use it.

Pete Walson asked if they spent \$30,000 on green building grants last year, why they are spending \$100,000 this year.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno gave them a breakdown and said the board had asked to keep the \$100,000 but to remove Habitat.

Samia Ferraro said she had questioned whether they allocated money to an organization that had not presented them with a proposal and asked Habitat if they had plans to continue to build this year.

Margo Graff said they are continuously building and would like to apply.

Samia Ferraro asked if they have property that they could build from the ground up.

Margo Graff said they have no property but they do have condemned homes that they are working with.

Dan Hudson said the city owns a handful of properties that may be possibilities for Habitat.

Pete Walson said that the way infrastructure is laid out, if they followed through with the Colorado redesign would all the pots have to combine for that project.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said that is a decision of the CRA with a CRB recommendation. She said she thought that all of the money would be designated for that or they could accrue money within three years time per the state statute and they are also applying for a community block grant and the match would be available once they reallocate some of the funding under the infrastructure fund this fiscal year, so there are a couple of different scenarios.

Pete Walson said at the meeting regarding Colorado they were talking about \$1.4 or \$1.7 million.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said at this point it is \$1.3.

Pete Walson asked what the CDBG would cover.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said \$690,000 which leaves \$610,000.

Pete Walson asked how much they generate in new TIF funds a year.

Dan Hudson said about \$1.1 in the 11 budget and they anticipate that it will go down and they are working on a citywide forecast of a decline of 5%.

Samia Ferraro asked about the revenue and the special events grants.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said the CRA hosts several different events and the special events grant is something they started a couple of years ago for ArtFest, Dancing in the Streets etc.

Samia Ferraro said it seems that the operating costs are really heavy compared to what they do or produce and asked if it was reasonable as she had looked at other CRA costs and those are usually 20-30%.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said she hasn't looked at other CRA's.

Dan Hudson said the income stream has declined and if the operating costs stay constant and the revenue costs have declined, that is the reason the percentage is increasing.

Pete Walson said at one time they didn't do the community policing and asked when the police would no longer need the funds.

Chief Morley said when they originally started the plan it was prior to the economic downturn and it would be up to the City Manager and City Commission.

Dan Hudson said he thought they discussed a three year time frame and this is the third year, but due to the economy perhaps they should continue it for another year and discuss it again.

Pete Walson said that with the loss in revenues, now is not the time to move it back but he is looking down the road at the \$300,000 and if the economy doesn't get any better and they bring in \$1 million in new TIF funds in 2013 and keep expenses the same including community policing then they are \$340,000 short with no infrastructure expenses at all.

Samia Ferraro said she thought they started the program because of the dip in the economy.

Dan Hudson said in 2007 for the 2008 budget the state mandated they had to make budget cuts.

Chief Morley said he believed the parking enforcement person was funded in that also.

Pete Walson asked the status on the county office building.

Dan Hudson said Martin County seems quite enthusiastic about moving forward and they are writing contract proposals for different locations in the area.

Frank Wacha asked where \$209,000 came from and said administrative costs seemed high compared to what they are doing and they are going in two different directions. He said when they formulate budgets, they need to think about being more entrepreneurial and think about TIF.

MOTION: Pete Walson moved approval of the FY 2012 Budget with the removal of the money for the Business Development Board and move that amount to the infrastructure budget.

SECOND: Johnnie Bell

Motion carried: 6/0

Staff Comments:

Teresa Lamar-Sarno gave an update on Colorado Avenue.

Samia Ferraro asked if the final approval was the CRA or the City Commission.

Teresa Lamar-Sarno said the City Commission will approve any grant application that they do.

Pete Walson said he is a fan of Habitat for Humanity and perhaps they could plant trees in East Stuart.

Dan Hudson said the city is working on developing a renewed master plan for the 10th Street Recreation Center and part of the approach would be to look outside the park at some of the entryways.

IV. NEXT CRB MEETING:

June 7, 2011

V. ADJOURN:

MOTION: Pete Walson

SECOND: Sharon Fitzke

Motion carried 6/0

Chairman Wacha, there being no further business before the Board the meeting is adjourned at 5:11PM.

APPROVED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Frank Wacha, Jr., Chairman

Michelle Vicat, Board Secretary