

Community Redevelopment Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers
February 24, 2021
5:00 P.M.

Community Redevelopment Agency Board members: Reynolds Henderson, Joe Johnson, Cathy Mosley, Susan Bakalo, Darius Paul, and Mayor Bob Campbell. City Clerk Maryanne Schrader and City Attorney Clay Adkinson were also in attendance.

Chair R. Henderson called the Community Redevelopment Agency meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes - Chair R. Henderson asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by Board Member C. Mosely and seconded by Board Member D. Paul to approve the minutes of January 27, 2021. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Citizen Comments - Chair R. Henderson noted that there were no comments from the public.

4. CRA Strategic Plan Consultant RFQ Update

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said he determined that the changes were not incorporated into the draft from the last meeting, so he will update it and get it to the City Clerk to distribute to the Board. He added with Mr. Smigielski's resignation, we no longer have a CRA Executive Director.

5. CRA Director Hire Discussion

Chair Henderson asked the Board if they want to continue with a CRA Director hire.

City Attorney mentioned that currently it could be considered a parttime job which would overlap with the city manager duties. However, as the organization grows, the job could become a fulltime position. He added many Boards hire at the outset. However, we do not have seed money.

Discussion ensued on whether to proceed with a hire to draft a vision and work on the plan, as well as not proceed with the release of the RFQ. Members discussed whether a city employee could provide a dual role. City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the RFQ would be easy to get on the street, and the Board could reject them all if they do not meet requirements.

Discussion ensued on whether to hire a college grad student or utilize an intern.

Mayor Campbell said the local college has become a very good partner. We have spoken to them about Economic Development and vocations.

Chair Henderson asked citizen, Tony Vallee, who had just arrived about using a student, based on his research.

Tony Vallee suggested using someone who is doing a thesis or a planning student who is working toward their program. He mentioned he has worked with Florida A & M, but stated housing is a problem for when the student would have to visit. He recommended requested a thesis level student. Board member C. Mosely suggested a student from the area that is away at a higher-level school because of the ties to the area. The Board agreed to send Mr. Vallee the job description for the role.

Mr. T. Vallee suggested reaching out to Florida A&M, as they will do grant writing to establish a position. Chair Henderson said our mission is to remove blight, and T. Vallee replied A & M could provide students with a professional oversee of the project. He added that he will identify the need for the role, and A&M could determine the scope and mapping of our needs.

In wrapping up the discussion, Board member J. Johnson said he wants action and not speculation.

6. Code Enforcement Update

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn reported he has twenty cases and is starting with the worst. He has three new liens. He has re-inspections set for quadrant one.

Chair Henderson said he is noticed people cleaning up and commended him for doing a good job.

Discussion ensued on the request for dumpsters and getting the County's assistance in picking the dumpsters up. Board member J. Johnson said we were willing to buy two or three dumpsters to help people who needed assistance. Code Enforcement Officer C. Strawn added that Mr. Smigielski had spoken to Stan at the County, who agreed with helping with the blight remediation.

In response to Mayor Campbell, Board member J. Johnson explained some people do not have the money for renting the dumpsters, so we were going to help them and have the county pick them up.

Chair Henderson asked for public comment.

Citizen T. Vallee came forward and mentioned he has received good feedback on clean-up efforts. However, he has been asked for an amnesty day to clean up. He mentioned a day for toxic chemicals in particular. Mayor Campbell said the county usually does it once a quarter, so the city will help get the word out.

Mayor Campbell commented about dropped garbage on Bruce Avenue, stating he would like to see a community outreach to clean up the streets and explain how important it is.

Discussion ensued with campaign solutions, the use of inmates being curtailed because of COVID, using different clubs and whether city staff could assist with the clean-up.

Board member J. Johnson said he would be willing to take CRA money to fund the kids to pick up the trash, such as 4-H.

Chair Henderson asked Mayor Campbell to bring forward a plan. Board member D. Paul suggested utilizing the school children who may have some community service hours.

In response to T. Vallee, Chair Henderson said he could bring the idea to the Council. Mayor Campbell suggested having a plan to bring to the Council.

Adjournment

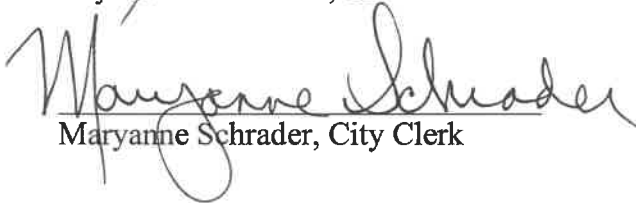
Motion by Board Member C. Mosely and seconded by Board Member D. Paul to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chair R. Henderson adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Minutes Approved by,



Reynolds Henderson, Chair



Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk

