

**LAKE WORTH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008
6:00 P.M.**

I. ROLL CALL:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on the above date in the Commission Chamber located at City Hall, 7 North Dixie Highway, Lake Worth, Florida.

Present were CRA Members Brendan Lynch, Matt Constantine, Matt Tompkins, Mark Rickards & Shanon Materio.

Also present was CRA Director, Joan Oliva

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

III. AGENDA – ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/REORDERING:

Delete- Action Item VI.b- Brownfield's: Authorize Executive Director to execute new contract with Tetra Tech Inc.

Action: Motion was made by Mr. Lynch to accept the agenda with the following item deleted: Brownfield's: Authorize Executive Director to execute new contract with Tetra Tech Inc. seconded by Mrs. Materio.

Vote: All Ayes

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3 minute limit):

Dee McNamara- The mission of the LWCRA is to eliminate blight in our City's depressed areas, it has instead settled in our most lucrative downtown and used our tax payer's revenue for a vanity project. One member does not even live in our City. This is putting our City in greater debt. Our millions were spent on County roads which should be the County's responsibility. We now own mangy trees on too narrow 6th Avenue South with no crosswalks. The CRA does nothing to help merchant's downtown. The CRA has neglected blighted areas. Do we need a CRA?

Mary Lindsay- Thanked the CRA. The people in the Tropical Ridge neighborhood association appreciate the intervention and communication that the CRA has done for this area. The CRA put a pocket park together, awarded a community aid grant for a day to play, the community policing in the neighborhoods, the sidewalks and the community outreach in the western neighborhoods. We are all very thankful.

V. PRESENTATIONS:

a. Lake Worth Police Department- Community Policing Project

CRA supported community policing began in April 2007. Initial service included only the western CRA neighborhoods.

On October 23rd 2007, the CRA Board approved spending up to \$141,000 for community policing overtime and to establish a level of service for community policing for FY07/08. Since that time, the CRA police patrols have been extremely successful in providing a greater sense of security for the residents of Lake Worth and preventing additional criminal activity in our city.

In January 2008, CRA Staff met with representatives from the police department and were advised that due to officer pay increases, the overtime rate has been averaging higher than \$45.00 per hour which has been the rate used to approximate this years budget amount. Therefore, Staff has determined that an item will be brought to the Board at the next CRA meeting to either increase funding for FY 07/08 or to cut some hours of overtime.

Sergeant Enrique Ponce was in attendance to further update the Board of the accomplishments and challenges in the CRA district. Sergeant Ponce gave a brief power point presentation to the CRA Board.

Sergeant Ponce stated that:

- FIR is a field interview report
- CAO is a Community Action Officer
- Currently, the police are making more arrests and giving out more citations
- Tracking 6th Avenue South by itself
- Attended Tropical Ridge Neighborhood Association's meetings

VI. ACTION AGENDA:

a. Brownfield's: Terminate contract with SCS Engineers

Staff stated that we have used SCS Engineers to help with the RLI. Since that time Brad Peebles our Brownfield's consultant has left SCS. We have moved forward with an RLI with 15 proposals. At this time, we are having an evaluation team meeting to shortlist the 15 down to 5 and bring it back to the Board. Staff recommends not having a consultant on Board to help shortlist these firms. Staff requested that the Board terminate the contract with SCS Engineers.

Action: Motion was made by Mrs. Materio to accept staff recommendation and formally terminate the contract with SCS Engineers seconded by Mr. Rickards.

Vote: All Ayes

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT:

a. Progress Report

Staff stated that there will be an updated Speaker's Bureau calendar on the next agenda.

Staff stated that we are waiting on the financials from Housing Trust Group to complete the evaluations for the project on 6th Avenue South.

VIII. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Mark Rickards- No comment.

Matt Constantine- Has a prior scheduled meeting and will be running late for the meeting with the Commission. Encouraged Board members to educate people on the 6th Avenue South project specifically with regards to Affordable Housing.

Shanon Materio- It is important for citizens to understand that the CRA did not create the rules the City of Lake Worth did. One of the rules states that if a board member does not live within the City's city limits but owns a business in the town then they can be on the Board. I am a business owner in this City my motivation for being on this Board is to clean up Dixie Highway. I believe in this City and I pay taxes each year for my commercial building.

Brendan Lynch-Will be attending the meeting tomorrow.

Matt Tompkins-Met with a local board member of ICSC and Lake Worth is going to be one of the featured City's at the next ICSC meeting. The CRA has been very diligent with all the decisions that they have made making sure to be objective.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes Approved 2/26/08



Matt Tompkins
Chair, CRA Board



Emilia Theodossakos
Recording Secretary