



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**APPROVED
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (BRB)
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8th FLOOR CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
Monday, January 27, 2020, 2:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS	FEB 2019/JAN 2020				
	REGULAR MTGS		SPECIAL MTGS		
	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	
Thomas B. McManus, Chair	P	10	0	1	1
Art Bengochea, Vice Chair	P	9	1	2	0
Vincent Ang	P	9	1	2	0
Jason Crush	P	6	2	2	0
Jason Hughes	P	10	0	2	0
Monty Lalwani	P	8	2	1	1
Christian Luz	P	7	3	2	0
Shirley Smith	P	10	0	2	0
Aiton Yaari	P	8	2	2	0
Frank Smith	p	2	2	0	0

Staff

Don Morris, Beach CRA Manager
Cija Omengebar, CRA Planner
Brian Meo, Technology Liaison Officer, Police Department
HJ Wicko, Prototype, Inc.
Reginald Gillis, FTL Police Department
Andy Mueller, FTL Police Department
Brian Meo, FTL Police Department

I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum – Thomas McManus, Chair

Chair McManus called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of BRB Meeting Minutes – Thomas McManus, Chair

- **November 15, 2019 Joint Meeting with PRBAB**

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Bengochea, to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2019 joint meeting with PRBAB as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- **November 18, 2019 Regular Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Bengochea, seconded by Mr. Yaari, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. Update on Community Policing on the Beach

Captain Reginald Gillis provided an overview on Community Policing. He stated a lot of the issues on the beach relate to homelessness. He explained there was a NAT team available Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and sometimes on weekends, and stated he was looking at bringing the horses in more often.

Mr. McManus noted there used to be a monthly status report provided to the Board, and stated he thought bringing the horses in more would be a great start. He pointed to the parking garage as a priority to address.

Mr. Yaari asked for information regarding the safety plan for spring break.

Captain Gillis outlined the plans in place for spring break, noting last year's plan had gone well, so would be the basis for this year's plan. He stated there had not been a large number of arrests, and most issues focused on alcohol.

The Board discussed scheduling meetings with hotel and restaurant managers in advance of spring break.

Officer Brian Meo provided an update on bringing Comcast into the substation to utilize the space and addressed questions regarding cameras in the parking garage. He stated emergency call boxes would also be going online with push button access to 911.

Ms. Smith stated she had complained about people living in the park and had not had an issue since. She asked the officers to address a stop sign on Las Olas Circle which people were not seeing.

Mr. Morris addressed issues with the loading zone, noting it was not a police issue and staff was working on it.

Mr. Hughes stated he felt safer in the neighborhood and felt there was plenty of police presence but noted the issue he saw a need to patrol the parking garage around dusk. He gave examples of behaviors in the garage he had witnessed.

The Board and staff discussed locking power outlets in the park to keep people from congregating to plug in phones and laptops.

In response to a question about marking the police substation so people knew it was there, Mr. Morris explained the City Commission would be naming the park at their next meeting, and signage would go up on the visitor's center and substation after the park name was in place.

Captain Gillis stated officers would be present as much as possible during spring break to curtail drinking and negative behaviors.

Mr. Ang asked that speeding along A1A in the evenings be addressed, and highlighted issues with Uber and Lyft drivers creating dangerous situations when stopping along the road for passengers.

The Board and staff discussed drinking and fighting in the parking lot at bar closing time.

Captain Gillis noted he is looking at crime statistics on a daily basis and adjusting attention to the places where issues are seen.

Mr. Smith suggested timers on the electricity in the park.

The Board and staff discussed use of outlets by the homeless and others.

In response to a question from Mr. Smith, Captain Gillis outlined the procedure for reaching out to the homeless population with services and managing issues without violating rights. He noted it was an issue that was addressed on a daily basis.

Ina Lee recognized the market which had taken place over the weekend in the park, and said it was the epitome of everything the Board has worked for. Ms. Lee stated the police department needed to be aware that once turtle season starts, it will be a lot darker.

The Board and staff discussed lighting issues in the area of the park and along the beach.

Mr. McManus thanked the police officers for attending and they exited the meeting.

Mr. Morris explained the park project is not completed and addressed a grand opening event. He stated the Board had wanted it to be separate, but there is currently not a budget attached.

Ms. Lee suggested combining with one of Ari Glassman's already planned events.

The Board and staff discussed researching funding availability and combining with another event.

IV. Update on Super Bowl Weekend Event

Mr. Morris stated the previous weekend's event in the park had been great, and thanked Ms. Glassman for her efforts. He explained the upcoming Super Bowl weekend event would be larger, and invited Ms. Glassman to present the plan.

Ms. Glassman outlined the plans for Super Bowl weekend in the park and on the beach. She stated it builds off the existing Friday and Saturday events, celebrating the community and football in Fort Lauderdale. Ms. Glassman noted the event would be family-friendly, with a pep rally, local artists, a Thunderbirds party, PRIDE, and a variety of other events to draw people in.

Continuing, Ms. Glassman stated the NFL players will be in Miami, but this is an opportunity to tout the hometown heroes in Fort Lauderdale. She noted the focus will be on the next 100 years of the NFL being grown in Broward County, and listed a variety of football-related activities planned.

Ms. Glassman outlined which vendors were being brought in for the event, noting none of the hotels were able to participate due to prior commitments. She listed the bars and restaurants that had committed and noted no outside food and drink vendors were being brought in, as they would compete with local businesses.

Mr. Yaari asked about rain plans.

Ms. Glassman stated Mother Nature loves music and addressed the plans in place, noting it would be whatever it was.

Mr. McManus thanked Ms. Glassman for all of her hard work and expressed how nice it was to see the park being activated after everything that had gone into it.

Mr. Morris encouraged everyone to shop the farmers market and support local.

The Board and staff, along with Ms. Glassman, discussed the vendor selection at the market, as well as how the event had gone and lessons. They discussed promotion efforts for future events.

V. Update on Beach Project

Thomas Green presented an update on the CRA agreement, which is still set to sunset on October 30 but may be extended to allow for completion of construction projects.

Mr. Green shared photos which were a part of the monthly update to the City Commission, reviewing outstanding items. He noted planting is happening now and addressed a concern regarding sufficient shade from trees.

Continuing, Mr. Green updated on punch list items which were complete and those outstanding, such as LED strip lighting along the seawall and sod.

The Board and staff discussed support for the sod and how it impacted the hardness of the product being utilized.

Mr. Morris noted if people are asking about dead trees in the park, to let them know the punch list had not been completed and those issues were under warranty so would be corrected with that list.

Mr. Green provided an update on the Aquatic Center and showed the Board how to access a website for current photos. He shared the status of the design of the observation deck and other amenities.

The Board and staff discussed the dive tower and restrooms, as well as the addition of square footage to the building.

In response to a question from Mr. Yaari, Mr. Green stated the Hall of Fame would be remaining in its place.

The Board and staff discussed the level of international competition which would be attracted to the facility once complete.

Mr. Bengochea asked if catering on the second floor was being contemplated in any way.

Mr. Morris stated there was not a kitchen included in the plan.

Mr. Green addressed questions regarding funding sources and stated the completion target was Summer of 2021.

The Board and staff discussed the status of the continuation of the CRA plan.

VI. Communication to City Commission

None

VII. Old/New Business – Donald Morris, AICP, CRA Manager

Mr. Yaari recognized the next meeting was scheduled for President's Day, and suggested the meeting be rescheduled.

The Board and staff discussed potential conflicts related to the holiday.

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Lalwani, to reschedule the February meeting due to President's Day. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Morris recommended rescheduling to February 24.

Cija Omengebar agreed to check availability of the room and contact Board members with a revised date.

VI. Adjournment – Thomas McManus, BRB Chair

Motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

[Minutes transcribed by C. Parkinson, Prototype, Inc.]