



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**APPROVED
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (BRB)
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8th FLOOR CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
Monday, February 24, 2020, 2:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS	FEB 2020/JAN 2021				
	REGULAR MTGS		SPECIAL MTGS		
		Present	Absent	Present	Absent
Thomas B. McManus, Chair	P	1	0	0	0
Art Bengochea, Vice Chair	P	1	0	0	0
Vincent Ang	P	1	0	0	0
Jason Crush	P	1	0	0	0
Jason Hughes	A	0	1	0	0
Monty Lalwani	P	1	0	0	0
Christian Luz	P	1	0	0	0
Shirley Smith	P	1	0	0	0
Aiton Yaari	P	1	0	0	0
Frank Smith	P	1	0	0	0

Staff

Don Morris, Beach CRA Manager
Stephanie Hughey, Administrative Aide
Cija Omengebar, CRA Planner
Sgt. Andy Mueller, FTL Police Department
Chase Fopiano, Communications/Technology, FTL Police Department
Jamie Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.

COMMUNICATION TO CITY COMMISSION

Motion made by Mr. Crush, seconded by Mr. Ang, to recommend to the City Commission that a member of the BRB be on the selection committee for the event producer position for activation of the beach parks. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

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

Chair McManus called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. A quorum was present.

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

- **January 27, 2020 Regular Meeting**

Motion made by Mr. Bengochea, seconded by Ang, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. Police Update – Police Department Representatives

Sgt. Andy Mueller introduced the new Communications/Technology Officer with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, replacing Officer Brian Meo.

Officer Fopiano provided a brief update on the beach substation. He explained Comcast work was done but was not long enough to reach the substation. He said he is contact regarding correction and hopes the office can be functional by the end of the month.

Mr. Morris noted the building is a Visitor Center, and the police would utilize the space, rather than labeling it a substation. He stated signage for the Visitor Center and restrooms is currently in the design phase.

The Board and staff discussed police presence as a deterrent, and the installation of a gate to maintain parking for official use.

Mr. Morris updated on spring break meetings, stating the action plan is similar to the successful plan implemented in 2019. He explained the police presence planned, including mounted police, and stated a letter has been drafted to the hotel managers explaining acceptable beach behavior.

Continuing, Mr. Morris stated the City Manager has been granted the authority to ban items for events. Scooters, tents, and tables have been banned for spring break.

The Board and staff discussed the expected spring break timeline. Officer Fopiano stated the biggest crowds would be from March 8 to 22.

Mr. Morris explained there is a plan to keep the beach clean, with additional funds earmarked for beach cleanup. He stated Code Enforcement will also be on hand to enforce the 13-foot setback.

Chair McManus stated they also want to be welcoming of people, as it is important for the local businesses and for introducing visitors to the community.

The Board and staff discussed public safety steps including the use of drug sniffing dogs and mounted police officers, stopping people heading to the beach to warn them about tents and alcohol, and other efforts.

The Board and staff discussed locations of mobile toilets. Mr. Lalwani asked that a bathroom be added by the garage.

Mr. Yaari asked for updates on the upcoming Tortuga Festival and the Pride Festival.

Mr. Morris stated 375,000 people are anticipated for Pride, according to a presentation to the Beach Council. He said a presentation would be provided at the March meeting. He

said the events are scheduled for consecutive weekends and Fish and Wildlife did not want the stage to remain in place for the second event, so it will be in the parking lot instead of on the sand.

Ina Lee noted organizers are working closely with Fish and Wildlife, and the turtles are starting to nest, a month earlier than normal.

Officer Fopiano said they would invite Sgt. Monica Ferrer to the March 16 meeting, as she coordinates special events for the Police Department.

IV. Beach Project Updates – Thomas Green, PE, Senior Project Manager

a. Las Olas Corridor Construction

Mr. Green stated construction on the Las Olas Corridor project is wrapping up. The splash pad should be running in two (2) to four (4) weeks. He addressed wind concerns and said staff is considering a hire for splash pad maintenance.

Continuing, Mr. Green explained ongoing work with trees and dune planting, and said the Commission is considering the addition of more shade. He addressed questions regarding the inspection process and discussed the sealing on the concrete. Mr. Green stated the designers are working on a more unique and clear signage package.

The Board and staff discussed lighting issues and limitations related to turtle season. They brainstormed ideas for shade and light.

In response to a comment from Ms. Smith, Mr. Green explained efforts to keep people from driving where they shouldn't, including installation of a gate and signage.

b. Aquatic Center

Mr. Green shared photos of the pool concrete prep. He said the dewatering contractor would be on site this week.

Ms. Smith asked how long the project construction would continue.

Mr. Green provided a rundown of the next steps involved and indicated which were expected to be noisy. He addressed the timeline and continuing delays and stated the current completion date is expected to be summer 2021.

Mr. Morris stated staff is going before the Parks Board to seek bond funding for the project, but a number is not yet finalized. He listed the items that would be encompassed within the bond request and the capital program planned by the Swimming Association.

Chair McManus asked if a restaurant could be included on the west side of the project.

Mr. Morris stated it would depend on what the lease allows and would need to be shown as connected to the Swimming Hall of Fame.

c. DC Alexander Park

Mr. Green updated on the DC Alexander Park project, explaining a plan to move forward with design and construction is now focused on design. He stated staff is working with Keith, formerly Keith and Associates, on that design work.

Continuing, Mr. Green stated the original budget was \$5 million, but numbers will be firmed up in the design process. He explained the CRA will fund design and then the project will be funded through park bond dollars and noted wish lists such as undergrounding utilities would have an impact.

d. A1A Streetscape

Mr. Green stated there is an item on the City Commission agenda for March 3 asking to enter a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) with FDOT. He said if that agreement is signed, FDOT would grant \$1.57 million for lighting on the west side of A1A and the CRA would pick up the balance.

The Board and staff discussed existing lighting on A1A and the type of fixtures planned to fill in the gap.

Mr. Yaari noted several Board members are approaching their last meeting and asked for a clear picture of project scope to be presented at the March meeting to give exiting members complete information.

Mr. Green stated the main scope is pedestrian lighting on the west side only, within the CRA boundaries to Sunset Boulevard. He noted it a fresh project, so all new conduit and materials need to be installed working around a large number of existing utilities, and the selected contractor will determine the methods used.

The Board and staff discussed parallels with other projects and the process to bid the work and proceed. Continuing, they discussed plans for decorative concrete and bollards.

Mr. Yaari stated the project was originally much larger and was reduced due to costs.

In response to a question from Mr. Lalwani, Mr. Green said redoing the sidewalks on the west side was not part of the plan except where repairs needed to be made due to damage from the project.

Ina Lee announced an expanded Beach Council meeting will be held on April 17 at 10:30 a.m. with representatives of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission from Tallahassee

to provide a full scope on all the lighting on the beach, including what is currently in place and what is planned.

Ms. Lee stated new light fixtures north of the CRA have been approved for the beach and will be amber year-round.

Continuing, Ms. Lee directed the Board's attention to a recent RFP which the City sent out in search of an event producer to manage activation of all public areas. She asked that they request someone from the BRB and BID be on the committee so whoever wins the bid understands what is needed.

Chair McManus stated he needed to leave and Vice Chair Bengochea would be stepping in as Chair. He asked the Board to discuss a Communication to the Commission regarding Ms. Lee's recommendation in his absence.

Chair McManus and Mr. Yaari exited the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

Mr. Morris introduced Robert Goldman, who would be a new Board member upon Ms. Smith's departure from the Board in April.

V. Communication to City Commission

The Board and staff discussed the parameters of the RFP for an event producer and the recommendation to have a BRB member on the selection committee.

Motion made by Mr. Crush, seconded by Mr. Ang, to recommend to the City Commission that a member of the BRB be on the selection committee for the event producer position for activation of the beach parks. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

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

None.

VII. Adjournment – Thomas McManus, BRB Chair

Vice Chair Bengochea stated the next meeting was scheduled for March 16 at 2:30 p.m.

Motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

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