



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

APPROVED MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
CENTRAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023 – 3:30 PM  
ADMINISTRATIVE FIRE STATION #11,  
528 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> STREET,  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311

Board Members	Present/Absent	Cumulative Attendance September 2022-August 2023	
		Present	Absent
Ray Thrower, Chair	A	9	1
Edward Catalano	P	9	1
Linda Fleischman	P	7	1
Justin Greenbaum	A	8	2
Jason Hoffman	P	8	2
Christina Robinson	P	8	2
Nikola Stan	P	1	0

At this time, there are 7 appointed members to the Board; therefore, 4 constitute a quorum.

**Staff:**

Clarence Woods, CRA Manager  
Cija Omengabar, CRA Planner/Liaison  
Carla Blair, Recording Secretary, Prototype Inc.

**Others:**

Troy Liggett

**Communication to the City Commission:**

None

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

Board members recited the pledge of allegiance.

**II. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum**

Vice Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll was called, and it was noted that a quorum was present.

**III. Introduction of Board Members and Staff**

Board members and staff introduced themselves, including new member Nikola Stan.

#### **IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Regular Meeting: June 7, 2023

**Motion** by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Catalano to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2023 meeting. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Recommendation**

Mr. Woods provided the budget presentation. He noted their budget had increased 20% from the previous year. He pointed out that the figures for 2023 would not be finalized until September 30, the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Omengabar stated any funds not used were sent back to the City but the CRA always requested the funds back and City did so.

Mr. Woods informed the Board that the CRA could not spend money on regular maintenance projects that were the City's responsibility; it could only be spent on enhancements beyond normal improvements. The CRA must also enter into a maintenance agreement for any of those improvements.

Vice Chair Robinson thought in the current economy, businesses would want to take advantage of the commercial incentive program. They had sent direct mailers and talked at neighborhood association meetings. She felt they may want to consider using a third party to help with marketing. Vice Chair Robinson wanted to be very clear about what could be done with the money. Mr. Woods said the residential incentive money was for landscaping and painting. He stated if they could not utilize the commercial incentive funds, purchasing commercial property could be the best use of them. They could also use funds for a land bank the CRA could develop.

Ms. Fleischman asked if funds could be used to build a clubhouse for a neighborhood association and Mr. Woods stated they tried to avoid parks, but they could look at funding a structure (provided it was allowed in that park.)

Vice Chair Robinson open the floor to public comments. Mr. Liggett distributed handouts as part of his comments. He had photos of a project funded by the Central City Alliance in his neighborhood. Mr. Liggett also had suggestions for a budget amendment. Mr. Woods said all Mr. Liggett's suggestions could be funded by the five incentive programs, except event promotion, which was not allowed any longer. Vice Chair Robinson suggested a workshop with Mr. Liggett and people who could benefit from the incentive programs. Mr. Liggett said the budget included \$180,000 set aside to hire a consultant for a land use amendment, and \$12,000 for streetlights. He thought the Board could also hire a consultant for the future plan he was suggesting, including a study regarding expansion and updating the plan to do more specific things. Mr. Woods advised that when considering expansion, an analysis must be conducted to determine areas poised for growth; they should not expand to areas that would be a drain on the TIFF. Vice Chair Robinson did not want to consider expanding until they spent the money doing impactful work in the area already included.

Ms. Omengebar explained that the only way to use the remaining funds by September 30 was for someone to apply for one of the incentive programs.

Mr. Catalano liked the idea of holding a workshop and wanted to hold it as soon as possible. Mr. Woods said they could discuss potential capital improvement projects and recommended an agenda item.

**Motion** made by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to adopt the 2024 budget as presented. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Program and Project Status Update**

- **Light Installation Project \$28,868.39**

Ms. Omengebar wanted to make the Board aware of the price, which had increased. She stated they had set aside \$12,000 last year for this and they could not buy the pole until they had the \$28,868.39.

**VII. Communication to City Commission**

None

**VIII. Old/New Business**

- September Agenda Suggestions

Mr. Catalano wanted to discuss holding a special meeting regarding a workshop. Vice Chair Robinson said they should discuss their 2023/2024 goals during their next meeting.

- Miscellaneous

None

**IX. Old/New Business**

Vice Chair Robinson asked if they wanted to target a new street for doorhangers. Ms. Omengebar said the current applicant was waiting for a third quote. Mr. Woods said they would put signs in the yard indicating this was a CRA project and this was the best advertising. Vice Chair Robinson volunteered to distribute doorhangers with Ms. Omengebar again.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on September 6, 2023.