



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
700 NW 19 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Michael Weymouth, Chair	P	1	0
Brad Cohen, Vice Chair	P	1	0
John Barranco	A	0	1
Mary Fertig	P	1	0
Steve Ganon	P	1	0
Marilyn Mammano	P	1	0
Shari McCartney	P	1	0
Patrick McTigue	P	1	0
Jay Shechtman	P	1	0

Staff

Ella Parker, Urban Design and Planning Manager
Shari Wallen, Assistant City Attorney
Michael Ferrera, Urban Design and Planning
Jim Hetzel, Urban Design and Planning
Adam Schnell, Urban Design and Planning
Enrique Sanchez, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation
Leslie Harmon, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to City Commission

None.

I. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Weymouth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and introduced the Board members present, welcoming new Board member Marilyn Mammano. It was noted a quorum was present at the meeting.

~~The following Item was taken out of order on the Agenda.~~

~~III. ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR / VICE CHAIRPERSON~~

~~Mr. Cohen nominated Mr. Weymouth for the position of Chair, seconded by Ms. McCartney.~~

~~Mr. McTigue nominated Mr. Cohen for the position of Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Shechtman.~~

~~Ms. Mammano asserted that she did not want to substitute her own judgment for that of the subject community, and felt the best approach was for the community to partner with the City to determine the appropriate use for the property. Zoning the space as Parks would allow for this ongoing partnership. If the community did not wish to retain the site as park or green space, the City Commission will have the option to sell it for other use.~~

~~**Motion** made by Ms. Mammano, seconded by Mr. Shechtman, to approve Case Number UDP Z23007 as a recommendation to be rezoned as a Park. In a roll call vote, the **motion** failed 4-4 (Chair Weymouth, Vice Chair Cohen, Ms. McCartney, and Mr. McTigue dissenting).~~

~~Vice Chair Cohen clarified that his reasons for dissenting were similar to those expressed earlier by Mr. McTigue. Chair Weymouth confirmed that he also shared Mr. McTigue's concerns with the proposal.~~

~~Assistant City Attorney Shari Wallen stated that the Item will now go before the City Commission.~~

4. CASE: UDP-Z23008

REQUEST: * ** Rezoning from Residential Single Family/Low Medium Density (RS-8) District and Residential Single Family and Duplex/Medium Density (RD-15) District to Parks, Recreation and Open Space (P) District

APPLICANT: City of Fort Lauderdale

AGENT: City of Fort Lauderdale

GENERAL LOCATION: Generally located South of the New River and North of SW 5th Court

ABBREVIATED LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL OF LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 AND 11, "RIVERSIDE LANDINGS", ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 176, PAGE 20, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA. LESS AND EXCLUDING THE SOUTH PORTION OF SAID LOT 1. BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE MOST WESTERLY SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 1, BOUNDED ON THE SOUTH BY THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SOUTHWEST 5 PLACE, BOUNDED ON THE WEST BY LOTS 2 THROUGH 6 AND BOUNDED ON THE EAST BY LOT 7, BLOCK 1, "AMENDED PLAT OF RIVERSIDE ADDITION", ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 13, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA. SAID LANDS SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA. CONTAINING 93,030 SQUARE FEET OR 2.1357 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

ZONING DISTRICT: Residential Single Family/Low Medium Density (RS-8) District and Residential Single Family and Duplex/Medium Density (RD-15) District

PROPOSED ZONING: Parks, Recreation and Open Space (P) District

LAND USE: Low-Medium

COMMISSION DISTRICT: 4 – Warren Sturman

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION: Riverside Park Residents Association

CASE PLANNER: Michael Ferrera

Chair Weymouth noted that this Item was presented by Staff along with Item 3.

At this time Chair Weymouth opened the public hearing for Item UDP-Z23008.

Ted Inserra, private citizen, stated that he had been surprised to learn the subject property was not already zoned as Parks, as it has fencing, tables, and trees. He was in favor of rezoning the property as Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, and did not believe it should be built upon.

Esthel Brennan, president of the Riverside Park Civic Association, advised that it is important the subject property be rezoned, as it was purchased with Parks Bond money. She had also been surprised to learn it was not already zoned Parks, and concluded that the Association is in favor of the proposed rezoning. They have met to discuss ideas for the property's amenities and are in favor of maintaining it as passive green space.

As there were no other individuals wishing to speak on Case UDP-Z23008, the Chair closed the public hearing and brought the discussion back to the Board.

Motion made by Ms. Fertig, seconded by Ms. Mammano, to recommend approval of the rezoning. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously (8-0).

~~VI. COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION~~

~~Vice Chair Cohen suggested that the Zoom platform could be reinstated to allow the public to attend meetings via communications technology, particularly as there is limited meeting space available due to the inability to use City Hall.~~

~~Ms. Fertig stated that this is the second time in recent months that many members of a neighborhood have indicated public participation meetings are not being held in convenient locations. She emphasized that the intent of these meetings is to stimulate neighborhood engagement, and suggested that the City approach neighborhood associations to determine what facilities they use for meetings and whether or not those facilities could also host a public participation meeting.~~

~~Chair Weymouth advised that the City should identify a minimum of two locations in each City Commission District so neighbors can be informed that meetings may occur at one of those locations.~~

~~Ms. Fertig added that she did not intend her comments to be sent as a formal communication to the City Commission.~~

~~VII. FOR THE GOOD OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE~~

~~Chair Weymouth observed that he was surprised that a recent item, on which the Board had unanimously voted against recommendation, was approved by the City Commission. He requested greater clarification of this process. Ms. Fertig agreed, noting that she did not feel the item was presented to the City Commission in the same way it had been presented to the Board.~~

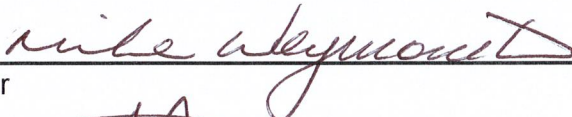
~~Ms. Mammano recommended that when the Board takes a very strong position, such as a unanimous 0-9 vote against approval, it may be useful for a member to attend the City Commission meeting at which it is addressed and provide some background information on why that position was taken.~~

~~Attorney Wallen advised that her reason for asking the Board to clearly state their reason for denying recommendation of Item 3 was to provide this information to the Commission. It may also be preferable to make a motion to deny rather than to approve, and to explain the reason for this recommendation in the language of the motion. Ms. Fertig stated that she felt Staff should have expressed the reasoning behind the Board's recommendation when it went before the City Commission.~~


~~Urban Design and Planning Manager Ella Parker asked if the Board wished to follow up on their earlier discussion of parking reductions. Chair Weymouth stated that this could be discussed at another time.~~

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.



Chair



Prototype

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]