

# City of Fort Lauderdale

*City Hall  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
www.fortlauderdale.gov*



## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

**1:30 PM**

**City Commission Conference Room**

## **City Commission Conference Meeting**

***FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION***

***JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER Mayor - Commissioner  
BRUCE G. ROBERTS Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District I  
DEAN J. TRANTALIS Commissioner - District II  
ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III  
ROMNEY ROGERS Commissioner - District IV***

***LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager  
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor  
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk  
CYNTHIA A. EVERETT, City Attorney***

## ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Vice Mayor Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie, Commissioner Romney Rogers, and Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

## QUORM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Attorney Cynthia A. Everett, City Auditor John Herbst, and Sergeant at Arms Keven M. Dupree

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

**No e-comments were submitted for this meeting**

## CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

***Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest.***

### **Medical Marijuana Legislation**

The Commission discussed the State Legislature's recent work on the Constitutional Amendment regarding the legalization of medical marijuana and goal of minimizing any potential abuse. Commissioner McKinzie commented that due to zoning laws, unincorporated areas near the City could be more vulnerable. Vice Mayor Roberts noted the importance of coordinating with local municipalities to determine the actual medical needs of patients requiring medical marijuana, and whether out-of-state visitors can fill prescriptions at municipal marijuana dispensaries. He emphasized the need to prevent a situation similar to former "pill mills" in South Florida. City Manager Feldman confirmed this item will be on the May 2, 2017 Commission Conference Agenda.

### **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):**

Vice Mayor Roberts gave the Commission an update on an MPO Board meeting he attended with Commissioner Rogers about the MPO's upcoming visit to Washington, D.C. The visit will address long-range transportation plans for the area, funding needs and the Congressional delegation's legislative priorities.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed his meeting at the Executive Airport with Director of Transportation and Mobility Diana Alarcon. The meeting focused on the data and information from the Vision Zero Plan, which will be included in the MPO's recommendations for requesting federal dollars.

Commissioner Rogers discussed conversations with MPO regarding building a tunnel for the Brightline railway line. He stated it would provide an opportunity for a mile long linear greenway that would benefit residents, the boating industry, and commuters. There was a consensus it would benefit all stakeholders.

#### **Beach Events**

Commissioner Roger requested Staff put together data to give the Commission a clear picture of event requests to include the request, timeframe, setup and breakdown. This will enable the Commission to determine and control the number and types of events. Commissioner Rogers suggested putting the events out to bid, allowing the revenue generated to cover event repairs and expenses. Commissioner Trantalis concurred with the need to know the seminal events requested annually and their complete timeframes.

#### **Provident Park Events**

Commissioner McKinzie discussed Movie Night at Provident Park and the need to promote more attendances. He suggested enhanced publicity, including direct mailers, similar to those for concerts. He commented on the positive turnaround in Provident Park as a result of programming, stating it is now an active park utilized by the surrounding community. The community appreciates ridding this area of drugs and crime.

#### **Northwest Economic Improvement**

Commissioner McKinzie discussed the positive economic impact of Walmart in the Northwest and related development items in the area. He stated crime is down generally as a result, noting retail crime had a small increase due to the establishment of the primary retail center and its expansion due to the resolution of previous permitting issues.

#### **Off Shore Drilling Resolution**

Commissioner Trantalis discussed the possibility of the Commission passing a resolution in opposition to drilling off the east coast of South Florida, stating over 120 Florida east coast communities have passed this type of resolution. Mayor Seiler confirmed he would like to be involved in this effort only if it impacts the coastal area of the City. City Attorney Everett stated she did not know the details involved.

Commissioner Trantalis confirmed he would forward the appropriate information to City Attorney Everett.

### **One-Stop Shop**

To address blight in the community, Vice Mayor Trantalis asked City Manager Feldman about quotes received for demolishing the One Stop Shop building. City Manager Feldman confirmed this issue is scheduled for discussion at the May 16, 2017 Conference Meeting.

### **Tortuga Music Festival**

Commissioner Trantalis confirmed the positive feedback received on relocating the volleyball nets further north on the beach. It assisted businesses in the area and was well received by the community. Going forward, businesses in the area would like to keep this aspect of the event in place. City Manager Feldman stated this involves addressing permitting issues with the State and Staff is addressing. Mayor Seiler recommended keeping volleyball locations at both the north and the south ends of the event.

Commissioner Rogers commented on items damaged during the event, including a street light that had fallen off a pole on Sea Breeze Boulevard and a portion of a damaged seawall. He commented that the event coordinator escrow deposit should be used for those repairs.

### **3012 Granada Street Building**

Commissioner Trantalis discussed the demolition of the Key West Style Guest House building formerly located at 3012 Granada Street. He stated although not designated a historic building, it was listed in Florida's Master Site File and in the 2008 Architectural Resources Survey. Commissioner Trantalis said a demolition permit for the structure was issued in 2008. Code Enforcement was contacted but by the time Code Enforcement arrived, the building had already been demolished. In response to Mayor Seiler, Commissioner Trantalis confirmed the permit was not in the possession of the original requester. He asked City Manager Feldman about available enforcement proceedings against owners and developers for these types of properties.

City Manager Feldman confirmed the permit had expired, deferring to Anthony Fajardo, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development. Mr. Fajardo stated there was a subsequent permit that was not valid. Mr. Fajardo gave a brief description of what occurred, stating the matter will be brought before the Special Magistrate who would level the appropriate fines. He stated the maximum fine is \$500 per day. Further discussions continued on this issue.

Commissioner Rogers confirmed there is now a Historic Preservation Officer on Staff who should address these types of situations going forward. Commissioner Trantalis reiterated the need to improve the process to protect these types of properties.

Mayor Seiler stated there should be a heightened sense of penalties and urgency for dealing with historic properties. City Manager Feldman noted the Historic Preservation Officer is working on the City's inventory, stating penalties are limited to what the State allows. Discussions continued regarding imposing penalties for these types of situations.

City Attorney Cynthia Everett noted two separate issues:

- The maximum State fines regarding code enforcement matters; and
- The issue of the interim timeframe existing prior to the historic designation of a property and application for a demolition permit.

Commissioner Rogers and Commissioner Trantalis concurred with adding an additional layer to the permit process. It would identify whether a property is or has the potential to be designated as a historic property, requiring input from the Historic Preservation Officer.

Mr. Fajardo discussed a State Statute requirement limiting penalties to \$5,000 for violations that cannot be remedied. Commissioner Trantalis requested City Attorney Everett to pursue the "zoning in progress" issue, acknowledging the need to be proactive. City Attorney Everett confirmed. There was a consensus on the need to be proactive on this issue.

Bryan Homes:

Commissioner Trantalis inquired about Bryan Homes. City Manager Feldman stated things are going as planned. A new roof has been installed along with a new HVAC system. The renter is targeting a June-July opening and they are current on rent.

Joint Workshop with Board of the Broward County Commissioners

Commissioner Rogers talked about the possibility of a downtown Convention Center being a topic of discussion at the upcoming meeting with the Board of Broward County Commissioners (Board) scheduled for May 9, 2017. He stated he has spoken with some members of the Board, requesting them to have an open mind on this opportunity.

Commissioner Rogers said those conversations included the possibility of a Convention Center in the western area of the County, near Sawgrass Mills and the BB&T Center. However, hoteliers may not agree. Discussions continued on the Convention Center requiring a four-star hotel in order to be considered "convention quality". The possible relocation of the Convention Center and its impact on traffic, transportation, current restrictions at the existing location, and other opportunities were discussed. Commissioner Rogers asked the Commission be prepared to discuss this at the May 9, 2017 meeting. City Manager Feldman noted this would be an item on the May 4, 2017 Conference Meeting, prior to the May 9, 2017 Joint Workshop.

#### Vacation Rentals

Mayor Seiler commented on the current legislation in the State House of Representatives regarding vacation rental legislation, noting it may be losing traction. Commissioner Rogers stated local realtors are in opposition to the City Ordinance. Vice Mayor Roberts stated he received a communication from realtors in support of the reduction in registration fees.

#### Stranahan High School

Commissioner Rogers commented on the upcoming May 22, 2017 School Board Meeting at Stranahan Media Center to address necessary work at Stranahan High School. City Manager Feldman stated there has been no response to the Resolution regarding the City's position on this issue, using impact fees or revenue from Edgewood. As a means of follow-up, City Manager Feldman suggested the Commissioners contact their respective Broward County Commissioners. Commissioner Rogers discussed the history relating to the bond and Stranahan High School. Discussions continued on the School Board maintaining their facilities and the need to specifically address the Stranahan High School cafeteria.

[17-0491](#)

Communications to the City Commission

#### **BEACH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD**

##### ***Communication to the City Commission***

***April 10, 2017***

*Motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. McDairmid to recommend the City provide the same amount of matching funds for the BID Ambassador program, as it do for the Downtown Development Authority Ambassador program. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.*

*Motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Lee, to request a joint meeting with the City Commission to discuss events on the beach. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Seiler asked City Manager Feldman how much is provided to the Downtown Development Authority Ambassador Program. City Manager Feldman stated \$100,000 and it comes out of the General Fund. Commissioner Rogers raised the issue of the need. Commissioner Trantalis stated he is unaware of any issue in need of being addressed on the beach.

Don Morris, Area Manager for the Beach Area Community Redevelopment Agency, stated this was discussed at the Beach Improvement District's (BID) last workshop. It is a second tier priority and there is perception on the BID Board that there needs to be more presence on the beach, both in terms of security and people to promote goodwill and assist visitors new to the City. Mr. Morris noted the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NWPFH CRA) also would like to have an Ambassador Program. He stated the NWPFH CRA, the Beach CRA, and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will come together under one Request for Proposal (RFP) and will be bringing it forward to the Board. Discussions continued on the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the Tourist Development Tax Board as an avenue to fund this request.

There was a consensus that this request would be a topic of discussion at the BID's request for a Joint Workshop with the Commission.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [17-0484](#)

South Side School Update

Commissioner Rogers discussed the history of the work done by Friends of Southside (Friends), their 501C3 status, importance of having programming in place and being immediately activated. He requested City Manager Feldman to have all first floor programming activities operational prior to the ribbon cutting. It was recommended that City Manager Feldman ensure Staff and Friends work together, combining their areas of expertise to achieve this goal.

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

**BUS-1** [17-0425](#)

Preliminary Canal Dredging Rate Study Presentation

City Manager Feldman gave the Commission an overview of canal management. He acknowledged work done with the Budget Advisory Board (BAB) and the consultant, Stantec Consulting Services, formerly Burton & Associates. The BAB recommended funding the dredging with an ongoing assessment. Michael Burton gave a presentation on the methodology used. City Manager Feldman noted the presentation was also given to the BAB on April 18, 2017. In response to Mayor Seiler's question, City Manager Feldman stated a presentation has not been made to the Marine Advisory Board.

Mr. Burton presented Stantec's PowerPoint presentation, noting their assessment contained only City owned canals. There are 57 miles of City-owned canals, both navigable and drainage, noting drainage canals do not connect to navigable canals. He said some canals are not owned by the City, i.e., they are owned by the County, Water Management District, or Army Corps of Engineers.

After discussions with City Manager Feldman, it was determined the cost of dredging drainage canals should be borne by the Stormwater Fund, with a transfer into this program that addresses dredging of navigable canals. The presentation only discusses the cost of dredging navigable canals. There are over 5,200 parcels that front navigable canals, benefit from the canals, and are included in the assessment program presentation. The slide presentation illustrated the following points:

- 2017 Rate Study Process
- Revenue Requirement
- Drying Site Options
- Revenue Requirement Findings
- Revenue Requirement with Minimum Reserve Balance
- Revenue Requirement with No Minimum Reserve Balance
- Method of Cost Recovery
- Assessment/Fee Basis Survey
- Equivalent Benefit Unit (EBU) Calculation
- Monthly Assessment/Fee: Scenario 1 - Minimum Reserve Fund Balance
- Monthly Assessment/Fee: Scenario 2 - No Minimum Reserve Fund Balance
- Next steps

City Manager Feldman stated the BAB has recommended Scenario 2 - No Minimum Reserve Fund Balance.



In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question and City Manager Feldman's comments on the location of the current drying beds, Brandy Leighton, Public Works - Engineering Project Manager II, explained aspects of current drying beds, stating drying times range from 3-4 days up to one week. It is a constant cycle entailing drop off and pickup. The disposal process and associated costs were also discussed. City Auditor John Herbst commented on aspects of the cost recovery function for drying beds at the existing site.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question, Alan Dodd, Deputy Director of Public Works, confirmed canal dredging would only be in the center third of canals, down 3-4 feet to the mean water level. If necessary, adjacent property owners would be responsible for dredging the canal portion from the center of the canal to their property. The seven-year cycle was based on current silting rates, noting some areas are higher and others lower.

City Manager Feldman acknowledged previous dredging was done on an as needed basis and was based on a list not necessarily reflective of need. The proposed dredging would be done over five to six years, and year seven would reassess need. In response to Commissioner Roger's questions about engineering theory related to permitting, Mr. Dodd expounded on permits being five years in duration, establishing a new baseline, and re-permitting for the next five years. Vice Mayor Roberts commented after the initial five years, rates may be able to be adjusted downward.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Mr. Dodd stated the Army Corps of Engineers issues five-year permits along with the Florida Department of Fish and Wildlife. Reasons for their lengthy process and not issuing extensions were discussed and included the need to determine impact on endangered species and fish habitats.

There was consensus this issue needs to be communicated to impacted residents. City Manager Feldman noted the timeframe issues involved relating to budgeting, notices and deadlines for legal requirements. Commissioner Rogers commented on non-City owned canals and issues related to equity. Mr. Burton noted the average assessment per house would be \$13-\$17 per month.

Assessing City owned parcels was discussed. Commissioner Rogers voiced his concern regarding consideration of all details involved. Vice Mayor Roberts discussed concerns over the short timeline involved for following the required legal process and educating the public. He suggested waiting a year. Mayor Seiler concurred, stating it also needs to go before the Marine Advisory Board.

City Manager Feldman recommended a decision at the July 11, 2017 Commission Meeting about moving forward with adoption of a preliminary resolution, subsequent to preliminary feedback from constituents. City Manager Feldman discussed an informational document each Commissioner will use to inform the public, stating it would read *“a special assessment on the tax bill with no minimum reserve”*. The Commission concurred.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charlotte Rodstrom, 66 Nurmi Drive, who asked about issues relating to the property owner portion of canals, requesting the Commission be prepared to address those questions from the public. Mr. Dodd stated the City is dredging the center third of the canals in order to not impact property seawalls, the standard adopted by the Marine Advisory Board. He said property owners can make private arrangements for dredging the remaining portion of the canal up to their dock either with the City’s contracted dredging company or a dredging company of their choice. Further discussions continued on this issue.

Mayor Seiler recommended moving this forward with a goal of July 11, 2017.

***A copy of Mr. Burton’s presentation is attached to these minutes.***

**BUS-2** [17-0218](#)

Discussion of Right-of-Way Issues in Riviera Isles

Mayor Seiler recognized Assistant City Attorney Lynn Solomon, who gave an overview and review of the ownership and title on the strip of land located between Sunset Lake and Riviera Boulevard. Assistant City Attorney Solomon reviewed the original Riviera Plat (Plat Book 6, Page 17) done in 1925 by the Fort Lauderdale Riparian Company (Plat), stating the strip of land at issue is not noted on the Plat.

Commissioner Trantalis clarified the point at issue illustrated by the red arrow on the handout given to the Commission was not accurate. He pointed out the strip of land at issue. Assistant City Attorney Solomon recommended filing a declaratory action, acknowledging a quiet title action could also be filed as suggested by Commissioner Trantalis. She pointed out the language on the Plat *“dedicating the land in fee simple to the public forever”*. Assistant City Attorney Solomon discussed the starting point of this analysis is to determine the intent of the dedicator when creating the 100-foot right-of-way, stating it did not designate the use of the strip of land.

Assistant City Attorney Solomon reviewed case law that would apply if

the strip of land followed the contour of the lake. The strip of land at issue does not follow the contour of the lake. She stated because the City owns the road in fee simple and the strip of land is an accretion built up over time, the City owns the land under riparian law.

Mayor Seiler recognized Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Public Works Director, who stated when the land was developed, it was solid land and canals were created as part of the development. It would include Sunset Lake as indicated in historic pictures. Dr. Gassman suggested the building of the seawalls may have been for moving fill material from the creation of the canals to the house pads and as a barrier to hold that fill in place. She stated this is conjecture and there is no evidence to prove.

Mayor Seiler commented that the dock usage is under an agreement with the City. Assistant City Attorney Solomon noted in the original dedication, there was a reservation of riparian rights in favor of the abutting parcel owners. Case law indicates riparian rights take precedence over the property rights of the City, including access to the water for numerous activities such as boating, fishing, and dockage.

Commissioner Trantalis raised the issue of a prescriptive easement. Assistant City Attorney Solomon noted the difference in the Burkart v. City of Fort Lauderdale case was a dedication of an easement as opposed to this situation that is a dedication in fee simple.

Discussions continued on the original intent of the dedication, i.e., to benefit all owners in Sunset Lakes, not just abutting property owners, or owners without access to the water. Assistant City Attorney Solomon recommended getting a Guardian ad Litem for all property owners. Mayor Seiler discussed his concerns with this recommendation.

Commissioner Trantalis stated the current issue relates to who will pay for the replacement of the seawall. He stated the homeowners desire to have the City give them the land and they will pay for and maintain the seawall. Discussions continued on the inability to get title insurance, the recommendation to do a quiet title action, and appointing a Guardian ad Litem.

Discussions continued on the cost of addressing the seawall, those responsible for paying the costs, the high cost due to the seawall's infrastructure issues, and the necessary easements should the land be deeded to the three homeowners via a quiet title action.

Prior to a cost-benefit analysis, Mayor Seiler recommended

Commissioner Trantalis and City Attorney Everett meet with the three property owners to address the following:

- Ensuring proper construction to address existing infrastructure; and
- The legal requirements for addressing the seawall replacement, including the permanent location of the existing pump station.

Commissioner Trantalis acknowledged this had been discussed with the three homeowners. He confirmed he would coordinate a meeting with the three property owners, Assistant City Attorney Solomon and Dr. Gassman to confirm understanding and agreement by all parties. City Attorney Everett asked the meeting also include any legal representation of the three homeowners.

Commissioner Trantalis questioned the City's authority to enter into an agreement with those property owners. Commissioner Rogers recommended getting a title commitment to ascertain what is required. Further discussions ensued. Mayor Seiler noted the only party who would challenge a title would be the City as a result of adverse possession.

Assistant City Attorney Solomon stated the results of a title search determined the waterway is owned by the individual owners of the subdivision, subject to City easements. Assistant City Attorney Solomon expounded on the subsequent instructive case law. Further discussions ensued on obtaining a title policy and a viable quitclaim deed.

Ownership of Sunset Lake was discussed. Assistant City Attorney Solomon stated the State of Florida is claiming an interest in Sunset Lake as noted in the letter passed out to the Commission.

***A copy of this letter is attached to these minutes.***

Discussions continued on the issue of the State claiming an interest in Sunset Lake impacting a future item coming before the Commission regarding the building (located next to Riviera Towers) requesting installation of 65 foot poles into the canal. This was agreed to before the Marine Advisory Board.

A member of the public, Barbara Walker, confirmed for Mayor Seiler this was being requested in order to dredge silt caused by City pumps. Mayor Seiler stated there would be no cut off of navigation in that canal and requested City Attorney Everett to have a meeting to address this issue. City Attorney Everett confirmed.

Assistant City Attorney Soloman confirmed for Commissioner Trantalis that Four Seasons Condominium had to deal with the State on matters relating to Sunset Lake. Ryan Henderson, Assistant to the City Manager, commented on the efforts by the attorney for the Four Seasons condominium. Assistant City Attorney Soloman confirmed Sunset Lake is a navigable body of water and confirmed she would follow-up with the appropriate State personnel.

Commissioner Trantalis raised the issue and requested confirmation as to who owns the canals in Riviera Isles, noting the element of "hostile" may not exist as it relates to adverse possession.

**BUS-4** [17-0515](#)

Economic Development & Business Engagement, Assistance, and Mentorships (BEAM) Program Update

Anthony Fajardo, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development, addressed the Commission, introducing those in attendance who partnered in this effort. Mr. Fajardo introduced Jeremy Earle, Deputy Director of the Department of Sustainable Development, who presented to the Commission. Mr. Earle acknowledged Economic and Community Investment (ECI) Division partner representatives and Staff present, thanking them for their outstanding support.

The presentation focused on the efforts of the Economic and Community Investment (ECI) Division and Business Engagement, and the Assistance & Mentorships Program (BEAMs) including :

- Economic Development Updates;
- Fort Lauderdale Business Engagement, Assistance and Mentorships Program; and
- Challenges to our economic development efforts.

***A copy of the Mr. Earle's presentation with detailed information on the above is attached to these minutes.***

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question, Mr. Earle stated they have three sessions of strategic planning with Sister Cities to clarify their mission and goals. This will assist in addressing Goal 7 of the City's Strategic Plan. There is an 18-month vision plan being worked on by the City and Sister Cities and will allow the presentation of a budget to the Commission. The budget will be directly tied to the activities for promoting business development internationally.

In response to Commissioner Roger's question about the meaning of Certification for the Business Academy Pilot Programs, Mr. Earle

expounded on the three types of certifications:

**Certification A** applies to companies with gross revenue less than \$250,000 annually that will be targeted with SCORE, Counselors to Americas Small Businesses, and Rafael Cruz, the Regional Director of Operations for the Florida Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) to assist in creating a business plan; developing a budget and financial plan; effective employee selection; customer service; and developing a sales strategy.

**Certification B** is a series of executive level workshops for established businesses (roughly defined as a company in business for 2+ years, with gross revenue of +\$250,000). This certification, primarily presented by SBDC, will be a combination of programs that are targeted to provide the knowledge and techniques necessary for businesses to grow. Potential topics will include: Strategic Outlook; Introduction to Sales/Marketing; Relating to the Customer; and Financial Management/Capital Expansion.

**Certification C** is targeted for businesses engaged in international commerce, the import/export business, or businesses seeking to gain entry in the global market. Potential topics will cover five primary domains of practice: global business management; international trade development; export market planning; supply chain & logistics; and trade finance & payment terms. Participants will be introduced to State and Federal government resources.

Mr. Earle confirmed business owners completing Certification Programs will attend a Commission Meeting and a Certificate of Recognition will be awarded.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's inquiry as how to become a partner, Mr. Earle stated there is no cost involved. However, they do not wish to duplicate existing partner services. Mr. Earle expounded on the strength of current areas of expertise, with the goal of leveraging all strengths and resources to ensure no duplication of efforts.

Commissioner McKinzie asked how his District could be involved in this infusion of expertise and how the Commission can assist in improving BEAM's participation in District III. He asked how the Negro Chamber of Commerce and the Broward Minority Builder Association are participating in this process. Mr. Earle confirmed this is a City-side program and they have spoken to Jonathan Brown, CRA Manager for the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NWPFH CRA) about including the NWPFH

CRA businesses as part of this program. City Manager Feldman confirmed the need to reach out to all business entities in District III, stating this will be done. Commissioner McKinzie stated he does not want businesses in District III to miss out on this opportunity. Mr. Fajardo confirmed community outreach and communication are vital to making these efforts successful.

Russell Thompson, SCORE, commented on SCORE's five session workshops, *Simple Steps for Starting a Business* held on numerous occasions at Sistrunk Boulevard's African American Research Library. Additionally, SCORE would be happy to do workshops at any location in District III. All that is required is putting together a group and contacting SCORE with a venue. Mr. Fajardo stated this coordination can happen through his department and they can also provide a venue. Further discussions ensued on business incubation sites in the City beginning to excel.

Mayor Seiler commented on the positive synergy of this program and asked if there is anything the Commission needs to implement or need for a follow-up meeting. City Manager Feldman said Staff will continue to work with the Economic Development Advisory Board on this issue. He noted their upcoming joint workshop with the Commission on June 7, 2017. Discussions continued on topics for the joint workshop.

**Mayor Seiler recessed the Conference Meeting at 5:07 p.m.**

**EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION - 4:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE**

[17-0535](#)

The City Commission will meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 286.011(8) concerning:

Perry Wood v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Dellica Harris, Krystle Smith, Timothy Shields and Matthew Porterfield  
Case No. CACE 15-015075 (14)

Christine D'onofrio v. City of Fort Lauderdale  
Case No. CACE 16-004368 (12)

Mayor Seiler announced the City Commission shall meet privately to conduct discussions between the City Manager, the City Attorney and the City Commission relative to pending litigation pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, in connection with the cases noted in item 17-0535.

Present at the attorney-client session will be:

Mayor, John P. "Jack" Seiler  
Vice Mayor, Bruce G. Roberts  
Commissioner, Robert L. McKinzie  
Commissioner, Dean J. Trantalis  
Commissioner, Romney Rogers  
City Manager, Lee R. Feldman  
City Attorney, Cynthia A. Everett

Re: Perry Wood v. City Of Fort Lauderdale, et al., Outside Counsel will be Robert H. Schwartz, Esq., of McIntosh Schwartz, P.L.,

Re: Christine D'onofrio v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Outside Counsel will be Jeffery R. Lawley, Esq. of Billing, Cochran, Lyles, Mauro & Ramsey, P.A. and a Certified Court Reporter with Daughters Reporting, Inc.

**Mayor Seiler reconvened the Conference Meeting at 10:02 p.m.**

**BUS-3** [17-0477](#)

Broward County Historic Preservation Board 2017 Pioneer Day Event - Nomination of City of Fort Lauderdale Pioneer

The Commission discussed the nominee for the Broward County Historic Preservation Board 2017 Pioneer Day to be hosted by the City of Parkland on May 20, 2017.

Mayor Seiler recognized Michael Rajner, who stated Commissioner Trantalis qualifies as one of the people the Commission should consider recommending for the 2017 Pioneer Day. Mr. Rajner submitted an item to the Commission.

**A copy of this handout is attached to these minutes.**

Mr. Rajner expounded on the reasons Commissioner Trantalis should be considered over other nominees. In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Commissioner Trantalis accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Rogers nominated R.L. Landers, discussing Mr. Landers' contribution to the City over the years, which fit the nomination criteria. Vice Mayor Roberts nominated former State



Senator Debby Sanderson. Discussions continued on last year's nominee and this year's nominees. Mayor Seiler stated the April 7, 2017 deadline for the nominations was missed, noting the need in the future to consider nominees from all minority communities. The availability of the two nominees was discussed and there was consensus to nominate Mr. R.L. Landers as the nominee and Senator Debby Sanderson as alternate.

In response to City Clerk Modarelli's inquiry, City Attorney Everett confirmed this nomination could be added as a Walk-On item to the April 19, 2017 Regular City Commission Meeting Agenda for a vote.

Mayor Seiler confirmed there was no further business to be addressed at the Conference Meeting. Mayor Seiler announced the return to the Regular City Commission Meeting.

### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**BD-1**    [17-0490](#)    Board and Committee Vacancies  
See Regular Meeting item R-1.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

### **AJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the City Commission, Mayor Seiler adjourned Commission Conference Meeting at 10:18 p.m.