

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

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***

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the Commission Conference Meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Seiler announced that the title for item BUS-2 was incorrect. The correct title for BUS-2 is Northport DRI Status Update.

ROLL CALL

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

QUORUM 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 Dupree

No e-comments were submitted for this meeting.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner McKinzie introduced Mara Mixon, a millennial and granddaughter of a District III constituent. Ms. Mixon expressed her interest in pursuing a career in public service, shadowing Commissioner McKinzie for a day to experience various aspects of public service. Ms. Mixon addressed the Commission, commenting on her day of learning with Commission McKinzie and her excitement about upcoming City projects. Mayor Seiler and Commission McKinzie thanked Ms. Mixon for her participation and pursuit of public service.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed his attendance at the Wells Fargo Bank (Bank) ribbon cutting event celebrating Black History Month. The event recognized Dr. Von D. Mizell and other early community builders with a mural displayed at the Bank. A copy of this mural will also hang at the new YMCA on Sistrunk Boulevard and the African American

Research Library and Cultural Center. Commissioner McKinzie commented on recent event, including the success of the Sistrunk Festival and the Red Bull/Swatch Beach Volleyball Tournament.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed his meeting with the real estate company overseeing City properties, commenting on the new computer software monitoring lease payments. Ryan Henderson, Assistant to the City Manager, expounded on this new system. In response to Mayor Seiler, Mr. Henderson confirmed the real estate company's software is a proprietary product that the City accesses from subscriptions which were included in the RFP bid response.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed the need to have immediate contact information for individuals responsible for rental properties should an emergency or public nuisance concerns arise. City Manager Feldman commented on discussions at a recent monthly Code Enforcement Meeting about instituting an up-to-date rental database registration that will include housing information. Commissioner Trantalis questioned the feasibility of this task. Discussions ensued on the difference between a vacation rental and a regular residential rental. Commissioner McKinzie discussed aspects of rental property registration in District III versus vacation rental registration. He noted this rental registration information would be used for issues involving first responders and nuisance complaints, commenting that owners of rental properties would have the ability to register in order to be informed of public safety issues concerning their property. Further comments ensued on this issue.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed concerns in the north parking lot for those making water department payments at City Hall. City Manager Feldman confirmed he would look into the matter. Commissioner McKinzie raised the issue of signage at non City-owned parking lots. City Manager Feldman noted that towing enforcement must be posted, acknowledging confusion between City-owned parking lots and privately owned parking lots. Further discussions and comments ensued on this topic.

Commissioner McKinzie raised an item regarding reimbursing the City for policing privately produced events. City Manager Feldman confirmed a meeting with Commissioner McKinzie, Police Chief Maglione, the City Attorney's Office, Finance, Risk Management and Human Resources to address this matter.

Mayor Seiler recognized Janeen Richards, Human Resources Employee Relations Manager. Ms. Richard confirmed working with all pertinent

departments to ensure this item is addressed in a cohesive manner. This will guarantee Police Officers are paid appropriately and events are properly staffed. Ms. Richard expounded on details being addressed to ensure compliance by all stakeholders that may impact Police Officers and civilian event staff, including the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and Teamsters. In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Ms. Richard confirmed that the Fire Department has their own procedures and are separate and apart from this matter. In response to Vice Mayor Roberts, City Manager Feldman and Ms. Richard acknowledged that time is of the essence. Ms. Richard confirmed she is confident this issue will be resolved prior to the Tortuga Music Festival.

Commissioner Rogers recapped the recent 17th Street Mobility Plan Meeting. He noted past efforts to have signage posted with bridge opening schedules. The next 17th Street Mobility Plan Meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2018. Commissioner Rogers commented on controlling truck traffic along Federal Highway from SE 17th Street to State Road 84. Discussions ensued on ways to accomplish this, including traffic light signalization or the possibility of passing a truck ordinance restricting trucks on Miami Road at the Spangler Avenue intersection during specified rush hour timeframes. Commissioner Rogers confirmed his request to City Attorney Everett to pursue this option. In response to Commissioner Trantalis' question, Commissioner Rogers commented on conversations with fuel companies to get the word out, noting their inability to control independent drivers. He commented on additional topics relating to the City's mobility efforts including the 20 foot buffer/setback along SE 17th Street and in other areas that could be utilized for bicycle paths and wider sidewalks. Commissioner Rogers noted the upcoming District IV Stormwater Master Plan Meeting on March 15, 2018.

Commissioner Rogers confirmed that City Manager Feldman sent correspondence to The Florida Trust for Historical Preservation in support of the nomination of South Side Cultural Arts Center for a 2018 Florida Preservation Award. Commissioner Trantalis confirmed that Steve Glassman has filed an application on behalf of the South Side Cultural Arts Center with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Vice Mayor Roberts commented on his attendance at the Police Department's Promotion Ceremony, acknowledging the attributes of the Police Department. He thanked Staff for their efforts with the Envision Uptown Group and work with the business community towards creating an urban village environment in this area.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed the meeting on Friday, March 2, 2018 at Fort Lauderdale High School addressing school safety and security concerns. Police Chief Maglione, City Manager Feldman and each City school principal attended the meeting to discuss school safety and security. This meeting included discussions about Active Shooter Training (AST) and appropriate scheduling.

Mayor Seiler commented about work with School Superintendent Runcie to institute AST, efforts of the School Board to complete its protocol and the training schedule. Vice Mayor Roberts commented on needing to schedule AST every two years, noting the importance for each school's first responders to work directly with the school. City Manager Feldman concurred, citing examples and confirming that the City is not seeking reimbursement from the School Board for AST. Further discussion ensued on the need for first responders being onsite for AST.

Mayor Seiler commented on conference calls with members of the Florida State Legislature about proposed legislation involving school safety and security, and the League of Cities presentation on this topic. He encouraged members of the Commission to monitor this issue. He said that School Resource Officers (SROs) are provided by the City, commenting that SROs should be funded appropriately. Vice Mayor Roberts discussed the Legislature's proposal to arm teachers and additional concerns.

Commissioner Trantalis discussed the popularity and growth of *The Last Saturday of the Month Art Walk and Secret Garden* that began in the FAT Village Arts District. He recommended bringing neighborhoods together by adding artwork from all cultures, suggesting inclusion of a component along Sistrunk Boulevard. This would work towards linking the branding of historic Sistrunk Boulevard and Flagler Village with the community. Commissioner McKinzie concurred.

Commissioner Trantalis commented on the success of the Red Bull/Swatch Volleyball Tournament (Event), noting that the owners have relocated and are now City residents. He commented on discussions with Event owners about creating a volleyball farm system to assist in creating interest and enhancing the Event. This would promote volleyball interest year round, encouraging youth participation in this Olympic event. Mayor Seiler acknowledged the worldwide and local media coverage of the Event, commenting on the City's exposure and positive image.

Commissioner Trantalis honored Sarah Sjoström, a native of Sweden, at the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) with a Proclamation

declaring March 3, 2018 as Sarah Sjostrom Day in the City of Fort Lauderdale. Ms. Sjostrom is the world's fastest woman swimmer and was named the 2017 World Swimmer of the Year. Ms. Sjostrom's brought memorabilia for permanent display at the ISHOF.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed negative activities at Lincoln Park (Park) and the need to maintain diligence until this behavior is eliminated. Discussions ensued on the details of those involved, including ex-offenders, and the difficulty in policing such a large area. Commissioner McKinzie commended Police Chief Maglione for the Police Department's recent efforts which led to the arrest of a felon at the Park. He encouraged their commitment to continued perseverance in these efforts.

Mayor Seiler commented on the Sistrunk Festival 5K Run. He discussed comments by 5K participants that the Sistrunk Boulevard course is one of the best. Mayor Seiler discussed the exceptional turnout and success of the waterway cleanup. Mayor Seiler commented on upcoming events celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

[18-0233](#)

Communications to the City Commission

*Budget Advisory Board (BAB) Meeting
January 17, 2018 - 6:00 P.M.*

Motion made by Mr. Orshefsky, seconded by Mr. Dewey to recommend the City unfreeze the proposed Engineering Technician, Traffic Operations Engineer and Interagency Coordinator positions to address traffic signalization issues in the City, provided that City administration establish measurable goals to be implemented over the next two to three years. In a voice vote, motion passed 8-1 with Mr. McKee opposed.

City Manager Feldman confirmed these positions have been unfrozen. He explained that the Commission noted that once the BAB had agreed, hiring for these positions were made available.

*Education Advisory Board (EAB) Meeting
February 22, 2018*

The City of Fort Lauderdale Education Advisory Board is concerned with the safety of City students. In particular, students in Fort

Lauderdale have been made aware of the active shooter threat through the tragic events at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School. We recommend the City Commission direct the City Manager and the Fort Lauderdale Chief of Police, in conjunction with Broward County Public School and the Broward County Sheriff's Office, conduct active shooter refresher training in all Fort Lauderdale schools as soon as feasible. In a voice vote, the motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Seiler said this EAB communication reflects the consensus position of the Commission on this issue. He requested City Manager Feldman forward this EAB communication to the School Board.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [18-0229](#)

Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

In response to Commissioner Trantalis' question regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) responses for the Aquatic Complex Project (Project), City Manager Feldman said two bids were received, both higher than budgeted. Talks are ongoing with the architect engineer for value engineering for the Project. Commission Trantalis discussed the history of bid responses for the Project, noting it is a rehabilitation project as opposed to a reconstruction project. The pools need to be moved in order to meet competition standards and requires dewatering. City Manager Feldman commented on the unknown cost of dewatering. He expounded that this is the driving cost factor in a guaranteed maximum price contract and mandates that any risk would be borne by the contractor. Commissioner Trantalis requested City Manager Feldman come back to the Commission with an analysis of bid responses separating out the dewatering costs. City Manager Feldman concurred noting ways for the City to accept a portion of the risk involved in dewatering by separating out the dewatering costs from the rest of the Project's costs. Further comments and discussions ensued.

Commissioner Trantalis asked about traffic issues relating to blocking Cortez Street. City Manager Feldman explained it relates to gridlock caused by traffic circulation on Cortez Street and A1A during Spring Break. As a traffic calming measure, Police Chief Rick Maglione explained that Cortez Street will be blocked at A1A. The west end of Cortez Street at the Seabreeze Boulevard intersection (Intersection) will be accessible to condominium residents and Beach Place patrons. There will be mobile message boards at the Intersection advising it is no longer a thru street to A1A. The time schedule for implementing these modifications was discussed with Beach Place and the condominium

manager. They will likely be after 10:30 a.m. and the necessity for this modification will be assessed on an as needed basis during Spring Break. Chief Maglione expounded on communicating this message through social media. Commissioner Trantalis recommended having a Police officer at Cortez Street and A1A to address traffic concerns. Chief Maglione confirmed, stating there would be a Police officer at the east end of Cortez Street at A1A for large delivery trucks exiting onto A1A due to the inability for them to turn around and exit Cortez Street from Seabreeze Boulevard. Further comments and discussions ensued on activities in this area of A1A.

Mayor Seiler recognized Sherman Whitmore, 401 East Las Olas Boulevard. Mr. Whitmore inquired about the contract for D.C. Alexander Park (Park). Commissioner Trantalis explained the history of the 15 percent design-build contract for the Park. Mr. Whitmore discussed the bid responses for the Swimming Hall of Fame Project, commenting there is no Lifeguard Station Headquarters (Headquarters) in the proposal. City Manager Feldman confirmed he is anticipating the relocation of the Headquarters.

Mr. Whitmore passed out a memo to the Commission, reading the highlights.

A copy of this document is attached to these minutes.

Discussions ensued about Mr. Whitmore providing information concerning the financial viability to pursue a development project, the idea of a hotel on public land, and additional activities at the Park that impact the site. Mayor Seiler discussed his opposition developing a private hotel on public land.

Mayor Seiler recognized Count Rosenthal, 1237 NW 4th Avenue. Mr. Rosenthal commented on his position of not allowing private development on public land, bids in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for infrastructure projects and the lack of accurate underground infrastructure mapping.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [18-0259](#)

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Art Museum Presentation

Mayor Seiler recognized Bonnie Clearwater, Director and Chief Curator for Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Art Museum (Museum). Ms. Clearwater gave a presentation on the Museum's history, its organizational structure, and its contribution to the City's cultural vibrancy.

Ms. Clearwater said that the Museum is celebrating its 60th Anniversary and 10th Anniversary of the Museum's merger with Nova Southeastern University, noting the contributions made by Fort Lauderdale Junior League for the Museum's original inception.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Following the presentation, Mayor Seiler expounded on Ms. Clearwater's strong leadership, and regional and national recognition as one of the top individuals in the industry. Ms. Clearwater thanked Mayor Seiler, acknowledging the strong community support for the NSU Museum. Ms. Clearwater introduced her team. Further comments and brief discussion ensued on the Museum's Art programming.

BUS-2 [18-0189](#)

Northport DRI Status Update

As announced at the start of this meeting, Mayor Seiler confirmed the corrected title for BUS-2 is Northport/Broward County Convention Center Development of Regional Impact (Northport DRI) Status Update.

City Manager Feldman updated the Commission, requesting direction moving forward. He reviewed the City's position from December 2011 that the Northport DRI was in noncompliance. As such, the automatic extensions, extension requests under Senate Bills 360 and 1752 were not applicable and the Northport DRI expired on December 31, 2011. City Manager Feldman reviewed subsequent actions by the County. He also reviewed the position of the State and the South Florida Regional Planning Council, both of which were agreement with the County. City Manager Feldman said this is relevant due to the Convention Center being part of the Northport DRI and the expectation that plans for the Convention Center will be submitted to the City under the Development Review Committee (DRC) Process.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis' question about the reason for the City's position for the County's alleged noncompliance, City Manager Feldman said it was because the bypass road had not been completed. The bypass road was a condition of the Northport DRI. City Manager Feldman recommended handling the Convention Center Hotel through normal City processes, while preserving the obligation to build the bypass road. Mayor Seiler concurred with this recommendation, stating the tenor of discussions with the County have changed and progress is being made. In an effort to save time, he recommended accepting the recommendation that the Northport DRI not expire, extending it and have the requirements remain in place.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis' question about the City agreeing to a suspension of the objection to noncompliance, City Attorney Everett gave her comments, noting the need to review the extensive document to ensure the City is not waiving any rights or protections. Commissioner Rogers confirmed his review of the Northport DRI document, stating it is in the City's best interests to continue within the confines of the required bypass road. In response to Commissioner Rogers' request for what needs to be done to stabilize the City's position, City Attorney Everett expounded on the need to determine the manner in which the City moves forward. Discussions ensued on moving forward while not forfeiting any rights concerning approvals. Commissioner Rogers noted there was no formal Commission vote on this issue in the past. Vice Mayor Roberts concurred.

City Manager confirmed his understanding of the Commission's position on this matter and now has clear direction.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

BD-1 [18-0232](#)

Board and Committee Vacancies

Brief comments ensued on upcoming board and committee appointments.

City Clerk Jeffrey Modarelli read the names of appointees for Resolution R-1 being voted on tonight at the March 6, 2018 Commission Regular Meeting.

A copy of the Resolution is attached to these minutes.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Seiler adjourned the Commission Conference Meeting of March 6, 2018 at 3:36 p.m.