

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, July 11, 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** - Commissioner Romney Rogers, Vice Mayor Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie 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 Anthony Gnisci

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

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the Commission Conference Meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

## CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Vice Mayor Roberts arrived at 1:35 p.m.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed recent events at Carter Park in District III. He commented on the success of the Fireworks and Beach festivities. Mayor Seiler concurred. Further comments continued on the 4th of July festivities.

Commissioner Trantalis arrived at 1:36 p.m.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on the upcoming new \$49,000,000 retail warehouse development project in District III. Commissioner Rogers stated there are two other projects by the same developer in Edgewood and on Broward Boulevard. Mayor Seiler noted the improvements at the cemetery located near Carter Park. Commissioner McKinzie elaborated on the efforts to improve the appearance.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed the need to address recent issues in and near Lincoln Park, confirming the Police Department is working to address these concerns. He also discussed forthcoming Community Redevelopment Agency projects in District III.

Commissioner Rogers commented on the success of community efforts with respect to Ready Day in District IV. He also commented on upcoming events in partnership with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Seiler commented on Holiday Park hosting of the State Little League Championships for the first time in the City. Commissioner McKinzie discussed the upcoming Teen Summit at Carter Park.

Commissioner Rogers discussed efforts to address aggressive panhandling on Federal Highway at 17th Street. Commissioner McKinzie discussed similar successful efforts at the NW corner of 7th Avenue and Broward Boulevard, commenting on additional efforts discussed with City Manager Feldman. Commissioner Trantalis commented on last year's efforts in the area near the Esplanade. Further discussions ensued. Commissioner Rogers commented on the dedication site of the City's first high school, Fort Lauderdale High School. Comments and discussions ensued regarding photos and historical aspects of the original school.

Commissioner Rogers discussed issues relating to the sign ordinance raised by realtors, specifically open house signs. Vice Mayor Roberts confirmed City Manager Feldman needs to address the current ordinance to accommodate realtor open house signs. Discussions continued on the history of this issue and how best to address concerns. City Manager Feldman cautioned about needing to be content neutral as a result of the recent Supreme Court ruling. The sign structure and locations are items to be regulated. Further discussions ensued on this topic. City Attorney Cynthia Everett requested a copy of the email, confirming long-time efforts towards a revised sign provision in the Ordinance.

Vice Mayor Roberts thanked the Police Department for its presentation at the Bal Harbor Summerfest, noting its popularity. He thanked Transportation and Mobility Department for its work with neighborhood concerns in The Landings community.

Vice Mayor Roberts commented on two recent Commission Joint Workshop Meetings:

Citizens Police Review Board (CPRB), confirming the ordinance before the Commission at tonight's meeting will allow the ability for CPRB to be further involved in the process.

Budget Advisory Board (BAB), acknowledging the BAB's suggested new direction and recommendations.

Vice Mayor Roberts confirmed the upcoming Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting. The meeting will discuss aspects of the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan including:

17th Street Mobility Plan - (\$30,000,000 has been set aside)

Sunrise Boulevard Gateway Project - Gateway, Fly-Over and Roundabout (\$100,000,000 has been set aside)

Discussion continued on these two items and the need to keep them moving forward. Commissioner Trantalis noted his concern about the process involved for the Sunrise Boulevard Project, stating his constituents have never been asked for their input and their desire for this project. He questioned who had generated this project, confirming the community's concern as well as his own about the wording of this resolution. Further comments and discussions ensued. Commissioner Trantalis requested City Manager Feldman reword the resolution prior to the Commission Meeting tonight.

Commissioner Trantalis discussed his participation with County Property Appraiser Marty Kiar at Saint Anthony's Church to help homeless families with children come out of homelessness.

Commissioner Trantalis noted he was the Keynote Speaker at the recent Naturalization Ceremony held at Oakland Park. He stated there were new citizens from over 30 countries. Commissioner Trantalis discussed the numerous positive aspects and success of the rehabilitated housing activities in Northwest Gardens, confirming his attendance at the ribbon cutting with Commissioner McKinzie.

Commissioner Trantalis confirmed he will be conducting a Telephone Town Hall Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on July 13th.

Commissioner Trantalis asked Commissioner Rogers if the residents of Colee Hammock had raised any concerns about the road work project at SE 15th Avenue between Las Olas Boulevard and Broward Boulevard. Commissioner Rogers confirmed he has not had a great deal of feedback on this issue. City Manager Feldman confirmed Commission approval of acquiring the right of way on SE 15th Avenue and Broward Boulevard. Discussions continued on the adequacy of that turn lane for large trucks. City Manager Feldman confirmed the project is scheduled for completion at the end of September 2017.

Mayor Seiler acknowledged the outstanding efforts of Staff and the good traffic flow during the Fourth of July festivities. He also discussed JetBlue's outstanding Soar with Reading Event. Mayor

Seiler commented on the success of Friday Night Sound Waves Events.

Mayor Seiler discussed the recent visit of an organ donor's father who came to the City to honor his daughter who had drowned in a swimming pool in Mexico. She had been flown to Broward Health in an attempt to save her life. The father made a 2,700 mile bike ride to visit recipients of his daughter's organs and to promote awareness of organ donation. Mayor Seiler discussed the father's positive comments and his appreciation of the City, acknowledging the remarkable job done by the Police Department. Mayor Seiler noted he presented the father with a Key to the City.

[17-0832](#)

Communications to the City Commission

*PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES CITY OF  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2017 - 6:30 P.M.*

*Communications to the Commission*

*1. Motion was made by JoAnn Smith and seconded by Bill Schonlou to name the South Side School Building, South Side Community and Cultural Arts Center. The motion was passed in favor with 6 Yes's and 4 No's.*

*Bill Schonlau - Yes Darin Lentner - No  
Bruce Quailey - Yes Dermot McQuarrie - No  
JoAnn Smith - Yes James Jordan - No  
Karen Polivka - Yes Robert Payne - No Ryan Fletcher - Yes  
Roy Grimsland - Yes*

Mayor Seiler voiced his concern regarding the naming of South Side School, asking why this was not presented for Commission discussion during a Conference Meeting prior to a vote by the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Board. Commissioner Rogers explained how this issue was raised, the reasoning behind the naming and the process involved. He discussed the concerns of the Friends of South Side group, explaining the need for the facility to be a self-sustaining cultural and arts center and the need for it to be successfully marketed. Further comments and discussions ensued on the naming of the building and the importance of it being marketed as a community center for the entire City as well as a cultural and arts center.

Mayor Seiler stated he would ask for a deferral on this item at tonight's

meeting, reiterating a proper process should have been followed. Commissioner Rogers commented on his concern that time is of the essence, recommending the Commission hear it at tonight's meeting. Vice Mayor Roberts noted his concern about the lack of participation from neighborhoods, agreeing it needs to be named for marketing purposes. Commissioner Trantalis asked Commissioner Rogers to gather as much input as possible from stakeholders prior to tonight's meeting. Mayor Seiler confirmed for the record that the National Register of Historic Places lists South Side School as it is currently named. Further discussions ensued.

*2. Motion made by Darin Lenter and seconded by James Jordan to support furthering the Parks and Recreation Beaches Bond proposal and recommending that the City moves forward. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

City Manager Feldman explained this motion relates to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and infrastructure. Vice Mayor Roberts agreed it is part of the City's infrastructure and there should be a study to determine if it should be included in the long-term plan for the City's infrastructure. Commissioner Rogers concurred, commenting that the Infrastructure Task Force currently has a full plate of responsibilities. Commissioner Trantalis asked which bond proposal has been proffered. City Manager Feldman stated there is none. Commissioner Rogers recommended sending this back to the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Board for further study prior sending it to the Infrastructure Task Force. There was a consensus on the recommendation to send this back and have them prioritize recommendations items. Those priorities should be presented to the Commission for review then forwarded to the Infrastructure Task Force.

*3. Motion made by Joann Smith and seconded by Robert Payne to recommend approval for the funding of the Coders Camp, Wi-Fi in the Parks, Programming and Events and Facility Repairs. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

City Manager Feldman stated there is a budget modification in this year's recommended budget to fund a Coders Camp, explaining it teaches children and teens how to write code for applications. There was agreement among the Commission on this motion.

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017 - 6:30 P.M.**

*Communication to the City Commission*

*Motion made by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Stresau to ask the City Commission to have the sign code reviewed to bring it up to date because it currently fell short in many areas. In a roll call vote, motion passed 7-0.*

City Attorney Everett confirmed the Sign Code Ordinance needs to be updated as a result of the recent Supreme Court decision. City Manager Feldman confirmed the latest draft was received Friday and it should be before the Commission in September. In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question about the salient changes the Commission is being asked to consider, Anthony Fajardo, Director of Sustainable Development, confirmed it needs to be content neutral and is currently being worked on in the City Attorney's Office. He also noted the Board of Adjustment is requesting an entire review of the sign code for all types of signs in all locations to address issues that are currently not allowed by code. These revisions are in the pipeline to be addressed.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Assistant City Attorney Lynn Solomon confirmed her attendance at the Board of Adjustment Meeting when this was discussed. She stated one of the issues relates to the proximity of signs to parks and other areas and similar to these are routinely granted waivers, commenting on specific requests. Mr. Fajardo expounded on this issue, citing examples.

Commissioner Trantalis commented on his perspective about the need to reduce signage in certain areas of the City such as Federal Highway. He also commented on good examples of signage such as Parker Play House. There was agreement on the need to accomplish these goals.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [17-0873](#)

Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's questions, City Manager Feldman confirmed there were no changes from the previous update. City Manager Feldman confirmed the parking structure area is being fenced.

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

**BUS-1** [17-0870](#) 2017 State Legislative Update

Mayor Seiler stated the Legislative Update will take place following the Commission's summer break due to scheduling conflicts.

**BUS-2** [17-0852](#) Discussion of Right-of-Way Issues in Riviera Isles

Assistant City Attorney Lynn Solomon confirmed after a meeting with the three property owners, their desire to file a quiet title action and "friendly" law suit against the City to address this issue. The homeowners are looking for direction from the Commission as to the position the City will take in this regard. Assistant City Attorney Solomon confirmed the City would not contest it as long as the Pump Station could remain on site and they agree to repair the sea wall. The homeowners would be the plaintiff and they would grant a typical utility maintenance easement. Discussions ensued on receiving a title opinion and the burden being on the three homeowners to address this issue. Mayor Seiler confirmed when the City is served, a Executive Closed Door Session should be held to discuss this issue. The Court's position on correct service of process and other issues were discussed.

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

[17-0824](#) The City Commission will meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 286.011(8)(a) concerning:

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Howard S. Sloman, Jr.  
Case No. CACE 17-000746 (11)

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Munaz Enterprises, Inc.  
Case No. CACE 07-008660 (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 17-0824:

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  
Assistant City Attorney, Tania M. Amar, and a  
Certified Court Reporter with Daughters Reporting, Inc.

The estimated length of this attorney-client session is approximately twenty (20) minutes.

### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**BD-1**    [17-0831](#)

Board and Committee Vacancies

Commissioner Rogers noted he has vacancies on the Budget Advisory Board and the Audit Advisory Board, confirming he will seek candidates.

City Clerk Jeffrey Modarelli confirmed Vice Mayor Roberts's recommendation of Owen Cylke for a consensus appointment to the Sustainability Advisory Board.

Mr. Modarelli confirmed consensus appointments to the Central City Redevelopment Advisory Board to be read at tonight's meeting as Michael Vonder Meulen, Mark Antonelli, Andrew Segaloff and Jeff Sullivan.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Mr. Modarelli confirmed there were no vacancies on the Code Enforcement Advisory Board.

Mr. Modarelli noted Lonnie Maier will be appointed to the Economic Development Advisory Board during tonight's Regular Commission Meeting.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Seiler adjourned the Commission Conference Meeting at 2:53 p.m.