

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

1:30 PM

City Commission Conference Room

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER Mayor - Commissioner
ROMNEY ROGERS Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District IV
BRUCE G. ROBERTS Commissioner - District I
DEAN J. TRANTALIS Commissioner - District II
BOBBY B. DuBOSE Commissioner - District III

LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor
JONDA K. JOSEPH, City Clerk
CYNTHIA A. EVERETT, City Attorney

Meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Mayor Seiler.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler, Vice-Mayor Romney Rogers, Commissioner Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis and Commissioner Bobby B. DuBose

Also Present: City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Auditor John Herbst, City Clerk Jonda K. Joseph, Assistant City Attorney Cynthia A. Everett and Sergeant At Arms Sergeant Cecil Stone

No public comments were submitted by email for this meeting.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Events and Matters of Interest

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest including a request by Commissioner Roberts for the dock waiver application of Steven and Karen Chess to be scheduled on December 2.

Indoor Feeding Ordinance

Commissioner DuBose encouraged the Commission to make sure that an accurate and complete portrayal of what the City is doing is made available to the public because there are inaccuracies.

Noise; Revolution Live and America's Backyard

Vice-Mayor Rogers raised concerns about very late noise from Esplanade Condominium residents related to Revolution Live and America's Backyard.

Commissioner Trantalis raised a global issue concerning residential being built adjacent to entertainment zoning and the clash between the two.

Legal Counsel for Individuals Charged with Violation of Municipal Ordinances

Mayor Seiler asked the City Attorney to evaluate whether it would be more cost effective for the State Attorney and Public Defender to handle municipal ordinance prosecutions.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 14-1286 PROPOSED LIEN SETTLEMENTS (SPECIAL MAGISTRATE AND CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD CASES)

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, found it interesting that the Commission settles matters with some

but not others.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

There was no discussion.

CF-2 14-1363 SOUTH SIDE SCHOOL UPDATE

Vice-Mayor Rogers noted that some time has been saved by shortening the design period. Commissioner Trantalis questioned why it will take until June 2015 to start construction. The City Manager explained there has only been conceptual design completed. The working drawings by a licensed architect are now needed. It will then be put out to bid to secure a construction contractor.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, said this project has moved at a snail's pace. He expressed concern about the money spent and projected to be spent. He felt the Commission should discuss matters in public rather than speaking to the City Manager individually.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 14-1368 UPTOWN AREA - URBAN LAND INSTITUTE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Carla Coleman, representing the Urban Land Institute, provided introductory remarks.

Chuck DeSanti of DeSanti & Associates reviewed the Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) report on long-term strategies for resiliency in the face of climate change (Exhibit 1 to Commission Agenda Memorandum 14-1368). TAP recommendations are attached to these minutes.

DeSanti confirmed for Commissioner Trantalis that this would be similar to City Place in West Palm Beach grown organically rather than designed.

In response to Mayor Seiler, DeSanti agreed to provide examples of areas grown organically that have done a good job with an awning and arcade approach (tree canopy).

Commissioner Roberts felt that the process through which the recommendations were developed was excellent. He emphasized the competition to retain and attract businesses is intense. There has been discussion about rezoning to facilitate the vision for the area. He believed funding may be available through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for hub activities.

Economic Development Advisory Board member Cary Goldberg, president of Vision Uptown Inc., shared his conversation with employees of Citrix about why they are located in the Uptown area of Fort Lauderdale. Citrix would like to increase its employment base from people locally and need local training. Goldberg worked with Broward College to implement a training program for them. Secondly, Citrix wants nearby housing for their employees. He then worked with Commissioner Roberts and identified land large enough not to require assemblage. He noted the area's transportation infrastructure and options, pointing out the opportunity to create a live-work-play environment in Uptown Fort Lauderdale similar to Atlantic Station in Atlanta. He highlighted some of the businesses in Uptown

now including Alpine Jaguar that is the largest dealership in the United States. The City should do whatever it can to retain the businesses already in Uptown.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, felt use of trolleys or buses in the city is difficult. He believed that youth in the black community do not trust the police. He expressed concern about the lighting at City Hall.

Charles King, 105 North Victoria Park Road, criticized the logic of creating an alternative downtown and tying it to climate change. He felt Flagler Village is what is being described in terms of housing. Employees could take a 10-minute train ride to their jobs. He did not want an alternative downtown created with taxpayer dollars that would impact other existing areas.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

The Commission was supportive of the recommendations.

BUS-2 14-1379 PREVIEW OF NEW CITY WEBSITE

The City Manager announced that the new website is expected to launch on November 12.

Manager of Technical Services Jay Stacy provided introductory remarks.

Public Information Specialist Shannon Vezina reviewed various pages of the site, fortlauderdale.gov.

Vezina explained the goal was to make the site easy to navigate and use and for it to be aesthetically pleasing. The background images can be changed seasonally to show various events. The view will automatically adjust for smartphones and tablets.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, questioned the validity of the Commission photos. He questioned whether computers will be able to access all documents and asked about archiving capacity. He wanted the Mayor to respond to his questions.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

BUS-3 14-1224 BAHIA MAR PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE DESIGN CONCEPTS

Transportation and Mobility Director Diana Alarcon explained that staff has been working with the new owners of Bahia Mar on renovation for the overpass bridge. She highlighted information in Commission Agenda Memorandum 14-1224 including two options available.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis, the City Manager explained different materials are proposed for each option. One option allows visibility of crossing pedestrians. The other is an opaque screening. Alarcon advised that they are priced evenly. The question of durability arose wherein Alarcon said both options would have similar longevity. Both products are said to be very durable for the outdoors. The Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board (BRAB) prefers Option 1. The BRAB asked staff to look into an LED message board, however the Florida Department of Transportation did not approve that idea. The BRAB additionally asked staff to look into changing the lighting based on season. She will ask the

owners their thoughts on that because there would be an associated cost. Alarcon agreed with Vice-Mayor Rogers that opaque would be safer.

Discussion ensued about signage. The City Manager confirmed the southbound sign would read, "Welcome to Fort Lauderdale, home of the international boat show," and the northbound sign would read, "Welcome to Fort Lauderdale Beach."

The City Manager noted there are a few more steps that must be taken. It will come back to the Commission at a future meeting. There was consensus for the opaque option.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

In response to Fred Carlson, representing the Central Beach Alliance, and Mayor Seiler, Alarcon agreed to look into posting intercom boxes on both sides of the bridge.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, questioned the cost and criticized the City if it is expending funds for a private property improvement yet nothing is being done for the homeless.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

BUS-4 14-1369 PUBLIC WORKS - INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

Public Works Director Hardeep Anand provided introductory remarks and members of his staff reviewed slides relating to water system cross-connection and backflow prevention and wastewater system inflow and infiltration, which are attached to these minutes.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Raymond Cox, no address provided, said the solution for holding back the tide does not seem to be a long-term fix. He discussed historical and environmental matters generally relating to functions of the Public Works Department.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

The Commission recessed and convened as the Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners at 4:03 p.m. The Commission then reconvened the conference meeting at 5:04 for the closed door session, recessing at the end of the session.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION

14-1418 THE CITY COMMISSION WILL MEET PRIVATELY PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 286.011(8) CONCERNING:

1. Deborah Hannah Edlin v. Leo A. Arena and City of Fort Lauderdale - Case No. 13-61523-CIV
2. Rinda Mizelle and Darin Mizelle v. City of Fort Lauderdale - Case No. CACE 13-25419(13)

The City Commission reconvened at 9:47 p.m. to address Item BD-1 in the City Commission meeting room on the first floor of City Hall.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

BD-1 14-1342 COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION AND MINUTES
CIRCULATED - period ending October 30, 2014

Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board

Motion made by Vice Chair Lee, seconded by Ms. Scher, that the Board requests a joint City Commission workshop to review Stage II of the Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects, which is 15 percent design plans. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Seiler noted the upcoming joint meeting on Monday, November 10.

Education Advisory Board

The Fort Lauderdale Education Advisory Board supports the \$800 million General Obligation Bond Proposal on the November 4th ballot. We endorse the Broward County Public Schools' plans and trust the School Board and their staff will keep their promises to our local schools and the Fort Lauderdale citizens who use them. In a voice vote, the Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Seiler noted that the Commission has already taken a position of support on this matter.

Historic Preservation Board

Motion made by Ms. Mammano, seconded by Ms. Ortman to ask the City Commission to instruct staff to move forward with the revisions to the Historic Preservation Ordinance, and for staff to inform the Board at their November meeting about what progress had been made. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager advised that staff continues to work through issues identified in the last joint workshop. At Mayor Seiler's request, he agreed to provide a status report to the Commission at the November 18 meeting.

Northwest Progresso-Flagler Heights Redevelopment Advisory Board

Motion made by Member Burrows and seconded by Member Lagi, recommending that after the \$14M in funding allocations identified for the NW and Flagler Village areas in the NPF CRA Five-Year Spending Plan are satisfied, an allocation of NPF CRA funds for the NW area shall be set aside equal to the amount of debt service (approximately \$870,000) incurred for North Wave Loop, during the remaining years of loan repayment. Motion passed 9-2.

Mayor Seiler said the matter would be discussed at the next Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors (CRA) meeting.

Police and Fire Retirement

The Board wished to inform the City Commission that they had terminated two investment managers; they had commissioned an experience study; and they had early adopted GASB 67.

The report was received.

Sustainability Advisory Board

Subsequent to your request to evaluate the GMO labeling resolution presented by Food and Water Watch as a citizen presentation at a Commission meeting, the SAB reviewed extensive independent research and discussed this topic in considerable depth over multiple meetings. We also heard from members of the public (add list here including the Farm Bureau). We believe the concerns of the public about GMO labeling should not be ignored. Therefore, we respectfully submit the attached resolution for your consideration and support.

Motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Whitfield, to advise the above Communication to the City Commission. In a voice vote, the motion passed 8-2.

The City Manager advised that when the GMO issue came before the Commission previously, it was referred to the Sustainability Advisory Board and there was substantial discussion on the matter.

Mayor Seiler explained this has generally been a state or federal issue. Traditionally he has not considered getting into issues that are not City issues, as the City does not have regulating authority. Alena Alberani, chair of the Sustainability Advisory Board, explained it would be an endorsement and show the City's support for this movement. Cheryl Whitfield, Sustainability Advisory Board member, added that both the Florida Farm Bureau and Grocery Manufacturers Association made presentations to the Board. After hearing their arguments, the Board voted in favor of supporting GMO labeling should it become a statewide issue. Hallandale Beach has passed a resolution in support. Oregon is voting today on statewide GMO labeling. It is scheduled to become effective in Vermont in 2016 but is being challenged by the Grocery Manufacturers Association.

Commissioner Roberts said he favors it conceptually. It is solely about labeling.

Vice-Mayor Rogers agreed with Mayor Seiler. It would be helpful if the Board would consider issues that will be confronting the City a couple years into the future. He suggested the Board consult staff to determine what issues would be relevant and could be vetted by the Board. Alberani said the Board discussed just that point and will be planning the year in that fashion. The City has no control over GMO labeling. Mayor Seiler questioned how this issue is a sustainability issue. Alberani believed it is about educating people. There is conflicting evidence about genetically-modified foods. The Board was approached by concerned residents. The Board intends to refocus in 2015 and be more useful to the Commission. She is the new chair. Mayor Seiler spoke of the staff expertise in the field of sustainability and the wealth of ideas they could bring forward to the Board to work on. He was concerned about jumping into issues that are not regulated by the City.

Commissioner Trantalis disagreed. He felt that Commission actions impact what occurs at other levels of government. Local resolutions help the legislature gauge public opinion. Although he agreed that there are many topics that could be worked on, genetically-modified food is a hot topic now. Commissioner Roberts pointed out that the Commission asked the Board to study this.

Alberani noted that the Board hopes to bring forward issues that are may not currently be in the Commission's sphere as well as help with issues at hand. Plastic bags and Styrofoam are similar

examples. There is environmental sustainability but also a holistic or broader approach where people, planet and the economy are tied together.

In response to Mayor Seiler, Assistant Public Works Director Nancy Gassman described the original purpose of the Board including its history of changing from a task force providing guidance on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, to a board. The Board probably has a stronger foothold in the sustainability side but certainly other aspects such as reducing the carbon footprint and saving the City money are part of its mission.

There was consensus agreement to schedule the item for the December 17, 2014 regular meeting. Gassman confirmed the Board is comfortable with the resolution language submitted in this item's backup.

Whereas the Sustainability Advisory Board has had presentations from FPL and Florida Solar Energy Industries Association and whereas based on these presentations, the Board believes the project warrants further consideration by the Board. Be it resolved that the Sustainability Advisory Board recommends that the City not proceed with any binding agreements with FPL on the solar energy initiative pending further consideration and recommendations by the Board.

Motion made by Dr. Goetz, seconded by Ms. Eckels, to advise the above Communication to the City Commission. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager said staff is working through this issue with Florida Power & Light (FPL) to locate a solar array at George English Park.

Alena Alberani, chair of the Sustainability Advisory Board, said the Board discussed this matter but did not officially make a motion. A communication is forthcoming. She understood that there will be EV charging stations at the solar array and it is suggested they be free for public use. The City Manager advised that staff has not yet had substantive discussions on the potential lease of air rights at George English, but this is a good issue to explore with FPL. Alberani advised that a FPL representative attended a Board meeting on this topic. The City Manager recognized this is a valid point, but staff has not yet discussed the term sheet with FPL for this project.

Mayor Seiler requested the Board research and provide a list of cities that have free charging stations.

BD-2 14-1343 BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Please see regular meeting item R-4.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

No discussion.

There being no other business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:13 p.m.