

**REGULAR MEETING
MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Commission Chambers, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida. The following people were present:

Board Members Present

Ms. Kenya Ford, Chair
Mr. Danny Fuqua, Vice Chair
Mr. John Baldwin
Mr. Pierre Louis
Mr. Steven Miller
Mr. Oliver Ross

Board Members Absent

Mr. Tony Barhoo (Planning Board appointee)

Staff Members Present

Mr. Reed Berger, Redevelopment Director
Mr. Arthur Huggins, Assistant City Attorney
Ms. Marsha McDonald, Office Specialist II
Ms. Becky Groom, Board Secretary

1. Call to Order

Ms. Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called and attendance was noted as stated above.

3. Invocation

Mr. Louis gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Ms. Ford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Approval of Minutes for Meeting of April 11, 2017

A motion was made by Mr. Louis, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 11, 2017, as presented. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

6. **Staff Report**

Police Department

Mr. Berger stated the Compstat reports were included as part of the packet.

Ms. Ford expressed concern for the number of incidents involving firearms. She also expressed concern over the number of car burglaries and thefts.

Mr. Berger stated bait cars were being used to help deter auto thefts and crime.

Mr. Miller thanked the Police Department for providing patrols in the City's parks to insure they were safe.

Mr. Berger stated the next Compstat meeting would be on June 22 at 8:30 a.m. at the Police Station on Valor.

Code Enforcement

Jerome McCoy, Neighborhood Services Officer, presented the Code Enforcement report which was included as part of the packet.

Mr. McCoy stated there was a total of 22 complaints in the Midtown area, consisting of 5 animal complaints, 1 junk vehicle, 8 lot clearance complaints, 7 maintenance code violations, and 1 unsafe structure. Mr. McCoy stated there had been several complaints of people doing work without permits and he had to place stop work orders on the sites.

Ms. Ford asked if the Neighborhood Services Officer had to leave the site in order to determine if a permit had been issued for the site in question.

Mr. McCoy stated new I-Pads had been ordered for Neighborhood Services so computer systems were more readily available in the field.

Mr. Ross asked what the procedure was once the stop work order had been posted.

Mr. McCoy stated time was given for the property owner to secure a permit; and if a permit was not issued, Neighborhood Services would continue with the Notice of Violation.

Mr. Fuqua asked at what level of work a permit was required.

Mr. McCoy stated structural work, electrical, and plumbing work require permits but replacing carpet and tile did not require a permit.

Mr. Louis asked if there was a listing available to let residents know what work required a permit.

Mr. McCoy stated it was best to call Permits & Licensing to determine if a permit was needed.

7. **Redevelopment Project Updates**

Mr. Berger stated there were events scheduled throughout the summer at Daisy Stocking and Cypress Park as well as the Juneteenth Celebration at Cypress Park on June 17. Mr. Berger stated the Juneteenth banquet was scheduled for June 14.

Mr. Miller stated the Midtown in the Park event was going very well; but unfortunately, the movie that was scheduled had not gone well due to rain.

Mr. Miller stated there was a heated pool at Campbell that could be used year round.

Mr. Ross asked if there was a charge for the pool.

Mr. Miller stated the price would be the same as the price schedule for the Midtown pool but there were funds available for those who were unable to pay.

Mr. Louis stated his Teen Leadership Council spoke to the City Commission about the pool not being open and they were pleased to see that the pool was now open.

Mr. Berger stated the summer camps had been very successful and were full.

Mr. Baldwin stated the cost for the swimming pool was \$1 for students and \$3 for adults.

Ms. Ford asked if there were policies in place for use of the recreation centers. Ms. Ford stated she understood that some people tried to rent the facilities for graduation events and they were declined. Ms. Ford stated she would like to see in writing what types of events could be scheduled at the Midtown and Daisy Stocking Centers.

Ms. Ford stated communication was key and Cultural Services and Leisure Services do not return calls promptly. She stated she personally had experienced that.

Mr. Miller stated there were caterers that handle food at both centers but he was not aware of situations where people had been turned away. Mr. Miller stated he would follow up on Ms. Ford's concern and provide her with an answer at the next meeting. Mr. Miller stated the price for rental of the centers had been reduced and he had not received any complaints until this evening.

Mr. Louis stated his nephew tried to rent one of the centers and he had similar concerns.

Mr. Miller stated Helen Riger was in charge of Cultural Services and he was in charge of their Advisory Board. He stated concerns should be addressed to him or Ms. Riger.

Mr. Fuqua stated the Midtown Neighborhood Association meeting was held on June 12 and at the meeting, the attendees were informed that the Daytona Beach Police Department was hosting a fishing tournament for the youth on June 24 at the Police Department from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Mr. Fuqua stated there was a community garden at the Word of Praise Church for persons in need.

8. **Public Comments**

Anne Ruby, 137 Park Avenue, asked for an update on the Midtown Lofts project.

Mr. Berger stated the developer was proceeding with the site work and action was scheduled for the June 21 City Commission Meeting to secure a Public Use Permit for the parking lot and stormwater facility associated with the development.

Mr. Berger stated the MLK streetscape project was continuing in the planning and budget stage.

Ms. Ruby asked the status of the former Police Station site.

Mr. Berger stated the site was going through an asbestos evaluation and would probably be demolished.

Ms. Ford asked what the plans were for the Police Station site once it was cleared.

Mr. Berger stated the development would be market driven but stated an RFP would be distributed to attract developers for the site.

Mr. Fuqua asked if the demolition of the Police Station building would be a cost to the citizens of Daytona Beach.

Mr. Berger stated it would be better if it could be combined with someone wanting to acquire the property and then having them demolish it. Mr. Berger stated it would be a large cost for the city to demolish the property and it would be difficult to recover those costs. Mr. Berger stated the same was true for expenses associated with foreclosure of properties.

Mr. Louis asked how the city would notify people that an RFP was being distributed for the Police Station site.

Mr. Berger stated there would be a notice in the newspaper and the RFP would be sent to a list of developers.

9. Board Comments

Mr. Miller stated the pavement on Orange Avenue was very rough. Mr. Miller stated the sidewalks on one side had poles in the middle which forced people to walk on the other side of the street.

Mr. Berger stated FPL was working on the poles and there had been delays on the part of FPL on the project.

Mr. Miller stated Commissioner Henry from Zone 5 was instrumental in having t-ball for 3 weeks at Derbyshire and thanked her for seeing that the program was developed and for helping the youth in the community.

Mr. Louis commended Mr. Miller on establishing a produce shop in the Midtown area.

Mr. Louis stated there would be a Memorial Plaza at the entrance to the new Veterans Memorial Bridge and funds were being solicited from the community for brick pavers for the plaza.

Mr. Fuqua thanked the Board for the work they do in the community and urged the Board to support the Juneteenth celebration.

Mr. Baldwin commended Mr. Miller for creating the produce market in Midtown. Mr. Baldwin stated there was a community garden at Bethune-Cookman. Mr. Baldwin asked individuals to contact him who may be interested in providing developmental programs for the youth of the community and to let him know how he could help.

Ms. Ford stated a thank you card was received from the Bates family for the Resolution that was provided to the family on behalf of the Midtown Board.

Ms. Ford stated she had been contacted by someone who wanted to offer arts, music and photography programs and the City was not responsive in communicating with her. Ms. Ford stated it was imperative that programs be developed for middle school and high school students during the summer. Ms. Ford stated a graduation dinner was held on Sunday at her church for the graduating seniors and on Monday she received a phone call that her church had been spray painted with profanity. Ms. Ford stated there used to be programs in place for the youth but there were no programs for them now. Ms. Ford stated we need to keep our youth engaged and diverse.

Mr. Fuqua stated he was involved in a program with the Black Pilots of America to introduce aviation to less fortunate youth. Mr. Fuqua stated all young people were welcome to participate to introduce individuals to all areas of aviation, such as air traffic control, piloting, and flight attendants. Mr. Fuqua stated the grand opening would be held in August.

Mr. Louis stated he operated 3 computer centers in the area and athletics were not offered. Mr. Louis stated the centers were geared toward the digital generation. Mr. Louis stated there were programs in the mornings for seniors and adult programming in the evenings.

Mr. Baldwin stated there were thousands of youth in the city that were underserved and he hoped there were other programs offered for them.

Mr. Miller stated his daughter recently received her license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Ford thanked staff for their support of the Board.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.


Kenya Ford, Chair


Becky Groom, Board Secretary