

**REGULAR MEETING
MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday, October 10, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers, Daytona Beach City Hall, 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. Tony Barhoo (Planning Board appointee)
Mr. Alphonsa Bush, Jr.
Mr. Pierre Louis
Mr. Steven Miller

Staff Members Absent

Mr. John Baldwin (excused)
Mr. Oliver Ross (excused)

Staff Members Present

Mr. Reed Berger, Redevelopment Director
Mr. Charles Bryant, Redevelopment Project Manager
Mr. Arthur Huggins, Assistant City Attorney
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. Bush gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mr. Louis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Louis, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 11, 2017, as presented. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

6. Staff Report

Police Department

Capt. Byron K. Williams presented the Compstat report that included the period from September 10, 2017 to September 23, 2017. Capt. Williams stated auto thefts were down 37% for the period; burglaries were down 15%; and there was a decrease by 12% in larceny, which included car burglaries, shoplifting, and bicycle thefts. Capt. Williams stated there was an increase of 32% in robberies, which was a total of 11 robberies. Capt. Williams stated aggravated assaults and aggravated batteries were down 7%; and sexual batteries had decreased by 7%. Capt. Williams stated Total Part 1 crimes were down by 13% which was a significant decrease from previous years. Capt. Williams stated the Department's goal was to be down by 10% by the end of the year. Capt. Williams stated there had been issues over the past three weeks with gun complaints. Capt. Williams stated there had been 8 or 9 complaints and two of those incidents resulted in individuals being shot. Capt. Williams stated there were a lot of calls regarding car burglaries as a result of residents not securing their vehicles. Capt. Williams stated many times firearms were left in the vehicles. Capt. Williams stated the Department is working to educate the citizens about securing vehicles, particularly at gas stations.

Capt. Williams stated the Department was preparing for the upcoming Biketoberfest event for both the east and west side of the city. Capt. Williams noted that the Safari Lounge would not be open during Biketoberfest. Capt. Williams stated Harris Park was under construction so other parking arrangements were being developed for that area.

Mr. Barhoo thanked Capt. Williams and the entire department for the work they did in securing the City after the recent storms and Hurricane Irma.

Mr. Louis stated three times since the last Midtown meeting he had seen police officers with three young men; and the police officers were helpful in assisting the young men instead of arresting the individuals.

Mr. Bush thanked Capt. Williams and the department for the great work they do.

Mr. Miller thanked Capt. Williams for the Department's quick response to an auto accident near his business today. Mr. Miller stated he attended the National Night Out and it was a great event.

Mr. Fuqua thanked Capt. Williams and the Department for the excellent job they are doing throughout the City and in Midtown.

Mr. Miller asked about the Citizen Police Program and said he had never seen a Citizen Police car in his neighborhood.

Capt. Williams stated that program was in place throughout the City. Capt. Williams stated it was a volunteer program and participants were scheduled when they were available.

Ms. Ford stated there were great successes noted in the Compstat report. Ms. Ford thanked Capt. Williams and the entire department for the great work they do.

Capt. Williams stated the department had partnered with the program that was conducted by Pierre Louis and it was a successful example of community engagement.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Bryant stated the Code Enforcement Report was included as part of the packet.

Ms. Ford stated the number of code complaints had decreased.

Mr. Louis expressed concern about the number of stray dogs running loose. He suggested putting Animal Control's number on the water bill so people know where to call when they see stray dogs.

Mr. Bryant stated there was an animal control division of the Police Department and he would provide the number to the Board so they had the number to call regarding stray dogs and cats.

Mr. Fuqua asked if permits were being waived for storm damage.

Mr. Berger stated there was a waiver on the fee for hurricane damage but the permit was still required to make the repairs.

Ms. Ford asked what the schedule was for picking up storm debris.

Mr. Fuqua stated there was a lot of mixed trash and debris as a result of the recent storms along the streets in the city. Mr. Fuqua stated shingles and wood were mixed in with the tree limbs.

Mr. Berger stated there was information on the City's webpage about the schedule for pick up and it was stated that different materials should be placed in separate piles.

Mr. Louis stated some citizens were elderly and were unable to separate the debris.

Mr. Berger stated he was not aware of what the City was doing and did not believe the City would leave debris behind.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

7. Redevelopment Project Updates

Mr. Bryant stated October was Domestic Violence Month. Mr. Bryant stated a conference was held recently regarding Domestic Violence and a march was also held.

Mr. Bryant stated a bicycle helmet giveaway was held at Amscot by the Police Department last Saturday.

Mr. Bryant stated the Midtown BBQ Championship would be held on October 28 at Daisy Stocking Park. Mr. Bryan stated this event would be an attempt to bring the individuals together that were selling BBQ on the street corners throughout the community on the weekends. Mr. Bryant stated education would be provided to the participants on the importance of having a business plan and operating a legitimate business.

Mr. Miller stated he did not feel a business community could be developed in Midtown if the individuals were permitted to continue selling BBQ and vegetables each weekend on street corners throughout

Midtown. Mr. Miller stated these individuals had no licenses and operate on church properties and no one said anything to them.

Mr. Bryant stated those are Code Enforcement issues and stated an attempt was being made to have everyone together to help educate individuals on the importance of operating a legitimate business.

Mr. Fuqua stated people ask the churches if they could set up and then a donation was made to the church by the individual that sets up a business on the site.

Mr. Miller stated he would like to see a Code Enforcement representative at the next Midtown meeting.

Ms. Ford stated Mr. Bryant was working to bring these individuals together to help them develop a plan.

Mr. Bryant stated the Midtown movie nights would continue through December 1 at Daisy Stocking Park.

Mr. Bryant stated Light Up Midtown would be held on December 9 with the health fair at Daisy Stocking Park from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Bryant stated the Senior Prom would be held on December 15 at the Midtown Cultural Arts Center.

Mr. Louis thanked Mr. Bryant for the hard work he did for the Midtown Board and the community.

Mr. Bush stated he looked forward to participating in the events coordinated by Mr. Bryant.

Mr. Fuqua thanked Mr. Bryant for the work he did for the Midtown Board and the community.

Mr. Bryant asked the Board to keep Mr. Miller in their thoughts and prayers due to his recent health issues.

Mr. Bryant stated the father of a former Board member, Martin Tooley, recently passed away. Mr. Bryant stated a resolution from the Midtown Redevelopment Board was sent to Mr. Tooley's family.

8. Public Comments

Belinda Haynes, 464 N. Charles Street, Daytona Beach, Florida stated she was a Candidate for City Commission from Zone 3. Ms. Haynes stated she would continue to attend Board meetings so she was aware of what was going on in the community. Ms. Haynes stated selling vegetables in Midtown without a proper permit was a concern and those individuals should be required to have proper licenses.

Carolyn Sanders-Jones, 1481 Surrey Park Drive, Port Orange, Florida, stated she was a concerned citizen who recently moved to the area. Ms. Sanders-Jones stated she did a lot of volunteer work in Daytona Beach at Bethune-Cookman University. Ms. Sanders-Jones stated she presented a proposal to the City's Beautification Advisory Board at their monthly meeting for a streetscape plan that she hoped would help draw new business to the area. Ms. Sanders-Jones stated she hoped to help beautify the area. Ms. Sanders-Jones stated the debris left on the streets from the recent storms attract rodents and was a fire hazard.

Anne Ruby, 137 Park Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida stated she liked the plan proposed by Ms. Sanders-Jones. Ms. Ruby stated perhaps the Redevelopment Department could become involved in Ms. Sanders-Jones' streetscape plan. Ms. Ruby stated C4RD (Citizens 4 Responsible Development) would

like to see what could be done to bring a grocery store to the area. Ms. Ruby stated Daytona State College would provide data and research for market feasibility, etc., and that was a good resource for small businesses in the area. Ms. Ruby asked for the status of the Midtown Lofts project. Ms. Ruby asked for the status of the RFP for demolition of the former Police Station site on Orange Avenue.

Mr. Berger stated the architectural work was proceeding on the Midtown Lofts project. Mr. Berger stated the developer had met the schedules that were outlined in the Agreement. Mr. Berger stated he did not know if the RFP had gone out for the demolition of the Police Station.

9. Board Comments

Mr. Barhoo stated he attended the Planning Board meetings and there was a lot of growth and construction in the community. Mr. Barhoo stated churches did a lot for the community through food giveaways and providing other services.

Mr. Louis stated he was pleased to see a number of citizens attending tonight's meeting. Mr. Louis stated he provided a copy of a flyer to each of the Board members about upcoming community meetings which would be held the fourth Friday of each month. Mr. Louis stated 42 people attended last month's meeting.

Mr. Bush stated he looks forward to serving on the Midtown Redevelopment Board and being involved in the community.

Mr. Miller stated there were 130 churches in the Midtown Redevelopment Area and some were attended by only 3 or 4 people. Mr. Miller stated it was not fair to individuals who had licenses for people to be allowed to set up cooking stands on the corners in Midtown. Mr. Miller stated the roof had fallen in on the former furniture site in Midtown and nothing had been done about the damaged building. Mr. Miller stated he received a telephone call from a 91 year old individual that had her water shut off and felt it was wrong to shut off water of an elderly individual.

Mr. Berger stated the furniture store building was on the list to be demolished by the City.

Mr. Bryant stated the furniture store building had been secured and Code Enforcement had the building boarded. Mr. Bryant stated he received a telephone call about the water account for the 91 year old lady and the water service was restored that evening.

Mr. Fuqua stated it was good to see citizens attending the Board meeting. Mr. Fuqua stated the Board needed to encourage individuals to attend the meetings. Mr. Fuqua stated Midtown needed to be cleaned up so new business can be encouraged.

Ms. Ford thanked the citizens for attending tonight's meetings. Ms. Ford asked for a timeline of the Midtown Lofts project. Ms. Ford stated she would like a representative from Leisure Services to attend the next meeting.

Ms. Ford welcomed Mr. Bush as a new member to the Board.

Ms. Ford stated Mr. Fuqua is running for City Commission and encouraged the Board to support him.

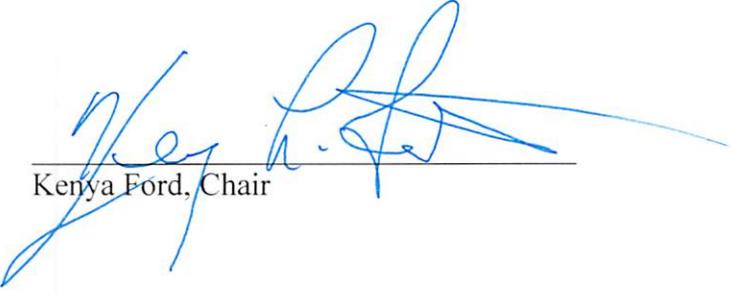
Ms. Ford thanked staff for their support of the Midtown Redevelopment Board.

Ms. Ruby stated it may be useful for the Board to know the funding available through the CRA.

Mr. Miller asked that the information on the CRA budget provided to the Board at the next meeting.

10. Adjournment

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



Kenya Ford, Chair



Becky Groom, Board Secretary