

**MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AREA BOARD
MINUTES
Tuesday, November 13, 2012**

A meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Area Board was held Tuesday, November 13, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, Daytona Beach City Hall, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL. The following people were present:

Board Members

Mr. Hemis Ivey, Chair
Ms. Patricia Heard
Ms. Margaret Symonette
Ms. Denise Cato
Dr. Irma Browne Jamison
Ms. Shirley Benjamin
Mr. Kenneth McGee
Mr. Martin Tooley
Mr. Wilburn Williams

Staff Members Present

Mr. Reed Berger, Redevelopment Director
Mr. Charles Bryant, Redevelopment Project Manager
Ms. Ben Gross, Assistant City Attorney
Capt. Craig Capri, Police Department
Lt. Lance Blanchette, Police Department
Ms. Becky Groom, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mr. Ivey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Groom called the roll and noted members present as stated above.

3. Invocation

Mr. Tooley gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Ms. Cato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ivey asked the Board to recognize Commissioner Cassandra Reynolds for her service to the City and presented her with a plaque honoring her service.

Mr. Ivey introduced Mayor-Elect Derrick Henry.

Mayor-Elect Henry offered his support to the Midtown Redevelopment Area Board.

5. Approval of Minutes for October 9, 2012

Board Action

Ms. Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes of October 9, 2012, as corrected. Mr. Tooley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously (9-0).

Dr. Jamison stated that on Page 10, in the second paragraph from the bottom, she did not say that “it looked like a fantasy.” She stated the program looked ambitious.

6. Staff Report

Police Department

Capt. Capri stated that he was being reassigned to the Detective Division. He introduced Lt. Blanchette who would be promoted to Captain and replacing him as the Captain in District 1.

Capt. Capri stated that crime was down 12% on Part 1 crimes as compared to last year. He stated that last year, there were 3 homicides and there was only one in the current year. Capt. Capri stated that auto thefts were down 19%. Burglaries were down 29%, robberies were down 25% person crimes were up 7%, but overall crime was down.

Ms. Heard congratulated Capt. Capri on his promotion.

Mr. McGee commented that the Midtown Board was working to develop a community of walkable neighborhoods. He commented on a newspaper article where Chief Chitwood had commented on the stigma surrounding someone who had been in jail. Mr. McGee asked Capt. Capri how they could get started working together with Police support.

Capt. Capri stated that he could meet with the Board to see what needed to be done from a Police standpoint.

Ms. Benjamin asked about 529 Orange Avenue.

Capt. Capri stated he would visit the location the next day.

Mr. Tooley congratulated Capt. Capri on his promotion.

Lt. Blanchette stated he would provide the Board with his contact information and encouraged them to contact him with any concerns.

Mr. Ivey asked about City-owned property on Garden Street.

Capt. Capri stated the building was scheduled to be demolished.

Mr. Ivey stated that Brevard County had enacted a sagging pants law and asked if that could be presented to Daytona Beach.

Lt. Blanchette stated he would obtain a copy of the ordinance and send it to the Legal Department.

Ms. Heard stated that a presentation was made to the Commissioners about sagging pants ordinance.

Mr. Tooley asked about the Compstat report.

Capt. Capri said he had just received the report and provided a copy to Mr. Tooley.

Capt. Capri invited the Board members to the Compstat meeting on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at the Police Department. He stated the Compstat meetings were held every two weeks and he encouraged the Board to attend.

Ms. Heard asked if Code Enforcement was part of the Police Department.

Capt. Capri stated yes.

Ms. Heard stated she was not pleased with Code Enforcement. She stated she had reported items to Code Enforcement and nothing was done. She stated that only two vendors were permitted for the Bethune Cookman parade but there were vendors throughout the Midtown area.

Capt. Capri stated that permitting of vendors had been addressed for next year.

Ms. Heard stated that the businesses on the corner of Caroline Street and MMB and the car wash on the corner of Lane Street and MBB were set up outside. She stated that she thought that if business was conducted outside, the business owner must have a TPA from the City.

Lt. Blanchette stated that if a business was selling something different outside from what was sold inside the store, the business owner should obtain a TPA.

Capt. Capri stated that he would get with Hector Garcia regarding Ms. Heard's concerns and would provide her with an answer.

Code Enforcement

Ms. Cato asked about the location of 879 Mary McCleod Bethune Boulevard.

Mr. Bryant stated that 879 MMB was located beside the Thompson Funeral Home.

Ms. Benjamin asked about 201 S. Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Mr. Bryant stated that was the Johnson Service Station. He stated a carport had been installed without a permit and the carport had been removed.

Ms. Cato asked if a car was disabled parked in the street with a current tag, can it be towed.

Mr. Gross stated that a vehicle can have a tag and still qualify as a junk vehicle. He asked that Mr. Bryant follow up on this item.

Ms. Cato stated that on Keech Street, there was a white van that had been parked there for 3 years where the teachers parked at Campbell and the police parked next to the van then step out from behind it to stop speeders. She stated that she thought the law was that the officers had to be seen before they could stop someone.

Mr. Bryant stated that he would look into Ms. Cato's concern.

Ms. Cato asked what the law was concerning landscape workers blowing leaves into the street.

Mr. Ivey stated that Mr. Bryant could address the item.

7. Action Item: Amendment to the Midtown Redevelopment Plan

Mr. Ivey stated that Mr. Bryant and Mr. Berger had made all the necessary corrections to the plan as were discussed by the Board and stated Professor Huffman was in agreement with the plan. He thanked everyone for attending the workshop.

Dr. Jamison stated that on Page 1 there was a reference to a footnote that was no longer there.

Mr. Berger stated that correction would be made.

Mr. Berger stated the Amendment to the Midtown Redevelopment Plan had been continued until November 14. He stated first reading would be on December 5 and second reading would be on December 19.

Ms. Heard stated that her name was omitted from the second page of the Midtown Redevelopment Plan.

Mr. Berger stated he would have her name added.

Mr. Ivey asked that the listing of Commissioners names be changed as well to reflect the new members.

Mr. McGee asked how the plan was referenced.

Mr. Gross stated that the Master Plan was listed in various places in the Redevelopment Plan. He stated that in Section 5.1 under Economic Development Objective, in the first paragraph, the Midtown Master Plan was referenced. He stated there were numerous references to the Midtown Master Plan throughout the document.

Board Action

Mr. Tooley made a motion to adopt the Amendment to the Midtown Redevelopment Plan as presented with corrections as noted. Ms. Heard seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously (9-0).

9. Board Priorities

Mr. Ivey asked that this item be brought back after the City Commission Meeting.

9. Redevelopment Project Updates

Mr. Bryant thanked the Board for their support during the PGM stockholder interviews. He stated 26 interviews were held as well s a workshop. He thanked the Board for their participation.

Mr. Bryant stated weekly meetings were being held for coordination of the Light Up Midtown event.

Mr. Bryant stated a health fair would be held in conjunction with the Volusia County Health Department and noted 31 vendors were participating.

Mr. Bryant stated WalMart was contributing a Christmas tree, decorations and candy for the Light Up Midtown parade. He stated he had submitted a request for a \$2,500 grant from WalMart for the event. The Hilton had donated \$500 and other businesses were assisting with sponsorships. Four bands would participate in the parade.

Mr. Ivey stated he would like the Board to be a lead sponsor for the event and asked if there was any funding available.

Mr. Berger stated he would look to see if there was any available funding and would discuss it with Mr. Bryant.

Mr. Ivey asked the Board for a motion to request a \$2,500 donation from the City for the Light Up Midtown event.

Board Action

Mr. Tooley made a motion for the Midtown Redevelopment Board to donate \$2,500 to the Light Up Midtown Event. Ms. Symonette seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously (9-0).

Dr. Jamison asked if Public Works could cut the grass in the street.

Mr. Bryant stated he would get with Public Works to make sure this is taken care of.

10. Public Comments

Camille Brown, 837 George Ingram, stated that she hopes a Farmers' Market will start in the community. She said the movie "The Wiz" will be shown in the park.

John Shanks stated that the Public Works Department should be able to place something in the street to take care of the weeds growing through the street.

11. Board Comments

Ms. Cato commended the Board for the progress they have made through the year. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Benjamin wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Ms. Benjamin stated that she would not be resigning from the Board and will continue to serve as the Planning Board representative.

Ms. Symonette wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked Mr. Bryant for all the work he is putting into the events.

Dr. Jamison wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. McGee stated that the Board needed to look at what was needed in the five subcenters that had been talked about, such as a bus stop and retail establishments. He stated he did not feel a Publix could be established but possibly five smaller stores could. He stated they needed to know how much land the uses would require. Mr. McGee wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Williams stated that he was pleased with the movement of the Redevelopment Plan and Light Up Daytona. He thanked Mr. Bryant for the work he had done on the events and he wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Tooley stated that he had been working to get sponsors for the Light Up event and he had received many comments from citizens that they were pleased to see that the City making an investment in Midtown. He stated Midtown was the hub of Daytona Beach and he was excited to see the community invigorated again. He thanked Mr. Bryant for his work in coordinating the events and thanked Mr. Berger for allowing him to do it. He thanked Mr. Ivey for his leadership and wished the Board a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Heard thanked the new members who had served on the Board. She talked about security on computers and urged Board members to make sure children were taught proper use of computers. She encouraged Board members to stop by her booth during Light Up Midtown because she had unique items concerning black history and Daytona Beach. She also stated that her birthday was December 11 and Mr. Bryant's was December 10.

Mr. Ivey asked that someone look at the sign at Huger Park that had faded.

Mr. Ivey asked about the trees on Magnolia.

Mr. Berger stated the trees had been trimmed and dead ones had been removed.

Mr. Ivey stated the dead trees were still there on Franklin Street and asked that someone look at them.

Ms. Cato asked if a motion was necessary to have someone take care of the trees since it had gone on for a long period of time.

Mr. Ivey stated he hoped it would be the last time the Board would have to talk about the trees and wanted to give staff an opportunity to address it.

Mr. Ivey stated that he had talked with Mayor-Elect Henry and he hoped that the Commission would continue down the lines that the Board had set up. He thanked the Board for their support.

Mr. Ivey asked that Mr. Bryant make sure the Light Up Midtown was advertised in the Daytona Times.

12. **Adjournment**

Board Action

Ms. Cato made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Jamison seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously (9-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.


Hemis Ivey, Jr., Chairman


Becky Groom, Recording Secretary