

**MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, November 14, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Daytona Beach City Hall, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida.

**Board Members Present**

Mr. Shawn Collins, Chairman  
Ms. Renee Richardson  
Mr. Lynn Thompson  
Ms. Davita Bonner

**Board Members Absent**

Mrs. Tangela Hardy (Excused)  
Ms. Joan Sheppard  
Ms. Cathy Washington

**Staff Members Present**

Mr. Ken Thomas, Redevelopment & Neighborhood Services Director  
Ms. Michele Toliver, Redevelopment Project Manager  
Ms. Angela Armstrong, Redevelopment Project Manager  
Ms. Phebe Fuqua, Redevelopment Project Manager  
Mr. David Russell, Assistant City Attorney  
Captain Leonardo Conde, Daytona Beach Police Department  
Ms. Sara Kirk, Code Compliance Inspector  
Mrs. Chernelia Campbell, Board Secretary

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

Mrs. Campbell called roll and noted members present as stated above.

**3. Invocation**

Mr. Thompson gave the invocation.

**4. Pledge Of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by the board.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Mr. Thompson seconded by Ms. Richardson. Motion was carried 4-0.

**6. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

A motion was made to amend the agenda (move item 6 to item 14) by Ms. Bonner, seconded by Ms. Richardson. Motion was carried 4-0.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from September 12, 2023, by Ms. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Bonner. Motion was carried 4-0.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from October 10, 2023, by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Richardson. Motion was carried 4-0.

**8. Staff Reports**

**8a. Police Department**

Captain Conde shared crime statistics for the period October 1 to November 8. He mentioned the successful apprehension of one of the prolific car burglars. Additionally, he addressed the Midtown Neighborhood meeting that focused on street lighting.

**8b. Code Compliance**

Ms. Kirk presented code compliance cases for the month of October.

**8c. Redevelopment Projects**

Ms. Toliver highlighted the Transform 386 program and online applications start November 14th, 2023. On November 16th, from 3-7pm at City Island, in-person assistance with the online application will be available for Daytona Beach residents. City staff will plan to attend to assist residents.

Ms. Richardson inquired about income verification, specifically whether the program would use 2022 or 2023 earnings.

Ms. Toliver deferred to Volusia County for detail. She clarified that the program is exclusively for homeowners, not businesses.

Mr. Collins asked about fund distribution goals within the community.

Ms. Toliver mentioned over \$200 million is budgeted for the program but no specific spending goals for Daytona. She emphasized that documentation of damage due to Tropical Storm Ian is required. Daytona Beach homeowners had substantial damage, so most of the applications should come from that area.

Mr. Collins revisited a previous staff discussion on modifying houses due to flood damage and seeking information on available repair options. He suggested the possibility of receiving an email outlining some of these options.

Ms. Toliver stated that specific details about repairs would come from Volusia County. She confirmed they both homeowners and general contractors are eligible to receive direct payment. She emphasized that eligibility depends on the specific circumstances of the house and reimbursement is available.

**9. Presentation- Spotlight on Midtown**

Mr. William Sanchez of Solidus Communications discussed the initiative to offer internet to the Midtown area on Dr. Bethune Blvd starting at the railroad tracks to Bethune Cookman University, covering approximately 330 meters. The proposed solution involves implementing a pure WiFi system for Midtown, utilizing WiFi repeaters on lamp posts every 75-100 meters. These repeaters, equipped with WiFi 6 technology, would provide coverage within a range of 50 to 75 meters and extend beyond the university.

**10. Old Business**

No Old Business.

**11. New Business**

No New Business.

**12. Public Comments**

Brian Elliot, 909 Magnolia Avenue, provided information about the upcoming Stomp Down event on April 6, 2024, at Bethune-Cookman University's Mary McLeod Bethune Performing Arts Center, beginning at 7:30 pm. He requested sponsorship support of \$25,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Ms. Richardson to include the Stomp Down event as a formal agenda item in the upcoming month. Motion was carried 4-0.

Augusta Brown, 19 Riviera Estates Circle, addressed the idea of repurposing abandoned buildings as museums for the college.

**13. Board Comments**

The Board members expressed their satisfaction with the meeting, commending and thanking Mr. Collins for his leadership. They extended well-wishes to him and conveyed their support for upcoming events in the city.

Mr. Collins expressed his gratitude, stating that he would miss them, and presented the board and staff with handmade quilts.

**14. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

The Nomination Committee (A. Shawn Collins, Renee Richardson and Davita Bonner) met on October 31, 2023 at 3:00 pm. Ms. Richardson was nominated for Chairman and Ms. Bonner was nominated as Vice-Chairman

A motion was made to accept the nomination of Ms. Richardson as Chairman, by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Bonner. Motion was carried 4-0.

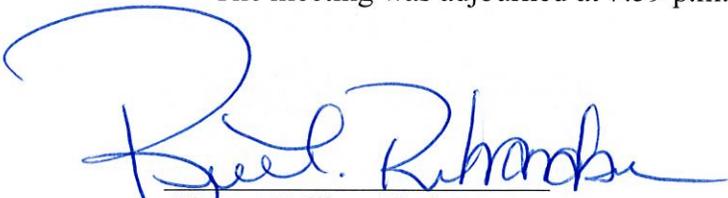
A motion was made to accept the nomination of Ms. Bonner as Vice-Chairman by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Richardson. Motion was carried 4-0.

**15. Meeting Recap/ Follow-ups for the Next Board Meeting**

None

**16. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

  
Shawn Collins, Chair

  
Chernelia Campbell, Board Secretary

