

**POMPANO BEACH
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**Northwest CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, March 3, 2020
E. Pat Larkins Civic Center
6:00 p.m.**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Whitney Rawls called the meeting of the Northwest CRA Advisory Committee to order at 6:02 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Whitney Rawls – Chairman
Shelton Pooler – 6:04
Jay Ghanem – Vice Chair
Velma Flowers
Phyllis Smith

ABSENT

Veronica Thomas -excused

ALSO PRESENT

Commissioner McMahon
Commissioner Perkins
Greg Harrison, City Manager
Mark Berman, City Attorney
Nguyen Tran, NW CRA Director
Horacio Danovich, CIP Manager
Kim Vasquez, CRA Project Manager
Marsha Carmichael, Administrator
Danni Sabbat, Marketing

C. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/REORDERING

Horacio Danovich asked to move up the MLK Streetscapes to F.1. Annie Gillis Park update.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 3, 2020

Motion made by Velma Flowers to approve the minutes from the NWCRA Advisory Committee Meeting of February 3, 2020. Seconded by Phyllis Smith. Motion was approved unanimously.

E. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

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Vincente Thrower, 1895 ???? spoke about the Gas Station Mini Mart on 15th Street and the drugs that happen there. What is going to be done about it? Nguyen Tran said that has always been the targeted area to clean up. The CRA has reached out to the owner and owner is interested in selling the property to the CRA. Right now, they are in negotiations with the owner. Mr. Thrower asked the Community to look at cleaning up the entire corridor. **Ms. McKenna** mentioned the challenge the CRA has is that it can't use eminent domain because it has changed so the City will be needed to approve this item in the first place. **Mr. Berman** spoke to this as well. Eminent domain is not designed to be used in this type of blighted property. The Committee will ask the City to make recommendations to the Board in reference to this property and look to the Board for assemblage of this property and two others.

Motion made by Velma Flowers to begin assemblage of the properties from NW 6th Ave to the tracks North on NW 15th Street. Seconded by Phyllis Smith. Motion was approved unanimously.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Annie Gillis Park Improvement Updates

Horacio Danovich, CIP Manager, announced finalizing the Annie Gillis Park for 1.3 Million Dollars. The amount has changed because of market rates. He is working with a local company to bring it forward. The Committee discussed scaling back but each time they do it increases the amount and they are concerned about the time delay in this budget amount. **Mr. Danovich** explained the wiring and other unseen items are necessary which is what makes the budget this large amount. **Mr. Ghanem** suggested the group try to find more resources in order to make this project work. **Mr. Tran** echoed what **Mr. Danovich** said about the process costing this much and necessary improvements. He spoke to the contractor and all costs are warranted. Budget adjustments may be possible. **Mr. Rawls** was concerned about reducing costs because he wasn't sure about spending 1.3 million on a pocket park. He asked if there are any materials that could be replaced with other less expensive. **Mr. Danovich** said it wouldn't make that much of a difference and asked for a decision so that he can move forward with the plan and he would save money where it can be saved but it was doubtful it would change that much. **Mr. Tran** recommended the project be moved forward. **Mr. Rawls** was hesitant to put 1.3 million into this park when it could be used somewhere else. He asked to see the finalized plan for the Committee to review and see if any monies can be saved anywhere. **Mr. Danovich** will bring back the plan by email to the committee so they can digest it before the next meeting so they can move forward.

MLK Boulevard and Streetscapes

Mr. Danovich reported Phase II is done. For 1 A the contract is being drafted and hopes to bring it to the Commission in March or April and the budget is the same. The

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other one is still in the design process. The Street Scape is in somewhat of a similar situation as Anne Gillis. They are finalizing numbers and looking at waste collection. In reference to the fire station we should have a permit by April. **Mr. Rawls** asked about the streetlights. **Mr. Danovich** reported the work orders are in progress and it should be a week or two before ground is broken.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Amendments to the NWCRA Commission Bylaws

Mr. Rawls reviewed there was a concern the Committee meeting could not start if there was no quorum. **Nugyen Tran** read some of the by laws and explained that if there is no quorum you cannot call the meeting to order or record meeting minutes. **Ms. McKenna** explained that once it is determined that there is no quorum and it is not a “meeting” it becomes a meeting of two or more members just speaking about business which is against the Sunshine Law. **Mr. Berman** echoed the same advice. **Mr. Rawls** asked if the bylaws could be amended so that the Committee could meet and take minutes and the answer was no, there can be no meeting or minutes if there is not a quorum.

H. DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT

1. Financial Report – Detail Statement of Activities – January 2020

Kim Vazquez, Project Manager, reported no large encumbrances, only normal business activity.

I. KEY PROJECTS

Nguyen Tran, CRA Director, read the memo in reference to the Key Projects and it is attached hereto.

J. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Shelton Pooler – reminded everyone early voting starts Saturday. There are interesting amendments on the ballot.

Phyllis Smith – echoed what Mr. Pooler said and added to make sure to get a new voting card. The Committee was surprised to hear this. Mr. Rawls added if you are in the system and have your driver’s license you can vote.

Velma Flowers – made a correction on the minutes where there was a “Veronica Flowers” be amended to Veronica Thomas.

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Jay Ghanem – mentioned the Park amount went up so much and the Committee should trim this budget so that we can move forward.

Whitney Rawls – asked the Executive Director to give a Gateway project update. He suggested they wait and see if they can add this into the _____ which they should know in the next couple of months. Mr. Rawls objected to rolling the Gateway project into the Innovation District Master Development. He is opposed to this and wants the Gateway to remain outside of the Innovation District Master Plan.

Mr. Rawls asked if **Ms. Veronica Thomas** has resigned and what Committee Slots were left available and the answer would be four if **Ms. Thomas** has actually resigned. **Mr. Rawls** asked when they would be filled. **Ms. Vasquez** said there are some applications but none in the positions that are vacant but if **Veronica Thomas** resigns, there will be one open to all residents with no specification. **Marsha Carmichael** will provide the Committee with the available positions and the description of the vacant seats.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, April 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at E. Pat Larkins Civic Center.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting of the NW CRA Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.