



## Executive Board Meeting December 22, 2014

- 1) **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Marilyn Mammano, President at 6:30 PM
- 2) **Present:** Ron Centamore, Chuck Black, Steve Stahl, Brucie Cummings, Jackson Boren, Marilyn Mammano, Cathy Stubbs, Lester Williams
- 3) **School Board Bond Issue:** Marilyn stated that she and Betty attended an Education Advisory Board meeting and Edna Elijah, a member, is now the chairperson for the EAB. The school board members discussed the progress with the bond issue and one of the persons announced the organizations that were being considered for the oversight committee which included the Chamber of Commerce, Contractor's Assoc., NAACP and no representatives from organizations that are not influenced by the benefits of the bond funds or anyone from the school system. There will be a vote taken at the next EAB meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup> a decision will be made concerning the list. The EAB is sending the information to the Commission so they can request for more community representatives on the Oversight Committee. Brucie asked that if there was any concern of a conspiracy on the School Board to have decisions leaned in a certain direction. Marilyn stated that Betty has not given any indication that it is a concern. Cathy stated that the School Board usually does things backwards, they spend first and then get with the public later. Banners are listed at the schools describing what is being done and how much is being spent. Jackson questioned whether or not the CFLCA would be represented on the oversight committee. He also said that working on projects and bidding them out, on return, not only look at the high and low bid, but also qualifications. Chuck stated that almost all government bids accepted are low bids.
- 4) **Homeless:** Marilyn stated that Mr. Abbott and the City Commission have agreed to go into mediation. A new point person, Jerri Pryor, recently from code enforcement, has been assigned to be the contact person to address issues with the homeless and act as the liaison between the homeless and the Commission. Marilyn stated that Ray Dettmann and Commissioner Trantalis attended a meeting with Broward County to interject the fact that they consider our homeless issue needs be addressed by the county. Ron stated that even after we have raised that fact, the county still has the feeling that our homeless problem is a Fort Lauderdale issue.
- 5) **Grants:** Ron stated that 2 months ago, he asked the Public Works Director where are the side walk projects? and he stated he was unaware of a sidewalk project. After 3 years the state funds are due to expire at the end of the month. He went to Diana Alarcon who was instrumental in getting the grant deadline extended. Brucie questioned why every time there is money for a project, it sits for years, and most of the time the deadline needs to be

extended? She stated that the excuse was given that there was not an engineer to work on a project and all the engineers at the city have been fired.

- 6) City Projects:** Jackson stated that he has been unable to get lighting added to protect monuments in his neighborhood and lawn services are damaging the monuments with weed eaters. Also, when 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. changed to a 5 lane highway and who granted the permits for the driveways at Publix and Walgreens, a site of many accidents. Chuck stated that for the last 5 years they have gone through 3 traffic studies and some of the things that are being looked into are: Extending medians that are on 15<sup>th</sup> all the way down to Sunrise. When coming East on Sunrise and going to Publix, cut the median and make a turning lane between Enterprise Rentals and Publix for entry rather than turning onto 15<sup>th</sup> and left into Publix. Having cars exiting Publix to go around to the back of the store to exit rather than directly across from crown liquors. He feels that the city staff, zoning and everyone involved in the permitting process have just made poor decisions and did not realize the problem they were creating. Some of the decision makers are not looking into the future when making decisions and only looking at the present issue and acting on that alone.
- 7) Density:** Marilyn stated that all of US1, Sunrise and Sistrunk are zoned for 15 stories and the city is looking for a free service that would have the ability to graphically show what our city would look like if it were built out the way it is zoned. It was discussed how the heights of buildings along Sistrunk are being planned. East of 7<sup>th</sup>-10 stories, between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 5-7 stories and west of 9<sup>th</sup> 3-5 stories. This and other density issues city wide will be discussed at the Commission workshop on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Marilyn stated that we are discussing downsizing Sistrunk and taking away property rights, yet when the subject comes to downsizing along 17<sup>th</sup> Street for example, it's oh no, we can't do that.
- 8) Vision Plan:** On January 13<sup>th</sup> the city staff will give us a presentation concerning the vision plan. Where do we go from here? The vision plan needs to be revisited and plans such as Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale be looked at and discussed as Not So Fast Fort Lauderdale. There needs to be a more conservative look into the future. Many projects have been approved, but there are no funds to proceed. Little importance is placed on infrastructure in the vision plan.
- 9) Legislative Issues:** Richard Johns needs to come back with the legislative committee, there is a lot of work that needs to be done. The short term rental issue needs to be revisited in Tallahassee and an attempt to push for more control.
- 10) Officer Recognition:** Chuck, Dennis and Ron have volunteered to come up with criteria for the board and the membership to agree on. A general discussion took place and ideas such as a neighborhood recommending a person for duty above and beyond the call of duty and recognitions being done ad hoc and not as a planned event held every so often. Marilyn stated that when the criteria is established, a member of an organization should submit a request for the board's review by the established criteria and if it does fit, at the next general meeting have a brief recognition for that person.
- 11) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Respectfully submitted: Steve Stahl, Recording Secretary.