

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Demous.

Roll call

Present: Chair L. Demous, Member E. Taylor, Member D. Milton-Jackson, Member Hannigon, Member Nixon, Member Bass

Also present:

CRA Manager Regina Davis
Finance Director Ted Beason

Introduction of Board Members

The board is pleased to welcome the newest members of the board Stacey Hannigon, Robert Nixon and Freida Bass (absent Ms. Price). Each member took the opportunity to share a little bit about themselves and their hopes for the future of the CRA District.

Due to the absence of the attorney this meeting will be treated as informational. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes will be tabled until next meeting.

CRA Director Presentation

Director Davis provided a history of the CRA, its purpose, its function and how it is funded. She further explained the regular board vs. the advisory board roles and responsibilities. The current focus set by the regular board includes:

- Senior Energy Efficiency Program-Senior Energy Efficiency Program
 - included in City's Housing Assistance Program
 - limited to residents in CRA area
 - insulation of windows, doors, etc.
 - board didn't want to do roofs this year
- Landscape Façade program
 - businesses in 9-block downtown CRA area
 - provides up to \$10K for businesses
 - \$100K available
 - problem in awarding funds (business owners don't have matching funds)
 - per S. Hannigon, since businesses are not taking advantage of the façade grant, can it be revamped to include work on interior of buildings
 - maybe to bring up to code and help reduce excessive utility bills business owners have complained about
 - per R. Davis, yes that can be done if that's the recommendation of the Board
- Mural program – Stewart TV has already been approved and the CocaCola mural on the side of Padgett's Jewelers was discussed. This item will be placed on the next meeting agenda to determine if the Director should handle the entire process or if funds should be granted to Padgetts and they handle

- R.D. Edwards bldg. restoration – the CRA served as the grant administrator for this \$350K grant
 - \$350K historic preservation grant (for exterior of building)
 - Expected completion August 30, 2016
 - may seek USDA Community Facilities or Historic Preservation grant for interior or City of Quincy Capital Improvement budget allocation
 - must maintain historic integrity of lobby area
 - CRA is grant administrator for this project

The CRA Plan and By-laws were also provided. Comments from Director Davis:

- what type of destination location should Quincy be? Arts & Culture
- per S. Hannigon, who are trying to attract (destination implies that our focus is reaching those outside of the city/county; don't leave the local residents out of our focus, efforts, goals, etc.
 - don't just look at economic development, but housing also
 - looking at live to work spaces/projects
 - retail space on bottom, apartment at top
 - Downtown Master Plan
 - also, Capital City Bank owned former Citi-trends storefront
- considering turning into an artist display site – art, quilting, space for local artists to display their work
- Site 1 may be most realistic project with shorter timeframe
- Site 2 will need to be subdivided

Finance Department Presentation

Finance Director provided the City of Quincy Tentative budget calendar, showing the CRA budget is due on August 8th. He also provided budget detail three years.

CRA Attorney Presentation – tabled until next meeting

Advisory Board Members to-do:

- idea for a catalyst program (project we can identify this month & use funds for this fiscal year)
- economic development ideas for immediate implementation
- housing (any ideas)
- meet with the CRA Board member who recommended your appointment (what are their ideas regarding economic development, how much funding to set aside for these projects)

Budget:

- consider recommendations for next year's budget; things to include, line items to change, etc.
- budget due to Finance by August 8th
- can call special meeting of advisory board to meet the Aug. 8th recommendation deadline

Florida Redevelopment Association Annual Meeting – The annual meeting will be held October 12 -14 in Orlando. Advisory members should let their commissioners know if they would like to attend.

Attorney's Report

NONE

Board Comments

Member Bass

- What happens to the funds left over from façade grant?
- Would like to see plaques given to long established businesses.
- Short and long term plans for building and housing availability.

Member Hannigon

- Look at USDA grants for parking lots.
- Lack of usage of façade grants

Member Nixon

- Would like to have an inventory of available housing ready for move in
- Suggested that commissioners take a tour of district with Code Enforcement

Member Taylor – Mentioned that the sign at Tanyard Creek does not have the advisory board members names displayed.

Chair Demous – Has code enforcement concerns.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm. The next meeting is July 19, 2016 at 6:00pm.