

**MINUTES
CITY OF ORMOND BEACH
QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

May 21, 2012

6:00 PM

**City of Ormond Beach
Training Room
22 South Beach Street
Ormond Beach, Florida**

1) Call to Order

Dr. Shapiro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were: Debbie Berner, Janet Dannehower, Marianne DiFiore, Dr. Daniel Drake, William Masters, Troy Railsback, Dr. Philip Shapiro and Betty Smith. Absent was Dr. Gerald Woodard.

Others present were: Leisure Services Director Robert Carolin, Finance Director Kelly McGuire and Recording Secretary Shá Moss.

2) Approval of Minutes - May 3, 2012

Mr. Railsback moved seconded by Dr. Drake to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2012, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3) Capital Improvement Program

Dr. Shapiro stated this was the best draft of the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) he has reviewed and thanked Ms. McGuire for her hard work.

Ms. McGuire stated the 5-year plan was to show the City Commission and the community what the plans were for the next 5 years and what could be funded. If the CIP lists items that are not a priority they needed to be removed. The budget was not a place for a wish list of projects that may never get funded, which was what some of the items were. The projects listed in the memo were to find out if they were something to bring back in a few years as more funding becomes available; were projects that were not going to be done for 10-15 years, or if they were projects of no interest.

Ms. McGuire stated for example, if the Board wanted the City to continue to look

at Three Chimneys, then they would do that. If it was something that needs to continue to be considered, the City would take a closer look at it and find out cost and value for the future. Ms. McGuire stated the priority was to take care of what was owned by the City as a priority.

Ms. Berner stated this has been the goal of the Board for years.

Police Department Roof

Dr. Shapiro asked why the roof had been having problems several years since the building was not that old. He asked whether the roof was under warranty.

Mr. Carolin stated the City has been working with the contractor and they made some repairs that were under warranty. He stated the cost was a projection for standard wear and tear.

Three Chimneys

Dr. Shapiro mentioned the Three Chimneys has been recommended to come out of the CIP because of financial constraints. He noted there were plans for a parking lot that should funding become available; he would hope that the City would consider it. Dr. Shapiro asked if someone from the Board would keep that in mind when making a motion to keep the Three Chimneys as part of the CIP.

Ms. Berner asked who owned the property; wherein Dr. Shapiro answered it was owned by the State of Florida.

West Ormond Neighborhood Park

Dr. Shapiro asked for information on the West Ormond Neighborhood Park.

Mr. Carolin stated this was a park to be built for the residents of the western part of the City. The west is the only area the City could expand, and a park may be needed at some point, and this item was added to the budget for that reason. It would be a park along the line of the Ormond Sports Complex.

Mr. Carolin stated the goal was to remove the unfunded section from the budget. He stated those items were added as reminders, but listing them in the budget was not where they should be.

MacDonald House

Dr. Shapiro stated the Ames House was being renovated and asked whether there were any plans for the MacDonald House.

Ms. McGuire stated it was her understanding from the City Commission that all those projects were on hold.

Mr. Masters stated there was a request for a shower on the first floor of the MacDonald House, and asked should they pursue funding elsewhere.

Ms. McGuire stated if the Board wanted to make a recommendation on that issue, they could. She advised the Board that there was a CIP Workshop scheduled for June 4th at the Senior Center. That would be a time to discuss projects that were not in the 5-year plan.

Dr. Shapiro stated it served a dual purpose with the Welcome Center in the front and the Ormond Beach Tennis Center in the back. He noted point of contact repairs were needed because the building was old.

Page 3 - CIP Revenues by Source

Dr. Shapiro stated the largest source of funding was from property taxes at 34% and a lot of the residents felt most of the revenue was from property taxes. Grants were about 30%; water and sewer was 16%; general fund was 9% and the lowest was impact fees at 3.4%, which people complained about the most.

Mr. Railsback asked what recreation fees were; wherein Mr. Carolin stated the recreation fees were established to serve new residents in new developments.

Ms. McGuire stated this fund has been active for quite some time. There was less than \$100,000 because at times those funds were used for other projects.

Dr. Drake asked for an explanation on the airport funds.

Ms. McGuire stated typically projects were funded about 95% through the FAA, FDOT would fund 2 ½% and the City would match with 2 ½%. The projects were done through grants.

Dr. Shapiro asked whether the revenue has shifted and have the economy stabilized.

Ms. McGuire stated the revenue was down slightly, but roughly the same. She noted that before the economy turned, there were reserved put into the general fund. Ms. McGuire noted there were projects that were put on hold, but stated the longer they wait to be done, the more they would cost.

Mr. Railsback asked whether the water and sewer fund was supporting city projects.

Ms. McGuire stated the water and sewer fund supports water only. She stated it also supports certain salaries, such as the Finance Department because they are committed to utility billing.

Page 5 - CIP Expenditures by Category

Dr. Shapiro stated the largest expenditure area was the community redevelopment at 27%, followed by transportation, parks and recreation, cultural. He stated Ormond Beach was above the national average in the parks and recreation area and asked whether that was still true. Ms. McGuire agreed with

that statement.

Dr. Shapiro stated beautification and technology were the lowest categories. He noted the City was doing the best in keeping projects maintained.

Dr. Shapiro stated the Board was asked to give attention to the CIP Categories. He stated he was agreeable to the comments recommended by staff outlined in the memo.

Vehicle Replacement

Mr. Railsback asked how the vehicle replacement process worked.

Mr. Carolin stated the vehicles were on a maintenance schedule and evaluated according to the length of time they were in service, mileage and maintenance.

City Welcome Sign

Mr. Masters asked about the funding for the welcome sign.

Ms. McGuire stated the new sign would be much larger than the sign currently at North US1. She noted \$185,000 would be put into the budget next year for the sign, and then \$75,000 for a similar sign but on a smaller scale.

Mr. Carolin stated the Board would be able to make recommendations on the signs.

Granada Medians - West of I -95

Ms. DiFiore asked about the beautification project consisting of medians in west Ormond. She noted it was a lot of money to spend in an area to be seen by local residents in that area. Ms. DiFiore stated it would make more sense to spend funds in the more populated areas, like on A1A, south of Granada Boulevard.

Mr. Railsback asked whether the project was funded.

Ms. McGuire stated that was an unfunded project. The City Commission stated if funding could be found then they would consider it. She noted a lot of money would be spent on irrigation as well.

Mr. Carolin stated staff was not recommending the project be done with money from the General Fund, but if grants could be obtained then it would be considered.

Ms. McGuire stated the project was scheduled out for three years, if grant funding became available.

Street Tree Planting

Mr. Railsback asked for clarification on the street tree planting.

Mr. Carolin stated the City wanted to redevelop the canopy on as many streets as possible. Over the years a lot of the canopies have been lost because of utility wiring. The City has been surveying some streets and there are opportunities to start with this project.

South Ormond Neighborhood Center

Mr. Railsback stated there was no cost associated with the ITS Fiber Optic Cable for the surveillance system at SONC.

Ms. McGuire stated the cost was listed on the continuing line as \$453.12.

OBSC Improvements

Mr. Railsback asked whether the amount for the Sports Complex was still pending.

Mr. Carolin stated the funds would come from ECHO grants that the City would apply for. He noted the City has been very successful in obtaining grants over the years. Mr. Carolin stated a lot of funds have been removed from the FRDAP grant, which the City has applied for over the years.

Mr. Railsback asked whether the City has considered public/private efforts where a builder may be interested in building homes in the area to assist with those efforts.

Mr. Carolin stated the ECHO program doesn't fund the entire amount, so the City was willing to work with local contractors.

Ms. Dannehower asked whether Pop Warner still paid maintenance fees to the City for use of the fields.

Mr. Carolin stated they were no longer paying maintenance fees, but they do pay for the concession stand. He stated in the past, the City allocated \$15,000 yearly to Volusia County School for usage of Ormond Beach Middle School fields for maintenance. The City has started to maintain the fields at the school.

Ms. Dannehower asked since the City has so many fields, whether Pop Warner still needed to use the school.

Mr. Carolin stated Pride, another football organization was recently developed and there were about 6 teams with no place to practice. They are currently using Calvary Christian Center, so they may be using the facilities as well. Both organizations have full rosters and the City Commission decided to allow organizations that provided youth with activities to use the facilities.

Audible Pedestrian Signal

Mr. Railsback asked whether this project was still a consideration.

Dr. Shapiro stated this project has been discussed for many years and doubted it would get done. An audible signal is dangerous, especially at the proposed intersections.

Ms. McGuire stated the funding listed in the CIP was for the design.

Ms. Berner moved, seconded by Mr. Masters that the Quality of Life Advisory Board agrees with the recommendations of staff on the three areas of consideration for the CIP. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Masters moved, seconded by Ms. Berner that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the MacDonald House, as it continues to serve viable functions to the community, as funds become available that they be used at the facility. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Drake moved, seconded by Mr. Railsback that the Quality of Life Advisory Board does not approve of having audible pedestrian signals. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Shapiro stated long term consequences need to be considered if adding a system enabling handicapped people to cross intersections that are inherently unsafe.

Mr. Masters stated financial and liability concerns for the City should be considered.

Mr. Railsback moved, seconded by Ms. DiFiore that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the Three Chimneys parking lot project be considered a priority when and if funding became available. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Berner stated the CIP was very well prepared.

4) Member Comments

Florida Memorial Hospital

Ms. Smith asked about the status of the hospital being demolished.

Mr. Carolin stated Florida Memorial Hospital hired a demolition crew to demolish the existing hospital. The results would be an inner city park when it was completed. The motive is to have it as a flat piece of property to sell. He stated the demolition will occur in stages and only part of the hospital will be imploded, the rest will be taken down through other forms.

Osceola Elementary School

Dr. Shapiro asked whether the City still had an agreement with Osceola

Elementary School.

Mr. Carolin stated the City maintains the handball, tennis and basketball courts, the pavilion and the fields. Some of the local teams practice there occasionally.

Andy Romano Beachfront Park

Mr. Carolin stated invitations went out for the Andy Romano Groundbreaking Ceremony that would take place on May 28, 2012, at 6:00 pm.

Ms. DiFiore asked when the Park would be completed.

Mr. Carolin stated the Park should be completed in February.

Ms. Dannehower asked whether the City would require parking passes to eliminate overcrowding.

Mr. Carolin stated there were limitations because Volusia County was also involved with funding since they controlled the beaches. He understood her concerns regarding crowding.

Memorial Day Remembrance

Mr. Carolin stated the Memorial Day Remembrance is an event you don't want to miss.

5) Adjournment - Next Meeting - June 7, 2012

Mr. Carolin stated he will advise the Board if there will be a meeting on June 7, 2012. Currently there are no items to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shá Moss, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Dr. Philip J. Shapiro, Chairman