

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

March 5, 2015

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, Julianne Blanford, William Masters, Kathy Page and Dr. Philip Shapiro. Excused were Brian Nave and Troy Railsback.

Others present were: City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Deputy City Attorney Ann-Margret Emery and Recording Secretary Shá Moss.

2) Election of Chairman

Shá Moss called for nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Masters moved, seconded by Ms. Berner to nominate Dr. Shapiro as Chairman of the Quality of Life Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Shapiro accepted the nomination. He thanked the Board and noted it was an honor and privilege to serve. He stated he has been on the Board since 1996 and has only missed only one meeting during that time, but was confident that if he was unavailable that Debbie Berner would be able to step in and Chair the meeting.

3) Election of Vice Chairman

Dr. Shapiro called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Masters moved, seconded by Ms. Page to nominate Ms. Berner as Vice-Chairman of the Quality of Life Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Berner accepted the nomination.

4) Approval of Minutes – November 6, 2014

Ms. Berner moved seconded by Mr. Masters to accept the minutes of the November 6, 2014 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

5) Administrative Matter

Dr. Shapiro introduced staff present at the meeting.

Dr. Shapiro stated some changes have been made to the Board's responsibilities. He noted the Board would no longer review the Neighborhood Improvement Advisory Board's recommendations, but would be reviewing the Ormond Beach Public Library issues. He also noted there were only seven members on the Board and the Board could review any topic.

Ms. Shanahan stated during the annual workshop when the City Commission sets up the Boards and Committees, they discussed the possibility of combing the Quality of Life Advisory Board and the Historic Landmark Preservation Board, but realized they were two distinct Boards. Because of the number of vacancies on the QLB, the City Commission reduced the number of members. Dr. Shapiro also sent a letter to the City Commission regarding the lack of projects to be discussed at the meetings and the number of meetings that had been canceled over the years. He expressed the Board's lack of use. After reviewing that, the mission of the Board has been changed. Ms. Shanahan noted she was currently the staff liaison, which allows Mr. Carolin more time to focus on the leisure services aspect of the City.

a. Establishment of Regular Meeting Schedule and Time

Dr. Shapiro stated the Board has been meeting at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month and asked whether the Board was okay with that time or if changes needed to be made. The Board agreed to continue the same time and day of the meetings. He asked the members to please reply to the email advising staff whether you are able to attend the meeting so that there would always be a quorum.

b. Sunshine Law

Dr. Shapiro stated regarding the Sunshine Law, transparency is important. You cannot communicate with each other about Board business outside of a publically advertised meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact staff.

Ms. Emery stated the Board was under the Sunshine Law because it was an advisory board to the City Commission. Any discussion between Board members outside of a public meeting regarding matters that are before the Board or that might come before the Board was a violation. She noted that it normally occurs before and after meetings and are not intentional, but you need to be aware of your conversations. Ms. Emery stated regarding Conflict of Interest; if you, your spouse, family member or employer do not have a pecuniary interest in the outcome of the vote, you don't have a Conflict of Interest.

Ms. Emery stated if anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Legal Department.

6) **Discussion Item – Daytona Beach Action – Marbut Report**

Dr. Shapiro asked the members whether they had a chance to review the homeless information. He thought it was probably the best and most comprehensive document on how to address the issue on homelessness.

Ms. Shanahan stated there were a couple issues which needed to be discussed by the Board regarding the Quality of Life in Ormond Beach. One of those issues was the homeless situation. Dr. Marbut worked with Pinellas County to start their countywide shelter. The shelter was a diversion to jail but noted there is not mandatory to go to the shelter. All the cities in Pinellas County do not participate in the funding of the shelter. She noted Daytona Beach is going through the issue and a lot of the homeless are focused in that area because the services are located in Daytona Beach, such as the Star Shelter, food distribution, as well as other social services. Ms. Shanahan stated she lived in Fort Walton Beach prior to coming to Ormond Beach and Fort Walton Beach was the focus for the homeless so she was very familiar with the situation.

Ms. Shanahan stated the City Commission was approached by Daytona Beach to participate in the funding of the study to examine the feasibility of a joint homeless shelter in Daytona Beach. All of the cities in Volusia County were approached, but not all participated. Ormond Beach participated at a .50 per capita level. The City also contributes between \$8-10,000 to the Star Shelter from the CDBG funds, the City also offsets the rent for Halifax Urban Ministries. The homeless issue in Ormond Beach is a lot less visible than Daytona Beach. There is a Safe Harbor Committee that meets once a month to discuss the operational issues and to keep the project moving forward. Although funding has not been finalized, Ormond Beach's contribution could be around \$100,000 annually. This is something that the Safe Harbor Committee would discuss and staff will bring it to the Board when a formula is determined.

Ms. Shanahan handed out an ordinance giving guidance and direction regarding the homeless and noted that the homeless are mainly situated around the I-95 area and many of them live in the wooded areas near Calvary Christian Center. She stated if a

property owner is willing to post No Trespassing signs on their property, the City has the authority to remove that person and take them to jail or give them a warning to stay off the property. Ms. Shanahan stated through the Committee meetings, she is aware of the process and what is expected of the City. She noted the west and south east areas of the County might not participate in the program. The most affected areas are Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach, South Daytona, Port Orange and Volusia County. Ms. Shanahan stated she was not sure who would pick up the balance of funding if all communities didn't participate.

Ms. Shanahan stated the other issue the Board would focus on is the property maintenance issues in the City. There are some issues in the downtown corridor that need addressing. She noted changes to the code were needed.

Dr. Shapiro asked whether the Board would work on modifying the Land Development Code (LDC).

Ms. Shanahan answered they would and noted the City Commission was planning on revisiting the LDC, but that effort hasn't started yet.

Dr. Shapiro stated that the homeless project might fall to political bickering; the project could fall apart and become a lost cause. He noted several communities would not participate but noted it was something he agreed that Ormond Beach should participate in.

Ms. Shanahan stated she was hopeful that it would not fall to political bickering, but didn't see it being eliminated. Volusia County was on board with funding for the land. Dr. Marbut was certain that a lot of the services could be done with volunteer assistance which would help reduce the cost of the overall program. Homelessness would probably never be eliminated. She noted some homeless have addictions, some are veterans, and some are women and children and are invisible because they sleep in cars for fear that the children would be separated from them.

Mr. Masters stated he was impressed with the Study as well. He noted he did not see any alternative but to have the City participate in the project.

Ms. Shanahan noted there were no tables or graphs in the reports so that the focus was on the written material.

Ms. Berner stated there was no mention of transportation especially with the shelter being so far out of town.

Ms. Shanahan agreed that transportation would be an issue and west Highway 92 was a busy road and especially dark at night. A final determination on location has not been made, but transportation would have to be made if the facility would be out west on Highway 92.

Ms. Blanford also agreed that this was a great solution and shared a homeless story. She stated that security for personal items at the shelters was an issue.

Ms. Berner stated there might also be some bickering with the service agencies.

Ms. Shanahan agreed that the service agencies can be territorial and they have been invited to attend the Safe Harbor meetings because it going to take cooperation and collaboration in order for this project to work.

Regarding property maintenance code requirements, Ms. Shanahan stated that she should have information to present to the Board at the June meeting. Prior to that, she would discuss with the Board the issues in Ormond Beach and move on from there.

Dr. Shapiro stated in 2002 the Board had input regarding the LDC.

7) Member Comments

Homeless

Ms. Shanahan stated she would keep the homeless situation on the agenda so that the Board can continue to be updated.

Welcome Signs

Ms. Berner stated it was a good to see the progress of the new Ormond Beach gateway signs in the News Journal.

Ms. Shanahan stated there would be a sign at US Highway 1 and I-95 in the center median, and there would also be a sign at Williamson and Granada Boulevard.

Dr. Shapiro asked whether information could be brought to the Board.

Ms. Shanahan stated she could have Landscape Architect Paul MacDonald attend the next meeting to review the gateway signage and the locations since they have already been designed. She noted there would not be any input because the design was already completed.

Dr. Shapiro stated since there would not be any Board input, he didn't see the need for it to come back.

LDC Update

Ms. Shanahan stated the City Commission is in the process of discussing updating the LDC. The last rewrite was in 2002.

Strategic Planning

Ms. Shanahan stated that the City Commission was also going to be undergoing a strategic planning process. Annually the City Commission does goal settings, but has

not gone through the strategic planning process in a few years. She stated Marilyn Crotty of UCF Institute of Government will be facilitating that process. The first part of the process is called Community Conversation. Ms. Crotty will be in Ormond Beach on April 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and on April 22nd from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for those sessions. The City Commission is invited to attend, but the sessions are for the community and their input on things they would like to preserve, what changes need to be made, and what direction the City needs to go in. All Boards will be given the opportunity to participate as well as the businesses and residents. Once those sessions are completed, the information would be summarized and the City Commission will have a daylong strategic planning workshop. Ms. Crotty will review the input from the community and help them draft some strategic planning goals for the future. Please RSVP to your invitation so that staff can prepare for how many people will be attending each session.

8) Adjournment – Next Meeting – April 2, 2015

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shá Moss, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Dr. Philip J. Shapiro, Chairman