

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL MEETING
DANIA BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair James called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Present:

Chair:	Tamara James
Vice-Chair:	Marco A. Salvino, Sr.
Board Members:	Joyce L. Davis
	Lori Lewellen
	Lauren Odman
Executive Director:	K. Michael Chen
City Attorney:	Thomas Ansbro
CRA Secretary:	Thomas Schneider

2. Citizen Comments

There were no comments at this meeting.

3. Administrative Reports

3.1 Administrative Reports

Director Chen reviewed the information included in the agenda packet, consisting of updates on the Dania Beach Innovation Ecosystem (the Dania Beach Business Academy), Dania After Dark (update given by Kisha Eugene, CRA Strategic Communications & Community Outreach Representative), economic development activities (new business resources webpage, new business additions, Dania Pointe Job Fair and pending façade grants inquiries), the CRA Plan Update, and the PATCH (launch of PATCH CSA pilot program - PATCH in a Box), collaboration with the YMCA, and the Vertical Hydroponic Gardening pilot program).

4. Presentations

4.1 Presentation on affordable housing by Ralph Stone, Director, Broward County Housing Finance and Community Redevelopment Division - requested by Chair James

Mr. Stone was unable to attend this meeting.

4.2 Presentation FIU Interact

Director Chen gave a brief introduction of Dr. J. Chris Ford and noted this presentation relates to item 5.3 on tonight's agenda.

Dr. J. Chris Ford, FIU, gave a PowerPoint presentation which is attached to and incorporated into these minutes.

Director Chen noted a short-term aspiration of this program is he would like to introduce Dr. Ford and the FIU structure to the state at next year's FRA Conference.

Board Member Davis felt this is a cutting-edge program and asked about the recruitment aspect of the program.

Dr. Ford explained as we find projects, we will have students (grad and undergrad) be a part of the operational team.

Director Chen added almost every CRA has infrastructure issues; this will end up with FIU being a technical advisor for how to manage and implement infrastructure.

Chair James asked what they would be doing differently than what the City already does.

Director Chen noted the CRA covers 26-27% of the City and he explained Public Services' CIP. With the resources of FIU, they would also be able to provide services to Public Services and work in collaboration.

4.3 PATCH Collaboration with Urban Health Partnerships and Associates on Food System Action and Sustainable Development

Kathleen Weeks, CRA Operations Manager, gave the background of the USDA and Deluca Grants and the PATCH Collaborative with UHP, and introduced Arely Cantu, UHP.

Arely Lozano Cantu, Director of Health Access & Livability, Urban Health Partnerships and Associates, gave a presentation on food access and food security, and food system action and sustainable development.

5. Consent Agenda

- 5.1 Minutes:
Approve Minutes of November 9, 2021 CRA Board Virtual Meeting
- 5.2 Travel Requests: None
- 5.3 RESOLUTION NO. 2021-CRA-015

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ("CRA") OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CRA OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, WITH THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ON BEHALF OF THE INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Board Member Lewellen motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Board Member Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Proposals and Bids

There were no proposals on this agenda.

7. Discussion and Possible Action

7.1 CRA Executive Director evaluation - Chair James

Chair James noted she put this on the agenda to determine if the Board wanted a formal process as we have done in the past. She recommends the Board do it like the Commission did the City Manager's evaluation with a form to complete and then discuss at a Board meeting.

Board Member Davis questioned the process.

Board Member Lewellen felt we need to have the same process in place for all those who work for the Commission or CRA Board. She described how the process worked with the City Manager's evaluation.

Vice-Chair Salvino questioned if this is normal that the discussion would be in public.

Chair James noted the evaluation was discussed in public.

Vice-Chair Salvino said if it is normal procedure, he will accept it, but it bothers him to have anyone battered in public.

Board Member Odman noted she felt the same way when she was first elected, but it is the process and public record.

Chair James commented she wants to keep the process consistent with what has been done the previous couple of times.

Board Member Lewellen said we did not have a process with the previous CRA Director. We did have a process for the City Manager, and we should ask the HR Director about this process.

Chair James noted she still wants a consistent process.

Linda Gonzalez, Director of Human Resources, explained the process Director Chen sent out via email is consistent with the ICMA standards and what was done for the City Manager. She addressed the details of the process and confirmed the process would be the same as what was done with the City Manager.

Chair James asked if the Board wished to come back with evaluations at the next meeting in January.

The Board agreed.

7.2 Painted Crosswalk Project

Chair James noted the prices had increased.

Board Member Lewellen had concerns about locations that involve the FDOT. If we target certain locations, we need to make sure they actually get done and that we have backup locations if FDOT will not allow us to do them.

Chair James felt it would be difficult to find an intersection that is not a FDOT road that are not in the neighborhoods. She wants the Board to determine which intersections and Director Chen to come back with prices and additional information.

Director Chen reviewed the information included in the agenda packet and noted we do not have a starting point as to the design.

Chair James asked if Director Chen could find out from FDOT if this is a viable project.

Director Chen responded he would investigate with FDOT, and we could also do intersections in the neighborhoods.

Chair James said the vision was to keep it in our downtown corridor utilizing major intersections. We have to sell the City with rebranding, and we want to beautify and make it a beautiful town. She realizes FDOT wants flow, but she would like to try to see if it could work.

Director Chen noted he would check with FDOT and other authorities regarding standards and configurations.

Vice-Chair Salvino questioned why we could not do crosswalks at NW 1st Street and 2nd or 3rd Avenue and those other areas of the downtown district if we are having problems with FDOT at major intersections.

Director Chen said he would get answers on feasibility and suggestions for locations.

8. Board Member Comments

Board Member Davis said she is excited about the FIU Interact that is coming forward and thanked the CRA team for the DAD event.

Board Member Lewellen asked if CRA Strategic Communications & Community Outreach Representative Eugene ran a couple of the business academy sessions for the CRA.

Director Chen responded she was the host for three of the four programs and stepped up to high expectations.

Board Member Lewellen gave kudos to CRA Strategic Communications & Community Outreach Representative Eugene and felt there was excellent turnout at the DAD event. She acknowledged the fact that the tent was a good addition, and she was happy to see that.

Vice-Chair Salvino wished everyone happy holidays.

Chair James noted she attended the DAD event. It was well-attended, and she is excited to have it back and to have more vendors in the future and continue to build what the DAD event was envisioned for.

9. Information Items

There were no items on this agenda.

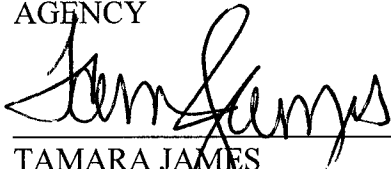
10. Adjournment

Chair James adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

ATTEST:


THOMAS SCHNEIDER, CMC
CRA SECRETARY

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY


TAMARA JAMES
CHAIR – CRA

Approved: January 11, 2022



Engineering Solutions for Resilient and Sustainable Coastal Infrastructure

Dania Beach CRA Meeting
December 14, 2021

J. Chris Ford, Ph.D., Jaford@fiu.edu

Principal Scientist and Business Development Manager

<https://interact.fiu.edu/> and <https://arc.fiu.edu>

InteRaCt Overview

The goals of the **Preeminent Institute for Resilient and Sustainable Coastal Infrastructure (InteRaCt)** are to identify engineering solutions to challenges faced by aging infrastructure and to develop innovative and economical technologies for creating resilient and sustainable communities. The economic prosperity of the United States is closely related to the health of the nation's infrastructure, which includes **transportation, communication, sewage, water, and electric systems**. **InteRaCt** serves as an umbrella organization that incorporates the ongoing major activities related to infrastructure.

InteRaCt Objectives

1. To establish partnerships with municipalities and industry **to commercialize InteRaCt solutions**
2. To create an **advocacy system** through partners to procure Federal, State, and Local grants and contracts related to infrastructure
3. To **measurably grow** the economic impact of partner communities

InteRaCt

Selected Program areas

- **Engineering and Analysis of Transportation Structures and Systems (EATS)**
- **Corrosion Analysis**
- **Energy Systems and Smart Grid**
- **Green Pavement**
- **Structural Health Monitoring (SHM)**
- **Resilience Management of Built Environment (RMBE)**
- **Water Resource Analysis (WRA)**

Dania Beach Pilot (MOA)

CRA Infrastructure Plan Development and Analysis

- FIU would serve as technical consultant to the CRA
- Potential Faculty and Student to support infrastructure plan and project development

Services on Demand

Access to Broward County MPO

Coordinate Lobbying Efforts

- Target Federal, State, and County funds
- Target Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

 **DANIA BEACH**
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