DANIA BEACH
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

# DANIA BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
# TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 – 5:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

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| Chair: | Archibald J. Ryan IV |
| Vice-Chair: | Lori Lewellen |
| Board Members: | Joyce L. Davis |
| | Tamara James |
| | Marco A. Salvino, Sr. |
| City Attorney: | Eve Boutsis |
| Executive Director: | K. Michael Chen |
| CRA Secretary: | Elora Riera, MMC |

2. Citizen Comments

None.

3. Administrative Reports

Executive Director Chen presented his administrative report that was provided to the Board in their packets. He touched on the following topics:

- Dania Beach BusinessAcademy program
- Habitat for Humanity withdrawing their RFP response given the rejection of the additional cash incentive. There are three options for moving forward:
  - Contacting the other qualified and responsive bidder
  - Rejecting all responses to the RFP and conduct another RFP process
  - Reject all responses to RFP NO. CRA-23-018 and terminate the RFP with no further action.

Vice Chair Lewellen stated that she would be in favor of option two or three.

Board Member James Board Member James commented that she is in favor of rejecting the bids and going out for bid again.

**Vice Chair Lewellen made a motion to reject all responses to RFP NO. CRA-23-018 and wait six months to see what happens with the interest rates before going back out for bid. The motion was seconded by Board Member James which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

- 2023 Broward College Entrepreneurship Experience (BCEx)
- Speaker of Committee of 100 of Hollywood

Board member James asked for an update on the satellite office and Executive Director Chen responded that the office is open and they are recruiting for positions.

Discussion ensued regarding selling one window facing office at the satellite building to the Dan Marino Foundation. Executive Director Chen commented that discussions need to be had with the landlord before anything is done.

4. Presentations

None.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 Minutes:

- November 14, 2023 Board Meeting

Vice Chair Lewellen requested to pull item 5.3.

**Board Member James made a motion to approve the consent agenda minus item 5.3. Vice Chair Lewellen seconded the motion which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

5.2 Travel Requests: None

5.3 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-CRA-______

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ("CRA") OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A ONE-YEAR RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH REAL TIME MARKETING GROUP, LLC, (RTMG) TO PROVIDE DIGITAL MARKETING SERVICES TO PROMOTE THE DANIA BEACH CRA DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*This item was pulled for discussion.*

Vice Chair Lewellen commented that she pulled the item because she saw that there was a list of duties but did not see any advertising. Executive Director Chen stated that the company posts on our websites and social media outlets. The renewal is $29, 724 which is a $5,000 reduction from the prior year.

Board member Salvino stated that the last post on Facebook was on October $30^{th}$.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board regarding the lack of posting being done on the social media platforms.

Board Member Salvino suggested accepting the one year renewal but to monitor it on a monthly basis.

City Attorney Boutsis suggested a month-to-month option and to negotiate with the company for better services.

Board Member James also suggested that the company come to an upcoming meeting to hear the Boards expectations and for them to explain what their objectives are.

**Board member James made a motion to approve the item on a month-to-month basis and negotiate for better services and for the company to come to a future meeting to hear the expectations of the Board. Board Member Davis seconded the motion which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

6. Proposals and Bids

None.

7. Discussion and Possible Action

7.1 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-CRA-____

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 AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FRUITFUL FIELDS, INC TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE PATCH FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED, SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS ($77,865.00) PER YEAR; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*This item was heard after item 7.2.*

City Attorney Boutsis read the title of the resolution.

**Board Member James made a motion to approve the item. Board Member Salvino seconded the motion.**

Vice Chair Lewellen stated that funds keep being put into the PATCH that cannot sustain itself. She is not in favor of putting additional funds into the PATCH and believes that this needs to be discussed at the City Commission level with city staff first. She would also like to see what the options are as far as the value of the property, what other ideas there are for that particular property and actually moving the PATCH to a different location.

Board Member Salvino commented that he is not in favor of the $70,000 but would be in favor of $5,000 for a month to see what can be done in that timeframe.

**Board Member Salvino rescinded his motion.**

**Board Member James made a motion to approve the item. Board Member Davis seconded the motion. The motion failed 3-2 with Board Member Davis and Board Member James voting yes and Board Member Salvino, Vice Chair Lewellen and Chair Ryan voting no.**

Discussion ensued regarding the future of the PATCH.

Chair Ryan commented on the idea of keeping the PATCH at its current location and opening a PATCH in another location as well and making it a hybrid with different opportunities such as a walking path, exercising area or garden.

Board member James commented that she would like a joint workshop with City staff and CRA Board and to also invite Fruitful Fields, the Lead Coordinator of the PATCH and the Parks and Recreation staff. There was consensus from the Board.

7.2 PATCH - General Discussion

*This item was heard before item 7.1.*

Board Member Salvino commented that they need to determine what is going to be done with the PATCH before any other decisions are made.

Executive Director Chen stated that at the last meeting, the Board directed staff to put out an RFP and notice to solicit proposals for the existing location, however, the existing location is owned by the City. Therefore, the City Commission would need to give that direction to City staff.

Board Member James commented that the first discussions that the Board had were to determine if they were going to close the PATCH, keep the PATCH open or move the PATCH. She also wanted to ensure that the City is not financially liable for any decisions made. She commented that she would like to keep the PATCH where it is and is okay with temporarily closing it if it is necessary.

Executive Director Chen provided an updated on the status of the PATCH and commented that the biggest operational effort at the PATCH has been to clean up the mess that was left from the April and May flooding. Since this conversation has been under exploration, his direction to the PATCH has been to create a strategic plan to utilize the resources that are available but not to do so with major Capital expenses. Some of the raised beds and hydroponics are functional, however, they are not doing large scale farming.

To answer Board Member Davis's question, Executive Director Chen stated that the PATCH is currently being maintained and operated by one part-time person.

Discussion ensured regarding what could be moved from the current PATCH location if it were to be moved to a new location and that seedlings and plants have been started in the hydroponic system.

Board Member Davis commented that she would like to see what Fruitful Fields can do over a six month period and do a reassessment at that time.

8. Board Member Comments

Board Member Davis, Board Member James, Board Member Salvino and Vice Chair Lewellen had no comments.

Chair Ryan commented that the Board is making moves and they're getting closer and not everything is easy, and some things take time. The workshop is a great idea and he is looking forward to it.

9. Information Items

None.

10. Adjournment

Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

ATTEST:

ELORA RIERA, MMC
CRA SECRETARY

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

ARCHIBALD J. RYAN IV
CHAIR – CRA

Approved: January 9, 2024

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