COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING

A Regular Community Redevelopment Meeting was held on February 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall and via GoToMeeting (872)-240-3412 - Access Code: 763-530-541.

CRA Board Chairperson Kenneth Burgess called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present were members Steven F. Spina, Ph.D., Charles Proctor, Kenneth Burgess, Jodi Wilkeson, Lance Smith and Mayor Melonie Bahr Monson. City Manager William Poe arrived at 5:04 p.m. City Attorney Matthew Maggard was absent.

Staff present: Police Chief Derek Brewer, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, IT Director Mike Panak, Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss, Purchasing Agent Karen Miller, Community Planner and GIS Technician Tommy-Lee Hunt and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

1. BUSINESS ITEMS

1.1 Approval of January 22, 2024 CRA Minutes

Jodi Wilkeson moved to approve the January 22, 2024 CRA Minutes. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

1.2 Residential Matching Facade Grant – Carole and Tom Gabrielle, 5540 12th Street, Zephyrhills, FL

CRA Director Gail Hamilton presented a Residential Matching Facade Rehabilitation Grant submitted by Carole and Tom Gabrielle of 5540 12th Street to replace eight (8) windows and a sliding door in the amount of $18,000. The application meets all grant requirements and staff recommend approval of the $2,500 grant.

Lance Smith moved to approve Business Item 1.2. Seconded by Jodi Wilkeson. Motion passed unanimously.

1.3 CRA Tree Planting Program

CRA Director Gail Hamilton presented a scope of services for BGE to create a tree program within the CRA's residential district. The existing tree ordinance will be reviewed since it has not been updated since 1997 and the tree program will be included. Consultants were hired for this project since there was no way to complete the tree program in-house. Staff recommended approval of the CRA Tree Planting Program.

Commissioner Wilkeson requested the BGE representative partner with a public works employee to identify existing trees in the right-of-way and update the inventory of existing trees (grand oaks, trees nearing end of life, rotten limbs, etc.). She suggested an arborist be included as part of the public works team to assist in developing a plan to design around the existing grand oaks for preservation.

Steve Spina moved to approve Business Item 1.3. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

1.4 New Logo Signage for 5th Avenue and Hwy. 301

CRA Director Gail Hamilton presented a sign package created by Northstar as part of the City's rebranding and marketing and referred to the stacked stone on the rendering and said Florida field stone would be used since it is natural (native). She also requested a brick rendering to keep with the aesthetic of the municipal buildings.

Commissioners were in consensus to move forward with the signage.

1.5 Zephyr Park Community Meeting

CRA Director Gail Hamilton said there was a full house at the Zephyr Park Community Meeting held on February 15, 2024. Input from citizens and board members will be added to the conceptual plan by James Pankonin with Kimley Horn. The Parks and Recreation Board were in agreement to move forward with construction documents utilizing the $600,000 ARPA budgeted funding.

Commissioner Spina said it is important to keep the history when making changes and referred to the existing structures at Zephyr Park that were named after individuals that made an impact on our community. He said the Alice Hall Community Center was named after Alice Fryer Hall, the Gazebo Stage was named after Bernie Wickstrom, and a sidewalk with a plaque were dedicated to Irene Dobson.

Commissioner Smith said Alice Hall is used tremendously, more than any other building in the City. He said the replacement community center needs to be completed prior to the removal of Alice Hall. He directed staff to make sure the consultants looks at the lake in March, April, and May as the conceptual plan shows water.

2. CRA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CRA Director Gail Hamilton said the Community Clean Up held Saturday, February 24th was a success with 212 drop offs and 340 cubic yards of waste collected. She thanked PIO Officer Kevin Weiss for getting the message out to the community. She said a CRA Master Plan online survey is currently being conducted and closes March 29th. Staff will review the results to begin working on the frame work for the plan with goals, policies and infrastructure. The consultant team is currently collecting data for all parks to include current population, projected population, and demographics to create a Master Parks Plan online survey. Hercules Park construction is underway with a deadline of December 2024 for the ribbon cutting. Staff will review construction documents for the Oakside / Zephyr Park Neighborhood Street Scape February 27, 2024 and sidewalk construction is moving forward.

CRA Director Gail Hamilton said she is working with the City Attorney to make changes to the language in the Home Ownership Grant Incentive.

3. MAIN STREET ACTIVITY REPORT

CRA Director Gail Hamilton said the theme for Founder's Day is Tin Can Tourist. The event will be held March 9, 2024 with vintage trailers at Zephyr Park, a downtown parade at 11:00 a.m. and vendors with live music at both locations. A 5K run, sponsored by the YMCA, will be held at the Train Depot with a display hosted by the Historic Preservation Board.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 5:53 p.m.
Submitted by Lori L. Hillman