

City of DeBary
Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting
THURSDAY
September 15, 2005
7:00 PM

Florence K. Little Town Hall
12 Colomba Road DeBary, Florida 32713

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Tom Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Tom Smith, Leonard Marks, Neil Coppens, Gretchen Ganas, Tim McLaughlin, Vice-Chairman Don Kitner and Diane Schaefer

Also Present: City Planner Anita Gonzalez and Council Member Patrick Fulton

3. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of August 25, 2005

Mr. Marks made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Old Business

A. Land Development Process – Flow Chart

The Committee discussed the disparity between the assessed value and the market value of the commercial parcel on the southeast corner of Saxon Boulevard and 17-92.

Chairman Smith said that the land development process is too cumbersome for the average small business owner to navigate. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the recent RFP for municipal service providers and the award of the contract to Volusia County. Council Member Fulton answered questions from the Committee regarding the RFP.

Chairman Smith asked Ms. Gonzalez to provide the Board with the original RFP for development services that was disbursed to interested parties. Ms. Schaefer made a motion that by the next meeting, the Board should specifically identify areas in the RFP that are inadequate

and forward that information to the City Council. Mr. Marks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Survey of the City Businesses by Committee Member Gretchen Ganas

The Committee discussed various businesses that they would like to see in the City. Mr. Coppens mentioned a candy store, lawn mower repair, antique dealer, auto parts store, lawn sprinkler systems, water damage restoration, locksmith, assisted living facilities, marine equipment sales, hobby store, and skateboard sales. Mr. Marks added tropical fish store, camera shop, deli, bicycle shop, private school, and travel agency to the list. Ms. Schaefer added pharmacy, physicians, bookstore/ coffee shop, telemarketer call center, and soup & sandwich shop to the list. Ms. Ganas also mentioned a private school and physician or attorney offices. Mr. McLaughlin suggested adding Panera's. Vice-Chairman Kitner said he would like to see a medical office complex or an ACLF. Chairman Smith added a hardware store to the list.

C. Discussion of Sign Grant Program

Ms. Gonzalez said that she has received calls from people still interested in the program. The Committee discussed various ways to get people interested in the program. Vice-Chairman Kitner proposed that the City split the cost 50/50 with the owner without the \$2,500 limitation for signs, painting, awnings, facades, or landscaping to improve the appearance of the City. Chairman Smith made a motion to expand the sign grant program to include aesthetic improvements to façades on 17-92 and change the name to the City Beautification Program; the money would spent on modifications, not additions to structures and signs. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Mr. Marks voiced his concern regarding public dollars being spent on private businesses. The motion carried 4-3.

D. Roundtable Discussion

The Roundtable discussion was tabled until the October meeting.

5. New Business

None.

6. Other Business by Board, Staff or the Public

Mr. Marks asked Ms. Gonzalez the status of the trucking business. She answered that the owner's plan is to rezone property on south 17-92 and relocate.

Ms. Gonzalez updated the Committee on the Murphy property, the possible Walgreens at the Shell Station property, and the Alexander Woods RPUD.

7. Adjournment

Chairman Tom Smith announced the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

APPROVED October 20, 2005
CITY OF DeBARY
Economic Development Advisory Committee

Tom Smith, Chair