

City of DeBary
Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting
THURSDAY
October 20, 2005
7:00 PM

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

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Don Kitner called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Leonard Marks, Gretchen Ganas, Vice-Chairman Don Kitner and Diane Schaefer

Absent: Neil Coppens and Tim McLaughlin (excused – out of town)

Also Present: City Planner Anita Gonzalez

3. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of September 15, 2005

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

4. Old Business

Vice-Chairman Kitner read Tom Smith's resignation letter aloud to the Committee. The Committee decided to table the election of a new chairman until the November meeting in anticipation of two new members being appointed by the City Council.

Doug Holly, 9 Colomba Road, expressed his displeasure regarding the circumstances surrounding Tom Smith's resignation.

Gene Stump, 106 Birkwood Court, suggested having people at each precinct on November 8th to distribute questionnaires to citizens asking them whether they support a new city hall being built on Naranja Road or on 17-92. Mr. Marks said he would be in favor of the survey. Vice-Chairman Kitner asked Ms. Gonzalez if they would be allowed to do the survey. She answered

that the Committee could participate as private citizens if they wished, but she did not know if that would be in the purview of the Committee.

John Likakis, 38 Seminole Drive, voiced his support of the survey, but not at a polling place. He suggested that it be done formally and mailed to every household. Vice-Chairman Kitner said that surveys usually only net a two or three percent response, and if the survey were done at the polls, it would net a higher response from the citizens. Mr. Marks recommended having a roundtable discussion for the entire community to discuss the issue. Ms. Schaefer suggested polling people at various community events such as the Halloween Hike over the next month and summarizing the data for presentation to the Council. Vice Chairman Kitner questioned whether a survey could be placed in the next newsletter. Ms. Gonzalez responded that any ideas or recommendations that the Committee has should be discussed with the City Manager.

Warren Graham, 308 Songbird Road, said the survey could be placed on the website and advertised in the newsletter.

Joan Coleman, 286 Deleon Road, asked how the Committee would differentiate citizens from non-citizens answering the survey.

Vice-Chairman Kitner asked the Committee which ideas they liked best to present to the City Manager. Ms. Schaefer said that they could also include questions regarding the types of businesses people would like to see in DeBary in the survey. Ms. Schaefer made a motion that the Committee request a survey for the city hall plan be placed in the newsletter or on the web, based on time restrictions, to ask for citizen input. Ms. Ganas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Roundtable Discussion

Mr. Marks suggested they have another roundtable meeting in February. Ms. Ganas said she would check with Sharon at the Civic Center for available evening dates to hold the meeting. The Committee agreed to try and hold the roundtable on the 3rd Thursday in February, if possible.

Ms. Schaefer recommended that they have an agenda prepared, more organization than last year, and direction given from the Committee to proposed solutions, rather than the whole meeting being an open discussion. She suggested having a complaint box set out for people to write down their problems and proposed solutions.

Ms. Ganas asked if City and County staff could be present to answer technical questions. Ms. Schaefer said they should invite someone from the Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Gonzalez said that she would get copies to them of Tom Smith's letter to the City Council following the last roundtable meeting.

B. Growth Management RFP and Associated Information

Ms. Schaefer said that she thought the RFP was too vague, and too much work for the applicants to prepare responses.

Ms. Gonzalez explained the specific examples of the development review process and timetables that were included in the packet. Vice-Chairman Kitner spoke about the problems he had with the building division asking for things not required in the code.

Mr. Marks asked how the City could change its development process to make it easier for people. Ms. Schaefer questioned Ms. Gonzalez regarding the process and where applicants can find information. Ms. Schaefer said that she would call Chester Murray from Orange City to get examples of development being done there and how their process works.

5. New Business

The Committee discussed the revival of the beautification grant program. Ms. Gonzalez recommended that the Committee present it to City Council at their next meeting.

6. Other Business by Board, Staff or the Public

Mr. Marks informed the Committee that he had learned there would be a reduction in the size of the new conference center and requested that the matter be brought before the Council again.

Ms. Gonzalez noted that there are two new signs in town, which are the Sunoco and Citgo signs. She also informed the Committee that there would be a meeting the following week at Orange City Elementary regarding the proposed western beltway.

Ms. Gonzalez brought the Committee up to date on the status of the proposed development at the old Shell station.

7. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Don Kitner announced the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**APPROVED December 15, 2005
CITY OF DeBARY
Economic Development Advisory Committee**

Vice-Chairman Don Kitner