

**City of DeBary**  
**Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**THURSDAY**  
**December 15, 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 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Leonard Marks, Gretchen Ganas, Vice-Chairman Don Kitner and Tim McLaughlin

Absent: Diane Schaefer

Also Present: City Planner Anita Gonzalez and City Manager Maryann Courson

**3. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of October 20, 2005**

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

**4. Old Business**

A. 2006 Business Forum

Ms. Ganas said the Civic Center is available for a Business Forum in February; and that Lieutenant David Brannon with the Sheriff's Department would like to attend and discuss the creation of a business watch. Vice-Chairman Kitner asked Ms. Gonzalez which of the County staff should be present to address questions regarding development standards. Ms. Gonzalez answered that she would check to see if Scott Ashley and Palmer Panton would both be available to attend.

Vice-Chairman Kitner discussed some of the concerns raised by attendees at the 2005 Business Forum. He noted that several concerns had been addressed, including the live webcast of the City Council meetings. He stated that he and Ms. Gonzalez would put together a rough outline of discussion items for the Committee to review at the January meeting.

B. Beautification Matching Grant Program

Mr. Marks stated that he did not favor the public's money being spent to improve private property. He discussed the possibility of the creation of impact fees to cover the costs of the improvements.

Ms. Ganas discussed the possibility of a yearly sign permit fee that might fund a grant program. Ms. Courson explained that originally, there was a five-year time limit for property owners to conform to the new sign code. She added that subsequently, Council abolished the amortization requirement due to the public outcry.

Vice-Chairman Kitner stated that he views the matching grant as a means to an end. Mr. Marks suggested that the issue should be presented at the Forum to solicit any possible solutions the City's business owners might have.

Vice-Chairman Kitner showed the Committee the City of Longwood economic development brochure and asked the Committee to think about what they would like to include in a similar brochure for DeBary. He reminded them that money has been allocated in the City budget for the production of a brochure.

## **5. New Business**

### **A. Questions for Business Owner Survey**

Vice-Chairman Kitner said that the survey should be passed out at the Business Forum in February. Ms. Ganas suggested sending it out with the invitation to the forum, so that they could be ready to discuss it at the Forum. Vice-Chairman Kitner asked the members to provide Ms. Gonzalez with survey questions prior to the next meeting.

## **6. Other Business by Board, Staff or the Public**

Vice-Chairman Kitner informed the Committee of the items he discussed with the Council at the December 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Mayor-Elect George Coleman, 286 Deleon Road, stated that setting up an impact fee is a time consuming and intricate process. Mr. McLaughlin said he believed that impact fees would drive business away, rather than bring them in.

Ms. Ganas said she would like to see the formation of a DeBary business organization. Ms. Courson asked Ms. Gonzalez to contact Main Street Deland to have someone attend the February Forum meeting to speak to the Committee. Ms. Ganas suggested that they also be invited to the Forum. Ms. Gonzalez suggested that if DeBary had a business association, they could do something similar to Light Up Orlando.

## **7. Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Don Kitner announced the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**APPROVED January 19, 2005  
CITY OF DeBARY  
Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Vice-Chairman Don Kitner**