

City of DeBary
Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting
WEDNESDAY
October 22, 2008
7:00 PM

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

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Don Kitner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Don Kitner, Rich Gunter, Mark Meister, Chris Yacenda, and Sid Vihlen, Jr.

Absent: Vice Chairman Joe Alemany (excused) and Val Emerson (excused)

Also Present: City Manager Maryann Courson and Mark Watts representing VCARD

3. Approval of Minutes

None.

4. Old Business

- City Brochure

This item was not discussed.

5. New Business

- Discussion of Commuter Rail Transit-Oriented Development Planning

Mark Watts stated that VCARD (Volusia County Association for Responsible Development) is a group involved in the development industry to look at issues related to growth management; that he was asked by VCARD to chair a committee to work with the County and cities to talk about the commuter rail stations; that the purpose of VCARD is to help educate people looking at making changes that affect the area; and that VCARD will serve as a resource to the City for planning commuter rail.

Mr. Gunter asked about the half-mile radius around the station. Mr. Watts answered that VCARD would research it and noted that Fort Florida Road does present some challenges.

San Lassiter, Lassiter Transportation Group and chair of VCARD committee on transportation, informed everyone of the Central Florida commuter rail website. Mr. Gunter asked if there were

any comparable cities to DeBary that have already been involved in the commuter rail process. Mr. Watts said there was a similar town in Oregon called Hillsborough, and it would be helpful to look across the country at cities that have already done what DeBary is beginning to do. He added that the Denver area has been very successful in expanding their system into the outlying communities.

Mr. Vihlen asked why the Altamonte site is progressing, but the DeBary site seems up in the air. Mr. Watts responded that where there are willing sellers, things are moving along more quickly. Ms. Courson stated that she knows the acquisition for DeBary is going slower, but she already has a cd with sixty percent construction prints.

Mr. Watts discussed the engineering reasons why the site could not be shifted and stated that at this point in the process, moving the station would be quite difficult.

Ms. Courson said that Florida Power and Light does not favor anything coming close to Lake Konomac. She noted that FDOT handles the negotiations, and she could ask Marianne Gurnee to attend the next meeting.

The Committee decided to reschedule the next meeting for Tuesday, November 25, 2008. Ms. Courson said for the next meeting, everyone should be at a table to encourage conversation. She asked if she should send out notices to adjoining property owners. The members agreed, and Mr. Gunter suggested inviting the presidents of the homeowners associations.

Ms. Courson said that she would ask the DOT representative to give a quick overview and recap at the beginning of the meeting and also to prepare a timeline.

6. Other Business by Board, Staff or the Public

Mac McShea, Chairman of the Streetscape Committee, said he would like his committee to work with the Economic Development Advisory Committee on the commuter rail project.

Mr. Meister noted that he recently attended an economic development summit in Port Orange and shared some written information with the Committee.

Mr. Vihlen thanked Mr. Watts and the other professionals that attended the meeting.

7. Adjournment

Chairman Kitner announced the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

**APPROVED December 11, 2008
CITY OF DeBARY
Economic Development Advisory Committee**

Chairman Don Kitner