

**DAVIE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**  
**AUGUST 23, 2005**

**1. ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. Board members present were Chair Julie Aitken, Jacque Daniels (arrived 6:43 p.m.), Jason Hurley and Councilmember Susan Starkey. Also present was Board Secretary Jenevia Edwards recording the meeting. Vice-Chair Rick Bruns was absent.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 26, 2005**

Mr. Hurley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Starkey, to approve the minutes of July 26, 2005. In a voice vote, with Dr. Bruns being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 4-0)**

**3. DISCUSSION**

**3.1 Possible Revision of Agricultural Definitions in Town Code**

Chair Aitken highlighted the January 25th meeting where discussions with Development Services Director Mark Kutney and Code Compliance Official Daniel Stallone indicated that there was no definition to differentiate between landscape maintenance, garden center and a nursery. She indicated that from her examination of the Table of Permitted Uses under the Town Code, a number of items were allowed and disallowed but there was no definition for these items. Chair Aitken asked if there were plans by the Town to revise the entire Code. Councilmember Starkey advised that there were funds available in reserve for Development Services and she and Councilmember Paul had been pushing to have the work contracted out; however, staff wanted to do the revision themselves. Councilmember Starkey commented that there was not enough staff to undertake this revision neither was there enough funds in the general budget. She added that if the reserve funds were utilized, the revision could be accomplished.

Councilmember Starkey explained that the Development Services Department would be partnering with the Davie Downtown Development to construct new offices for the department. However, there was fear from the Department that there would not be enough funds in the reserves to accomplish the construction and the Code revision. She indicated that it would be too expensive to out source the revision now, given the present budget, and she felt that the cost for the Code revision should be taken from Development Services funds.

Councilmember Starkey indicated that the cost for the rewrite would be approximately \$125,000. She expressed the opinion that the funds should not come from the Town's operating budget, until there was certainty whether Development Services would exceed their budget for the development of the new site. Ms. Daniels asked when the construction would take place. Councilmember Starkey was not sure. She asked if the Board would wait for the revision to be completed by staff or whether the Board wanted to undertake some of rewrite with assistance from Development Services as a review. Councilmember Starkey commented that by the time Development Services found out whether they were over or under budget, it could be another year before the revision would be completed. Mr. Hurley indicated that since there was a problem at hand, the Board should tackle the revision. Chair Aitken indicated that whether the revision was done piecemeal or contracted out, she felt that the Board was best situated to advise on the technicalities and definition of the Code revision. Councilmember Starkey indicated that in her experience, in the absence of clear determination of a definition there was

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usually reliance on the State's definition. She suggested that the Board adopt the State's definition when making the revisions. Chair Aitken indicated that there was no definition in State law for landscape maintenance contractor, however, there was definition for maintenance landscape architect. She commented that there was nothing in the Code to differentiate between a nursery and a landscape contractor, neither was there anything indicating that a landscape contractor could not be in an A-1 zoning. Councilmember Starkey suggested that the Board work with Mr. Stallone and with the State's references in an attempt to "clean-up" the definitions. She added that there was no telling when the rewrite would take place should the Board decide to wait on the Development Services Department.

Chair Aitken asked if there was a motion or consensus that the Board endeavor to put something together as a recommendation to the definitions.

Ms. Daniels made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Starkey, that the Board put together something as a recommendation to the definitions. Councilmember Starkey stated that a research of the definition be done as it related to agriculture. Ms. Daniels agreed. In a voice vote, with Dr. Bruns being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 4-0)**

Councilmember Starkey suggested inviting Mr. Stallone to the next meeting so that he could have input in the revisions. Mr. Curtis suggested that a draft of the revision be sent to Mr. Stallone by email to apprise him of the changes prior to the meeting. Chair Aitken indicated that Mr. Stallone was aware of the existing problems, however, he had nothing to work from because there were no definitions in the Code.

A lengthy portion of the meeting was devoted to the discussion of several items in the Code and the possible revision of these items. Chair Aitken explained that it would take several meetings to complete the process. She commented that a draft of the revisions would be sent to the Board Secretary to be forwarded to Boardmembers for review. Councilmember Starkey commented that if additional research was completed by Chair Aitken, she should share this with the Board Secretary so that it could be forwarded to Boardmembers. Councilmember Starkey added that the highlighted changes would enable a quick review of the draft at the next meeting.

Chair Aitken read an item from a municipal code according to the State which appeared to clearly define a landscape contractor. There was lengthy discussion regarding the definition of several items with no real determination being made.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Article for Davie Update**

Councilmember Starkey indicated that she had received several inquiries regarding the bond referendum both for and against the issue.

Chair Aitken indicated that she had received an inquiry from Public Information Officer Braulio Rosa about writing an article for publication in the Davie Update regarding the Board's achievement and goals. Councilmember Starkey explained that many of the Boards had contributed a lot to the Town and she wanted all the Boards to get into the habit of being proud of their accomplishments and future goals. She commented that the accomplishments of many

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Boards had gone unnoticed and she believed that if residents could be made aware of these accomplishments and goals it could become a regular a publication in the Davie Update.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the article to be submitted for the Davie Update. Chair Aitken indicated that she would prepare a draft and forward to the Board Secretary for distribution to the Boardmembers for their review.

Councilmember Starkey indicated that in the future she would like to see each Board with their own link on the Town's webpage. She added that the article should show the Board's effectiveness as no one should want to be on a Board that was going nowhere.

Mr. Hurley asked if any progress had been made in contacting nursery owners regarding issues with the Town that the Board could assist them with. There was a negative response from Boardmembers.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmembers Starkey explained that she would like to see a monthly Farmer's Market within the Town. She commented that this could begin as a seasonal event. A brief discussion ensued with Councilmember Starkey indicating that she would contact some of the farmers to see if there would be an interest to participate. Boardmembers indicated that they would gather ideas for the Farmers Market for discussion at the next meeting.

**6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS**

There were no comments and/or suggestions.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objections and no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Date Approved

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Chair/Board Member