

**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STEERING COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 1, 2000**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. Present were Vice-Chair Chuck Bonfiglio, Vice-Mayor Richard Weiner, Councilmember Geri Clark, Richard Abraham, Larry Davis, and Neal Kalis (arrived 8:10 a.m.). Also present were Programs Administrator William Allen and Secretary Janet Gale recording the meeting. Delia Alonso and Wayne Arnold were absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 5, 2000

Vice-Mayor Weiner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Clark, to approve the minutes of May 5, 2000. In a voice vote, with Ms. Alonso, Mr. Arnold and Mr. Kalis being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

3. SELECTION OF CHAIR

Vice-Chair Bonfiglio suggested that in Mr. Kalis' absence, the Committee defer items three and four until his arrival. In the meantime, it was the consensus of the Committee to discuss old business.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Kalis nominated Vice-Chair Bonfiglio as Chair, seconded by Vice-Mayor Weiner. As there were no other nominations, nominations were closed. In a voice vote, with Ms. Alonso and Mr. Arnold being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 6-0)**

4. SELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Later in the meeting, Vice-Mayor Weiner nominated Mr. Kalis for Vice-Chair. Since Mr. Kalis indicated he would decline, Vice-Mayor Weiner withdrew his nomination. Vice-Mayor Weiner nominated Mr. Davis for Vice-Chair, seconded by Councilmember Clark. As there were no other nominations, nominations were closed. In a voice vote, with Ms. Alonso and Mr. Arnold being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 6-0)**

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Discussion on Representation from Homeowners' Associations

Vice-Mayor Weiner advised of various forms of representation that were currently available to homeowners' associations and indicated that there was no practical method of selecting one representative from all homeowners' associations for this Committee. Committee members discussed methods of publicizing the Committee's meeting schedule and agenda in an effort to encourage audience participation. Vice-Mayor Weiner suggested that he would contact Administrative Aide Candice Ordway to ask that a monthly board meeting list be included in the information that was mailed to homeowner's association representatives. He also agreed that an article be placed in the Davie Update describing the different boards and their functions and that it include the monthly board meeting list. Mr. Allen advised that it may be too late to have an article placed in the October - November issue of the Davie Update.

Vice-Mayor Weiner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kalis, to recommend to Council that in the next available Davie Update, an article listing the various boards, their function and their meeting times be published. In a voice vote, with Ms. Alonso and Mr. Arnold being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 6-0)**

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Ms. Alonso and Mr. Arnold being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 6-0)**

5.2 Review of Large Joint Agency Meeting

Vice-Chair Bonfiglio, Councilmember Clark and Mr. Kalis commented on the activities of the meeting and were in consensus that there had been an informative exchange of dialogue. Vice-Mayor Weiner indicated that although he had not been able to attend, he understood that a Charter Review Board had been convened as a result of the discussions on supermajority vote which had been a subject of that meeting.

Vice-Chair Bonfiglio commented that the Chamber was not comfortable with the supermajority vote on land use and zoning and had expressed their concerns at the meeting; however, they had been relieved when it was indicated that there would be an opportunity to workshop the issue. He advised of their disappointment in finding out that the workshop meeting was changed to a special meeting and that a vote was taken on the issue without being able to communicate their concerns. Vice-Mayor Weiner clarified that prior to the Large Joint Agency Meeting, there had been two meetings and readings of this ordinance which had been accepted and approved; however, there had been no Charter amendment special meetings other than to assemble the Board. He stated that there would still be a workshop "even after the Charter Review Board comes back." Vice-Chair Bonfiglio appreciated this information and the opportunity for people to speak on the issue.

5.3 Schedule Large Joint Agency Meeting

It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule the next Large Joint Agency Meeting for mid-January 2001.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Agrarian Committee

Vice-Mayor Weiner advised that Council had approved an ordinance which brought the Town Code into compliance with State Statutes regarding agrarian and farm interests. He stated that he, members of the Agrarian Committee and various staff members from Broward County had met in a collaborative effort to have the County's staff present a draft ordinance to the Commission revising the County's Code which took into account its various State Statutes applying to agrarian and farm interests.

6.2 Community Redevelopment Agency

Mr. Kalis advised that he and Economic Development Coordinator Margaret Wu were in the process of interviewing candidates for a Redevelopment Administrator. He indicated that the Agency intended to readvertise for the position in order to have a larger spectrum of candidates.

Mr. Kalis indicated that the streetscape project should be completed within the month. He advised that there had been activity regarding the County's involvement of the Davie Road Bridge. Mr. Allen updated the Committee on the actions of the South Florida Water Management District (District) with regard to the permit for landscaping the canal bank and bridge. Mr. Kalis interjected his opinion that the Town needed to object to the County and District's position as residents had been promised extensive landscaping and it was an aesthetic feature of the Town. He provided a history of the negotiations involving the widening of Griffin Road and how it had been represented to the public by the County that

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Mr. Kalis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Abrams, to urge Council to take action on this issue. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Kalis advised that the facts and the position of the County and District needed clarification and confirmation as soon as was possible so that it could be conveyed to Council. In a voice vote, with Ms. Alonso and Mr. Arnold being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 6-0)**

Mr. Kalis apprised the Committee that people who bought Agency homes in the Eastside Neighborhood had encountered problems with the building contractor. He advised that Housing and Community Development Coordinator Shirley Taylor-Prakelt had resolved the problem by acquiring amortizing grants for those home buyers through the State Housing and Initiative Partnership program. Mr. Kalis explained how the grants worked in order for these home buyers to be able to have a pre-approved qualified, contractor complete or repair their new homes. Councilmember Clark commented that Ms. Taylor-Prakelt would speak on that program in detail at the September 26th neighborhood meeting to be held at the Eastside Community Center. Mr. Kalis mentioned other subjects to be discussed at the meeting were regarding sidewalks and community improvements.

Mr. Kalis advised of the success achieved with the completion of the Andrx Building. He explained that the Agency had contributed \$75,000 to Andrx in order to assist the Town in encouraging them to locate at that site. Mr. Kalis indicated that the Agency's investment would be returned in the form of tax increment funds of approximately \$50,000 to \$75,000 annually. He added that Andrx was intending to expand and he was hopeful that other technological and medical based businesses would see this area as desirable.

Mr. Abrams asked where the Town would locate these businesses which led to a lengthy discussion on the need for a method to adjust zoning in order to allow an area for these lucrative businesses to locate and support the tax base for the community. Mr. Kalis spoke of successful and unsuccessful projects within the Town and concluded that until residents were comfortable that these projects would meet strict development criteria and be integrated unobtrusively and executed properly, they would be opposed to such projects. Both he and Mr. Abrams believed that such projects should be reviewed by professionals who have the ability to take a concept and show what it would look like when it was finished in order to assist Council in its decisions.

Mr. Kalis advised that the Agency's Code had interjected that the Agency would employ an architect as a consultant for projects in the Downtown. He explained that the Agency's architect would work with the applicant on their plans and that the site plan approval process was expedited if the plans complied with Western Theme criteria.

6.3 Davie/Cooper City Chamber of Commerce

Chair Bonfiglio reported that the Chamber planned on bringing back the Orange Blossom Festival. He advised that the Community Redevelopment Agency was in discussion with the Chamber regarding housing within the Chamber's building.

6.4 Davie Economic Development Council

Mr. Abrams indicated that he was asked by Mr. Inklebarger to apprise the Committee that his fire rescue assessment had quadrupled from \$2,500 to \$11,000 and that he was in shock and upset. Councilmember Clark indicated that the assessment had not been finalized and she had been contacted by several small business owners regarding this

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how the assessment was calculated and that commercial and industrial property was based in part on square footage. He commented that eventually it would be the resident's choice to either shoulder the burden in real estate taxes or to allow for commercial development in order to share the expense; however, either way, the "cashier" had to be paid. Mr. Abrams understood and agreed, however, he stated that somewhere along the way, the public needed to be informed that these two issues coexisted and impacted one another.

6.5 Davie Merchants and Industrial Association

As a representative was not present, no report was made.

6.6 Planning and Zoning Board

Vice-Chair Davis advised that the Estate District concept was on a "fast track" and that a plat was presently being processed under that designation.

Vice-Chair Davis indicated that the Board was concerned that the Town had not addressed guidelines for keepers of exotic animals on residential property. Vice-Chair Davis conveyed that it was the Board's expectation that Council would consider a special permit or some type of registration and notice for this type of situation beyond those requirements of the County and State. Vice-Mayor Weiner suggested that Vice-Chair Davis ask the Board to support some kind of recommendation to present to Council for consideration. Vice-Chair Davis stated that he believed something was already in the works and he wondered if it had been brought to Council's attention. Councilmember Clark briefly stated that she would support notice and/or registration; however, she was not in favor of additional fees being charged to exotic pet owners for this purpose.

Vice-Chair Davis advised that another issue of concern was the lack of printed and approved minutes for Council's review. He understood that staff was working to change the application review process in order to allow a reasonable amount of time for the minutes to be completed and approved by the Board prior to the application being presented to Council. Vice-Chair Davis emphasized, however, that it was imperative for the Board to be provided with current minutes. A discussion ensued with regard to the amount of information and its validity as it was presented to Council from these Boards for the approval process. Vice-Chair Davis maintained that that was why it was significant for minutes to be transcribed in a timely manner.

6.7 South Florida Education Center

As a representative was not present, no report was made.

6.8 Town Council

Vice-Mayor Weiner and Councilmember Clark indicated that there was nothing to add to what had been previously discussed.

7. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Councilmember Clark indicated that she was interested in the programming of the Eastside Community Center and inquired of Mr. Kalis if the Agency controlled that function. Mr. Kalis responded that programming was controlled by the Parks and Recreation Department.

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8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Approved: _____

Chair/Committee Member