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CITY OF FORT PIERCE CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CRA Advisory Committee Minutes

OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE CITY CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, **NOVEMBER 15, 2017, IN FORT PIERCE 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, 100 NORTH US HIGHWAY 1, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Hoyt Murphy, Jr.; Cindi O'Connell; Al Johnson; Allan Reed; Junette Raymond; Chair
Charlie Frank Matthews

Absent: Michael Brown, Jr.; Plythe Freedman; Kristina Gibbons

Staff Present: Rebecca Grohall, Planning Director
Vennis Gilmore, Planning Analyst
Alicia Rosenthal, Executive Assistant

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Minutes from the October 18, 2017 meeting.

Motion was made by Cindi O'Connell, and seconded by Hoyt Murphy, Jr. to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2017 meeting.

AYE: Cindi O'Connell, Al Johnson, Allan Reed, Junette Raymond, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Chair
Charlie Frank Matthews

Passed

4. CHAIRMAN VIEWPOINTS

Chairman Matthews discussed the possibility of cancelling the December 20, 2017 CRA meeting due to the holidays.

Chairman Matthews encouraged the CRA members to participate with their family and friends during the holidays because it has been a rough year for a lot of people.

Chairman Matthews asked the committee to bring their ideas and suggestions to the meetings.

5. OLD BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Angels of Hope Outreach

Kelly Long gave a passionate presentation on the Angels of Hope Outreach program and the Angels at Work program. Ms. Long explained the Target, Resolve and Support program generally takes 8 - 12 weeks for a homeless person to become self sufficient. Ms. Long stated in the last year they have gotten almost 60 homeless people off the street.

Ms. Long explained that the Angels at Work program is a new non-profit program that will focus on training homeless, placing them in a job and teaching them life skills. Kelly's husband, David, provided additional details throughout the presentation.

Lori, Operations Manager for Walmart, stated she works closely with Angels of Hope. Lori suggested to raise expectations and set the bar higher to help eliminate the homeless problem.

Ms. Long introduced, Chris, who was a homeless veteran 5 years ago and is now self sufficient. Chris stated when he was homeless he sold beer cans for money and he made connections with different churches for food.

b. Update from Officer Maldonado

Officer Maldonado said getting names for the homeless database is a slow process because the homeless do not trust police officers. Officer Maldonado stated that Denise Rudisal is helping him acquire the names.

c. Retail Space Parking Garage Update

Ms. Grohall stated the Guardian Ad Litem program is leasing the 2nd and 3rd floor of the parking garage and the city recreational department and Welcome Center will be occupying the 1st floor. Ms. Grohall stated the city is talking with tourism development about conference room space on the 4th floor.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Brady stated she used to be homeless and it has taken her 5 years to get back on her feet. Ms. Brady said she is part of the bridge club and she thanks Denise Rudisal for her help.

Denise Rudisal said the biggest thing homeless need is hope.

8. STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Grohall stated the city is waiting for a decision from the fire department regarding the Kings Inn demolition.

9. ADJOURNMENT