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CITY OF FORT PIERCE CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CRA Advisory Committee Minutes

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Hoyt Murphy, Jr.; Phil Thompson; Amanda Geller; Ed Becht; Donna Benton; Charlie Hayek; Wesley Sands

Absent: Daniel Lee; Doug Miller

Staff Present: Sara Delgado, Redevelopment Specialist
Willie Colon, Redevelopment Assistant

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of the minutes from the January 21, 2026 meeting

Motion was made by Hoyt Murphy, Jr., **and seconded by** Amanda Geller

AYE: Amanda Geller, Charlie Hayek, Donna Benton, Ed Becht, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Phil Thompson, Wesley Sands

Passed

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Any person who wishes to comment on any subject on this agenda may be heard at this time. Please limit your comments to five (5) minutes or less, as directed by the Chairperson. The CRA Advisory Committee will not be able to take any official actions under Comments from the Public. Speakers will address the Chairperson, committee Members, and the Public with respect. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of Chairperson

Motion was made by Wesley Sands, and seconded by Donna Benton to elect Edward Becht as Chair.

AYE: Amanda Geller, Charlie Hayek, Donna Benton, Ed Becht, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Phil Thompson, Wesley Sands

Passed

b. Election of Vice-Chair

Motion was made by Donna Benton, and seconded by Ed Becht to elect Hoyt Murphy as Vice-Chair.

AYE: Amanda Geller, Charlie Hayek, Donna Benton, Ed Becht, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Phil Thompson, Wesley Sands

Passed

c. Review & Evaluate the FPRA Mural Program Property Owner Applications

Motion was made by Donna Benton, and seconded by Charlie Hayek with the requirement that funding for Dream Tracer Preschool will not exceed the standard square-foot formula.

The committee reviewed the FY 2026 Mural Program with a budget of \$100,000, now expanded to all CRA districts.

Four applications were evaluated based on visual appearance, visibility, theme, and artistic significance.

Mervis:

- Proposed Latin Cuban-inspired mural on the north side of the building
- Estimated cost: \$18,000

Elks Lodge 1520:

- Located on US 1 with two visible walls
- Estimated cost: \$15,000

St. Andrews Episcopal Academy:

- Located on Indian River Drive
- Estimated cost: \$20,000

Dream Tracer Preschool:

- Located at Cedar Avenue and 7th Street
- Estimated cost: TBD

AYE: Amanda Geller, Charlie Hayek, Donna Benton, Ed Becht, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Phil Thompson, Wesley Sands

Passed

8. STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. March 2026 FPRA Programs & Activities Summary
- b. Former Chair and New Committee Member Comments

Phil Thompson reflected on his three-year tenure as Chair, highlighting program innovations and presentations to the CRA and FPRA. He encouraged continued progress and resilience in addressing challenging topics such as code enforcement and demolition programs.

Wesley Sands was introduced as the newest committee member. He is an Army veteran with 31 years of service and was appointed by Commissioner Gaines.

- c. Future Project Discussions

Staff discussed future projects including a landscaping grant program. Discussions were also held regarding redevelopment and infrastructure projects. The committee emphasized addressing blight, improving code enforcement, and increasing budget transparency.

9. ADJOURNMENT