



Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Chair Rudy Rothseiden
Vice Chair Kelly Harris
Member Brian Boukari
Member Jovante Hayes
Member Rick Robertson

City Manager Mike DaRoza
City Attorney Marian Rush

Meeting Location: James A. Lewis City Commission Chambers
15100 NW 142 Terrace
Alachua, FL 32615

Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board Meeting

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

CALL TO ORDER

Rudy Rothseiden – Chair 3:05 pm

Rick Robertson- member-absent
Jovante Hayes-member-absent

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Brian Boukari moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Vice Chair Kelly Harris.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

I. OLD BUSINESS

II. NEW BUSINESS

A) APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Member Boukari moved to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2024 meeting; seconded by Vice Chair Harris.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

B) STAFF UPDATES

Susan King, Community Redevelopment Coordinator, presented.

Member Robertson is currently present. 3:10 pm.

Vice Chair Harris questioned specifically what demolition would occur in Theater Park. She also asked about the downtown lighting plans.

Ms. King responded that she believes it would not be demolition per say but a "refresh" of the existing exterior. She also stated that the lighting project - to include the south end of Main Street- would be done in phases and is still being discussed.

Member Boukari questioned if the business owners are willing to cooperate with access for installation and maintenance for the lighting project. He also stated his concerns about the installation not compromising historic buildings.

Ms. King stated that this is a process and not all building owners have been contacted yet but the ones who have are in agreement with the project. Specifics about access and maintenance have not been discussed yet.

Member Robertson also asked specifically about the maintenance of the lighting.

Ms. King states that a maintenance agreement with the installers would be necessary.

Member Boukari stated that it would probably be necessary for the project specifications to be sent to the City Attorney and Risk Management Department to review for liabilities.

Member Boukari made a motion asking Ms. King to meet with the City Attorney and Risk Management to begin drafting some sort of relatively simple agreement that would allow the city to install, access and maintain any lighting system approved for this project, but also give consideration to the owners for what they need to do on their own properties as well, if the cost of project is within budget, and it appears that the project will move forward ; seconded by Vice Chair Harris.

Member specifically questioned the maintenance of this lighting.

Ms. King responded that an outside entity would be under contract for the maintenance.

Motion passed by 3-1 roll call vote.

Ms. King suggested that it would be a good idea to reach out to other small towns that have accomplished a project of this type. This might help to avoid some of the problems that may be encountered.

Chair Rothseiden agreed with the concept of phases for this project but suggested there be a master plan that lays out the specifics of each phase ahead of time.

Ms. King went over financial specifics that were requested at the last meeting.

Member Robertson commented about the billboards on I75 not being simple enough. He states he believes it is too busy. The context is not being absorbed by drivers on the highway.

III. BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Chair Rothseiden commended Ms. King for her efforts installing the new banners.

Vice Chair asked for someone to inspect the sprinklers in her area because of obvious holes in the dirt areas in front of her shop. She also asked if Theater Park is going to be decorated for the Harvest Festival, which will be Sunday, November 17th from 11 am-5 pm.

Chair Rothseiden asked Ms. King to go over the event calendar for the remainder of 2024.

Vice Chair Harris asked if the wording "shop-dine-and-stroll" will be included on scheduling system.

Chair Rothseiden specifically asked when the Christmas parade will be.

Ms. King stated that it is always on the second Saturday of December so this year it will be on the 14th.

Chair Rothseiden suggested having another parade in February with a Mardi Gras theme but including pets.

IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Member Boukari moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Chair Harris.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Chair Rothseiden adjourned the meeting. 4:22 pm.

ATTEST:

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
ALACHUA, FLORDIA:**

CRA Advisory Board Chair

Staff Liaison