



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MELBOURNE DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
March 24, 2017 ● 8:00 A.M.**

1. A special meeting of the Melbourne Downtown Redevelopment Committee was held in the Council Chamber at 900 East Strawbridge Avenue, and was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Jack Ryals.

2. All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. The following members were:

Present: Jack Ryals, Chairman
 JoAnn Davis, Vice-Chairman
 LeAnn Smithson, Member
 Trish Nichols, Member
 Gerry Smith, Member
 Randy Carmichael, Member (late)
 Dan Porsi, Member
 John Lucas, Alternate Member

Absent: Lisa Herendeen, Alternate Member

Also Present: Kelly Hyvonen, Planner
 Doug Dombroski, Economic Development Manager
 Tami Gillen, Assistant City Engineer
 Mary Wolak, Recording Secretary
 Kevin Briski, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf

4. Approval of Minutes:

a. February 3, 2017 regular meeting

Moved by Smithson/Smith to recommend approval of the February 3, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. February 24, 2017 special meeting

Moved by Smithson/Smith to recommend approval of the February 24, 2017 special meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Riverview Park Fence Project

Mr. Briski explained that Riverview Park is a property that the city has spent a lot of time in the revitalization and designing to be a family-friendly destination. He said one of the largest play structures in the State of Florida was just completed and is getting a lot of attention and use. He said the finishing stages of a pedestrian walking path that circles the northern part of the property and a cul-de-sac is almost complete.

He said through the years people have come accustomed to driving through the park property and it is problematic since it is designed for people. He said the proposed fence has two purposes: (1) to stop people driving through the property and (2) to add to the park's aesthetic. He said Parks wishes to install a split-rail fence which is used throughout the City's parks and also found in regional, state and national parks.

Ms. Hyvonen explained where the new pedestrian trail and playground were installed. She explained the split-rail fence would be installed near the walking trail to prevent vehicles from crossing over the path. She said there still will be room for vehicles to park along the roadway.

Mr. Dombroski explained that in the beginning of the year CRA money was budgeted for Riverview Park lawn maintenance. He said Mr. Briski offered to utilize city staff to take care of the grass cutting instead of a contractor, and set that money aside for a capital project in the park. He said this was budgeted as part of the operating expenses in the annual budget as "other contract services." He said staff would like to ask Council to appropriate \$12,000 from that line item into the Riverview Park improvements project.

Mr. Ryals asked for clarification that new funds will not be used, only a transfer of funds from operating expenses to capital expenditure.

Mr. Dombroski said that was correct.

Ms. Nichols felt that the fence was not a priority, she thought since the playground was added, there should be something included for the adults or something more productive for the money.

Mr. Briski said the state-of-the-art play structure was just put in and the next phase is the pedestrian trail with the cul-de-sac. He said a state grant was applied for in the amount of \$50,000 and the city received full funding. He announced that the park will

be installing five, 5'x5' shade pavilions soon. He said three pavilions will be adjacent to the play structure and the two will be overlooking the water. He said the pavilions will create a more family-friendly area for parties and reunions.

Ms. Nichols felt that money should be spent on a volleyball court or something similar.

Mr. Ryals thought this is a safety issue and safety has to become priority before additional recreational items.

Ms. Davis thought the walking path is very beneficial in getting people in the park. She felt the fence would be a good idea to protect pedestrians. She asked what type of pathway was laid.

Mr. Briski said the sidewalk is seamless concrete and ADA accessible.

Mr. Dombroski said staff is applying to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) for the elevated boardwalk over the mangroves.

Mr. Carmichael arrived 8:19 a.m.

Mr. Porsi wanted to know what the entire length of the fence will be and why will it be placed along a residential property near the park.

Ms. Hyvonen answered and said it will be approximately 1,600 feet long.

Mr. Briski said the fence will go between the park and the residential property to create a separation. He said there is a plan to landscape along that property line.

Mr. Porsi wanted to know if the owner requested a six foot tall wood fence.

Mr. Briski said he met with the property owners and they like the view of the park and prefer the openness of the proposed split-rail fence.

Ms. Hyvonen explained to Ms. Nichols, in detail, where the fence will be installed because she was not clear on the location.

Mr. Porsi asked if there will be a gates installed for easy access.

Mr. Briski explained that the fence will have pedestrian pass-throughs throughout. He said the plan is to use naturalized landscaping and mature palms and oaks so the fencing would be spaced in between those trees along the line and used as a natural buffer.

Mr. Porsi wanted to know how the wood product will hold-up.

Mr. Briski said this product has a high salt tolerance and was tested up and down the eastern seaboard and comes with a 30-year guarantee.

Moved by Davis/Smithson to recommend to have the CRA appropriate \$12,000 from the operating budget into Riverview Park Improvements capital project to assist in the cost of installing a split rail fence at Riverview Park.

A roll call vote was taken, with the Committee members voting as follows:

Aye: Ryals, Davis, Smithson, Smith, Porsi, Carmichael

Nay: Nichols

Motion carries.

6. US 1 Streetscape Project

Ms. Gillen explained that 60% plans were received in 2015 for the US 1 Streetscape Project from the City's consultant. She said the meeting with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) did not occur until January 2017. She explained that there were numerous requests for meetings with FDOT to review the conceptual plan. She said the City went through the permit process without approval of the conceptual because of the lack of responses from FDOT. She explained that staff finally knows who to contact at FDOT for future phases of this project. She said the City is planning to narrow the lanes to allow for U-turn movement and landscape medians wide enough for trees.

Ms. Hyvonen showed the locations of the medians and where stamped-colored crosswalks would be added.

Ms. Gillen said this project will be treated as a safety project and staff will be applying for FDOT landscaping grants. She said once the revised concept is approved by FDOT, the next phase will be redesigning landscaping, the stamped asphalt crosswalks and the decorative street lighting.

Mr. Ryals congratulated Ms. Gillen for finally being able to cross the hurdle with FDOT.

Ms. Hyvonen said staff will have another conversation with this Committee about landscaping and lighting in the future.

Mr. Dombroski said there will be decorative roadway lighting with new poles that provide a high-level of LED lighting.

Ms. Porsi asked what the average lane width was for this area.

Ms. Gillen replied and said they range from 11–12 feet and the plan is to restripe them to 10-11 feet.

Mr. Carmichael asked which areas now have ten foot wide lanes, and how would the transition be effected going south to Jackson Street.

Ms. Gillen said north of US 1 has ten foot lanes. She said the one foot narrowing of the lane would be transitioned over 100-200 feet so it is a very seamless process.

7. General Public Comment

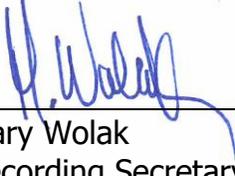
There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Davis/Ryals to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 a.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Wolak
Recording Secretary