

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

### Minutes

April 7, 2014

South Florida Regional Planning Council's Executive Committee met on this date at the South Florida Regional Planning Council, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL 33021. Chair Ritter called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and Councilmember Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

Councilmember Jean Monestime (absent)  
Councilmember David Rice (via phone)  
Chair Stacy Ritter (present)  
Councilmember Paul Wallace (present)  
Councilmember Sandra Walters (present)

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel was present.

Ex-Officio Member Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, (FDOT) District VI participated via phone.

#### **II. Approval of Council Agenda**

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the amended Council Agenda. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **III. Action Items**

##### **A. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Councilmember Wallace moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

##### **B. Financial Report**

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

##### **C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report**

Councilmember Wallace moved to approve Agenda Item III.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Wallace questioned the information in the ICRP Report regarding development in the region and Mr. Murley explained that this Report is a result of a long standing responsibility the Council has with the State.

Mr. Murley explained each RPC completes an ICRP Report. He explained the applications are reviewed, sometimes with comments, regarding federal and state funding and activities for various permits and grant opportunities within the State. He explained professional staff usually reviews the information and

prepares this report. He thanked Isabel Moreno and Kathe Lerch, Council staff, for their cooperation in executing some reports in lieu of professional staff. Councilmember Walters commented she liked the format of grant applications being separated from permit applications. Ms. Lerch explained the applications are processed in the order received.

Councilmember Wallace inquired about the Council's responsibility in regards to this Report and compensation for staffs' time.

Mr. Murley explained that the application review is required by various federal entities and comments are made when necessary; the Council reviews the application on a regional level for any impacts. He stated that this Item is part of the previous appropriations and was allocated to the RPCs in the past. He informed Council that in lieu of stated funding it is now charged to the Counties' Membership Dues because it is considered a service to the applicants in the three counties.

Councilmember Walters suggested that this should be highlighted as one of the Councils' functions that are required for review when reaching out to the Governor's Office (GO). Councilmember Wallace suggested the Council charge for it. Chair Ritter stated that Broward County permits are included in this report and the County pays dues to the SFRPC, so to charge the Construction and Engineering Department of Broward County is double dipping. Councilmember Wallace stated that he understood that concept.

Chair Ritter reminded Council that the Legislature supports funding for the RPCs but the Governor continues to veto the funding. She stated that this would be a discussion for the entire Board.

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews –

- Broward County 14-1ESR
- City of Doral 14-1ESR
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 14-1ACSC
- City of Marathon 14-1ACSC
- Town of Miami Lakes 14-1ER
- City of Pembroke Pines 14-1ESR
- City of Plantation 14-1ESR

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.D: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews  
None

**IV. Discussion Items**

A. Executive Director's Report

Chair Ritter suggested the Councilmembers be surveyed to change the May 7, 2014, Council Meeting to May 12, 2014, because she will not be able to attend. Councilmember Walters agreed with her and it was decided that a survey be sent to the Councilmembers for their availability.

Chair Ritter stated she would like to cancel the Executive Committee Meetings that are held previous to the full Council Meetings and the Executive Committee agreed. Council Meetings will start at 10:30 a.m. with no Executive Committee Meeting previous to the full Council Meeting unless necessary.

Mr. Murley announced that Manny Cela, Council staff, has procured a new agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). He stated that FDEM has ongoing contracts with the Council and is separate from the legislative line funding item issue.

Mr. Cela stated this contract would involve a Hazmat analyses review of facilities containing extremely hazardous substances. He stated this is generally conducted by the County and that the State produces a document for review. Mr. Cela stated that the RPCs have been asked to review the document since the State has only two employees who carry out this task and many other tasks. Mr. Murley informed the Council that Mr. Cela currently performs this duty for the Monroe County sites. Mr. Murley stated this reinforces the Council's regional role in Emergency Management and Preparedness. The Councilmembers congratulated Mr. Cela.

Mr. Murley stated that this reinforces the role that a state agency can contract with the RPC to perform tasks that are currently performed in Tallahassee. He stated that once this becomes process is put in place, the Council will be able to contact Broward and Miami-Dade Counties to consider Council staff in assisting them with their projects.

Mr. Murley stated there are discussions with Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on a proposal. He informed the Council that Miami-Dade County Mayor's Office has asked Council staff to manage the next Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact Leadership Summit that includes Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and West Palm Beach Counties. He explained that the Summit will be on October 1-2, 2014, in Miami Beach. He stated that the Council is in the negotiation phase. Mr. Murley stated the Council also has ongoing discussions with Florida Department of Transportation, District IV.

Chair Ritter stated that our Council is evolving past planning.

Mr. Murley updated the Council on the Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) Meeting, the role of the Association and the individual Councils since the Summit, what has happened, the position of FRCA in Tallahassee and the next steps. He reminded the Council that Councilmember Asseff is the current Chair of FRCA and she is following up on many items that concern the RPCs.

He explained the FRCA monthly report and the summary of legislative activity that is part of their monthly packet.

Mr. Murley explained the Florida Chamber Foundation's Press Release. He reminded the Council about the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Retreat uses the Six Pillars Process and the SFRPC received a Certificate of Achievement from the Foundation. He explained the Chamber has developed a statewide website <http://floridarpcscorecard.com/> which contains a map and when clicked on a specific region's area, a series of data appears. Mr. Murley stated that the data is an important part of the Council activity.

Mr. Murley stated that the Senate and House have passed their respective budgets. He stated \$2.5 million is in the House Budget; he does not have the detailed information regarding the Senate. He then explained the process and deadlines. Mr. Murley stated that part of the Statewide Economic Development Strategy includes the work of the 11 RPCs and is updated through the Florida Regional Planning Council Performance Analysis for the *Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development* which is at their seats. He explained that the update includes details of the Councils' strategies regarding economic

development and aids the State in following specific economic development in the regions. He stated FRCA's representative in Tallahassee, Sheri Coven, Ron Book and Rana Brown are making new contacts on a regular basis and work daily with the agencies. He stated that there will be more information when he returns from Tallahassee.

Mr. Murley stated that the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, based in Tallahassee, has a Gubernatorial Appointee Board Member, Lisa Miller, who worked in government relations, is at the Capital every day, and she personally wants to focus on the RPCs' issues and be the representative for the Gubernatorial Appointees. It was suggested the Gubernatorial Appointees send letters or emails to their Executive Directors and the Directors would forward them to the appropriate contacts, including Ron Book and Rana Brown, to help orchestrate a plan and track the actions. Councilmember Wallace stated that our views might be better heard through Gubernatorial Appointees who were recently appointed by Governor Scott rather than an Appointee who was chosen from a previous Governor.

Councilmember Walters stated she would like the final list of issues and contact information so she could communicate via letter or email to the Governor's Office. Mr. Murley stated that the Gubernatorial Appointees are focusing on items that relate to their regions. Councilmember Walters suggested the communication regard regional issues with additional information on the individual RPC's strengths.

Mr. Murley stated Cheryl Cook, Director of Loan Programs, met with Councilmember Hernandez and focused on the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program. There was discussion regarding the RLF Program and highlighting it to the Governor. Chair Ritter stated that the Council should not focus on the RLF Program since it is financially self-sufficient.

Ms. Cook stated the RLF Program was transferred from other programs within the Region. The original funding source included state funds and U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding.

Chair Ritter thought the group of Gubernatorial Appointees visiting the Governor in Tallahassee in January would have been a good idea. She would like to see FRCA Executive Director, Ron Book, make an appointment with the Governor and reach out to Governor Scott's Gubernatorial Appointees as well as other Appointees to inform the Governor of our responsibilities, and why the Governor appointed them. She inquired if the Governor put together a veto message in the three times he has vetoed the allocation. Mr. Murley stated yes there is a letter. Chair Ritter suggested Council take the veto message and turn it around on the Governor. Councilmember Walters appreciates and agrees with the Chair's points.

Mr. Murley stated there is time to engage the suggested ideas and will take the recommendations to Councilmember Asseff. He stated that part of the discussion was the observation that the Governor is seldom in Tallahassee. He stated that people who have a personal connection or are a friend of the Councils and Governor may have a better opportunity to meet with him outside of Tallahassee.

Chair Ritter stated that personal visits, even if they are regional are great. She stated that the Gubernatorial Appointees could coordinate a regional meeting with the Governor and confer while he is visiting South Florida. Councilmember Wallace stated that the Governor is in Miami or South Florida often and suggested Council request a meeting at his next available time in South Florida. Mr. Murley stated that all these items are relevant and will discuss them with Councilmember Asseff and will report back.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, stated the articles for rebranding the RPC, discussed at the last meeting, is prepared. He stated that there were two subparts: 1) Legal Counsel is having a conversation with the County Attorney from each of the three counties for legal review of the document; and, 2) Councilmembers that represent the counties need County Commission approval. He stated that he is working with Mr. Murley on a detailed Memorandum. He stated that the adjunct to that is changing the Institute for Community Collaboration title to a more appropriate name.

Mr. Goren informed the Council that the IRS is requesting a Compliance Check which is a common practice. He stated that Mr. McGann, Council staff, Mr. Murley and himself are directly involved and have engaged outside legal counsel to make sure that we are in compliance with federal standards. He made it known that this is not an audit and that a Compliance Check happens routinely to produce certain records.

Mr. Goren stated the Revolving Loan Program had very minimal in collection.

V. **Program Reports and Activities**

A. Council Mission

- 1) Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan

Mr. Murley stated the last Executive Meeting of the Seven50 will be this month.

B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports

- 1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- 2) Smart Watts Home Energy Retrofit Loan Fund Status Report

C. DRI Status Report

D. Florida Regional Councils Association

- 1) FRCA Monthly Accomplishments
- 2) FRCA Legislative Highlights

Councilmember Walters commented on film incentives since she is currently having interactions with the film industry. She stated that she is working with a 13 part television show that is filming in Islamorada. She is involved with the permitting and monitoring and is meeting with the various people who are part of the working team. She explained that these people are free lancers which is standard in the business. She has learned that Florida is behind in funding film initiatives over the last few years due to budget cuts, etc. and that Georgia has a humongous incentive program. She stated that people who work in the film industry have moved from South Florida to Georgia simply because they could not make a living here and moved to Georgia because there is more opportunity. She stated that she would strongly support the film incentives that could draw people back to live and work in Florida; it would be a huge economic input to our community. She explained the show is filmed by Sony Productions and Netflix and is going straight to Netflix, and these people are eating and living in our community. She would like to know who to contact for the film incentives.

Councilmember Wallace stated he wanted to know how to get the Council more involved in the regional economic development issue. He stated that the Council should be looking at partnerships with other entities such as Enterprise Florida, a state-wide economic development agency where the Council could be more of a facilitator.

Mr. Murley stated the Council has increased its role through partnerships with the three economic development organizations: the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Beacon Council and the Marathon Chamber, a designee of Monroe County. He stated that Enterprise Florida interfaces work with those entities. He stated that the Council is working closely with these entities, including Palm Beach County, as part of the Seven50. Mr. Murley stated that the Council is an economic development district with EDA and the Department of Economic Opportunity.

Councilmember Wallace stated that he would like to see a high profile regional economic development summit and for it to be more succinct than the Seven50 Process. He would like the summit to be more of a traditional economic development program to discuss job and industrial recruitment, and the film industry on a regional basis. He thinks the Counties' elected officials should be involved so it would become more public. He would like that when regional economic development is mentioned, elected leaders will think Regional Planning Council. He stated that the Beacon Council and the Fort Lauderdale Alliance are not ceding any authority to the Council but they might be interested in meeting together on regional economic development.

Mr. Murley stated that communications with these entities have been in process and more information will be brought to the Council. He stated there is no rivalry between these entities and this Council; the Council is accepted as the regional economic development entity in a role that started a couple of years ago. He stated that the Council has done work with these entities during our CEDS process for years.

Councilmember Wallace motioned to have a traditional economic development summit within a year inviting elected officials and the Governor to discuss job and industrial recruitment, and the film industry on a regional basis. Councilmember Walters seconded it without objection.

Councilmember Wallace suggested the Council involve Miami-Dade and Broward County leaders such as Jack Osterholt to discuss three to five major issues on regional economic development. He stated that the discussion should be on issues people are interested in talking about on a regional basis and the resources will come. Mr. Murley and Councilmember Walters stated that Palm Beach and Monroe County should be included.

Councilmember Walters stated the exciting aspect of that is that instead of talking about things that are on the decline the Council is talking about issues on the upswing and focus the energy to benefit our communities as things are starting to improve and come back, and keep it on that track.

Mr. Murley stated that Richard Ogburn, Director of Research, and Nancy Davis, Art Director, gathered information for the handout "Southeast Florida: Regions and Connectivity," showing Census geography in the region. He informed the Council that the SFRPC, as part of its function and partnership with other entities in the region, is consistently asked to be the central locator of data and reports by the U.S. Census regarding population growth and characteristics. He stated that the Census is the place where much data originates regarding demographics and economic development. He would like the Council to review the chart and understand how interconnected the region is. Mr. Murley introduced Mr. Ogburn, who is recognized regionally and statewide as an expert on Census Data.

Mr. Ogburn explained that the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) designates a set of "core-based statistical areas" that provide a nationally consistent set of delineations for collecting, tabulating and publishing Federal statistics for geographic areas. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) have been used for decades by the Census Bureau as units of demographic analysis. He explained the Employment Interchange Measure, which captures commuting patterns between counties - the larger the number of people who cross boundaries from where they live to where they work, the larger the level of integration, and this factor is used to define the counties that make up an MSA. He stated that the

concept of a Micropolitan Statistical Area closely parallels that of the MSA, but a Micropolitan Statistical Area features a smaller nucleus. He also described Combined Statistical Areas (CSAs), which are composed of MSAs and Micropolitan Statistical Areas that have high levels of integration based on the employment interchange measure. He stated that OMB uses a formula based on the data to assign names to MSAs, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas.

Mr. Ogburn then mentioned some of the statistical areas in use in Southeast Florida. The Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA, which is the eighth largest in the nation, includes three counties: Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach. The Key West Micropolitan Statistical Area is made up of Monroe County alone. The high level of integration of the seven counties that extend from Miami-Dade to Okeechobee resulted in the designation of the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Port St. Lucie Combined Statistical Area.

Councilmember Walters questioned if the Census Bureau came up with the name Key West Micropolitan Region? She stated that even though Key West is the largest island in the County, the other governments tend to resent that Key West gets all the attention. She stated it would go over better if it was called Florida Keys Micropolitan Area. Mr. Ogburn stated the name was formulated based on the numbers and an additional concept called "principle cities," so there is no flexibility in the designation of names.

#### **VI. Announcements and Attachments**

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) May 5th, 10:30 a.m. (Murray E. Nelson Government Center, Key Largo)
- 2) June 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC Offices, Hollywood) - **Executive Committee**
- 3) July 7th, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC Offices, Hollywood)
- 4) August 4th, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC Offices, Hollywood) - **Executive Committee**

#### **VII. Councilmember Comments**

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the April 7, 2014 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2014.

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David Rice, Secretary

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Date