

# SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

## Minutes

May 12, 2014

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met on this date at the Murray E. Nelson Government & Cultural Center, 102050 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037. Chair Ritter called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said before the Institute of Community Collaboration Meeting.

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

Councilmember Patricia Asseff (via phone)  
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey (via phone)  
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)  
Councilmember Frank Caplan  
Councilmember Tim Daubert  
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger (via phone)  
Councilmember Nelson Hernandez (absent)  
Councilmember Martin Kiar  
Councilmember Jean Monestime (via phone)  
Councilmember George Neugent  
Councilmember David Rice  
Chair Stacy Ritter  
Councilmember Xavier Suarez (absent)  
Councilmember Paul Wallace  
Councilmember Sandra Walters  
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley  
Councilmember Juan C. Zapata (absent)

Mr. David Tolces for Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel was present.

### The following Ex-Officio Members were present:

Ms. Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI  
Ms. Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District

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

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

### **III. Action Items**

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

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

B. Financial Report

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

C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

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

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

- Broward County 14-6ESR
- Miami-Dade County 14-1ESR
- City of Doral 14-2ESR
- City of Hollywood 14-1ESR
- Indian Creek Village
- City of Lauderdale Lakes 14-1ESR
- City of Plantation 14-2ESR

Ms. Debbie Orshesky, representing Hollywood, Mr. Garrett Rowe, representing Miami-Dade County, and John Orback, applicant for the City of Plantation amendment were available via phone for questions.

Councilmember Bailey recused himself from Consent Items: Miami-Dade County and the Cities of Hollywood and Lauderdale Lakes because of a conflict of interest (he represents them in Tallahassee).

Councilmember Caplan moved to approve Agenda Item III.D: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted: Miami-Dade County and the Cities of Hollywood and Lauderdale Lakes. Councilmember Monestime seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote with the exception of Councilmember Bailey.

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve Agenda Item III.D: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted: Broward County, the Cities of Doral and Plantation and Indian Creek Village. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews - None

IV. **Discussion Items**

A. Executive Committee Report

B. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Murley announced that Councilmember Asseff was elected President of the Broward League of Cities. Councilmember Asseff thanked everyone for their well wishes.

Mr. Murley stated that the Senate confirmed the reappointment of Councilmember Walters, Councilmembers Bailey and Hernandez were appointed by Governor Scott and Councilmember Wallace was reappointed last year. He stated that there are two Broward County Appointees seats still vacant.

Mr. Murley stated the newly appointed Director of the Office of Economic Resilience, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Harriet Tregoning will be available for a question and answer session today. He stated this was the Office Sustainable Housing and Communities where the Council received its recent funding.

Mr. Murley stated that there will be a new design for the SFRPC website in which Councilmember Asseff is a strong supporter. He stated that he will inform Council of its progress.

Mr. Murley explained that Councilmember Wallace moved and the Executive Committee approved and motioned for the SFRPC to host a Regional Economic Development Summit in the year 2015. He stated that the SFRPC is in discussion with their economic development partners to collaborate on this endeavor and John Kaliski, from Cambridge Systematics, author of Florida Chamber Foundation Trade and Logistics Study has offered to be part of the Summit. Mr. Murley stated that transportation will be a significant topic in economic development.

Councilmember Wallace suggested staff research any possible grants available through the Federal Government or otherwise. He stated that there may be studies the Council could staff.

Mr. Murley stated the full Council will meet in July at the Council Offices and has invited representatives from All Aboard Florida (Florida East Coast Industries) and the Florida Department of Transportation, IV, (FDOT IV), Tri-Rail Coastal Link for an update on their projects. He will also invite Jack Stephens, Executive Director of South Florida Regional Transportation Authority. He stated that this would be an important opportunity to have the public and private entities available for discussion on the region's future transportation system. He explained that the East Central, Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils will be working together to prepare comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statements regarding these projects. Councilmember Asseff stated that she was in Washington, DC with the Broward County MPO and it would be a great idea to invite representatives from the Congressional Offices that will be affected.

Mr. Murley announced that there will be a celebration for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition on Friday, May 16, 2014 at 10 a.m. It will be hosted by Enterprise Florida at their Coconut Creek facilities. He reminded Council that the Clean Cities project has been hosted at the SFRPC and Councilmember Asseff is the current Chair. Councilmember Asseff stated that Broward County School buses will now be using alternative fuel; it will be one of the first school districts in the nation.

#### C. Legal Counsel Report

Councilmember Gunzburger commented on a possible "typo" on the Revolving Loan Fund Report that the South Florida Pediatric Home Care, Loan #1032 has a payment date of 2002. Ms. Cook of Council staff stated that this was a "typo" and it would be corrected. Ms. Cook informed Council that the last payment was April 28, 2014.

Mr. Tolces stated there was nothing to report.

Chair Ritter stated that she spoke to the Broward County Attorney's Office with respect to the name change for the Council. She stated that the Attorney's Office was waiting for the information. Mr. Tolces stated that his office is working with the Executive Directors' Office. He stated once Legal Counsel receives the go ahead, Legal Counsel will contact all three County Attorney's Offices, Councilmembers

that need to be involved, and other entities for completion. Mr. Murley stated that this should be finalized by the end of this month.

D. Ex Officio Reports - None

V. Program Reports and Activities

A. Council Mission

1) Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan

Mr. Murley introduced Harriet Tregoning, the Director of HUD's Office of Economic Resilience. He informed Council of her past work and positions.

Ms. Tregoning joined the Council at the table for a question and answer session. She stated that it was a pleasure to be attending the meeting and had known Mr. Murley for quite some time. She stated that she was excited about the planning grant that the SFRPC had received, its final product and the implementations that will happen.

Mr. Murley asked about the direction that her office and Secretary Donovan seem to be heading in the next couple of years. Ms. Tregoning explained there were 143 grants, community challenge and regional planning grants and described the verbiage the grantees used in their final product. She stated that for some grantees it was not about an ideology but about the local values and what is meaningful to the economy of the changing community. She stated that the communities are concerned with energy efficiency, transportation, and housing choices but the other concern is if there is an economy that would support the people living in that community. She stated that they are also talking about resilience in another sense, disaster appropriations. She stated that in the Third National Climate Assessment indicated that HUD had appropriated \$48 billion dollars since 2000 for long-term disaster assistance for the reconstruction of communities to make sure they are efficient for the future in various ways. Ms. Tregoning stated that they expect the severity and frequency of disasters to continue so we will have to manage the risks that our assets are subject to; more importantly than these property assets are the people assets.

Councilmembers Walters and Weekley commented on the Historic areas of Downtown City of Key West regarding Sea Level Rise (SLR), the height restrictions and community and home owner interactions with insurance companies. They wanted to know if other communities are facing the same issues.

Ms. Tregoning stated that she was involved with historic preservation in Washington, DC (DC) and their preservation issues. She stated that in any historic place there has to be a reason for being, that these assets have to be reused and it is not just in historic communities but in all communities. She commented on the requirements of the elevation of buildings when other buildings are remaining the same and if historic preservation will prevail against Mother Nature. She stated that many communities have moved or elevated their historic buildings and those places that are at sea level should think about the plan for the community rather than building by building.

Ms. Tregoning stated that she has done studies in DC regarding height requirements and one thing she understood was that there is nothing magic about any given number. In Washington, DC the height requirement is 130 ft but it is 160 ft on Pennsylvania Avenue and nobody knows the difference; it is really about the relationship between the height of the building and the width of the street and the kind of environment that it creates.

Councilmember Caplan asked if it is important to have proportionality among the buildings. Ms. Tregoning stated you have to meet with the constituents and understand what elements give the place character, decide what should be preserved, and translate this into a standard for the communities' future and protection from floods. She stated that this is almost never a number. Most people do not recognize the difference between 25 or 30 feet but they might know if it is less than three stories.

Councilmember Asseff commented on the home owner insurance companies, the problems of rebuilding or tearing down buildings and the consequence of the effect on the neighboring buildings or homes. Ms. Tregoning stated that this is a community discussion and preservation is not about rebuilding the same building. She stated that the community does not want to tear down what is historic and unique and then have no rules regarding what will replace it or what might be built next to a beautiful historic building. She stated that the run-off and flood control problems should be managed, not property by property or even jurisdiction by jurisdiction. She stated that it should be done regionally that is why it is great to have a Regional Council.

Mr. Murley stated that one of the attractions of the collaboration was the involvement with the departments of Transportation, Environmental Protection and HUD and this connection has continued to be a strong point. He stated the transportation issue is important regarding the Federal Government Transit and Railway Administrations and it is making a big impact on our Region. He stated that it is important that these partnerships continue to exist and HUD notifies DOT that there is a regional prosperity plan for Southeast Florida.

Ms. Tregoning stated that these departments are so closely related that it is harmful to do anything in the absence of coordination with the others. She stated that one of the priorities of the new Transportation Secretary is to execute a 30-year National Transportation Plan and she is excited about being a part of it. She stated that the demographics of this Region will be changed in the next 30 years and transportation is changing rapidly in terms of high technology effecting peoples choices for available transportation. She stated that they routinely work with United States Department of Agriculture, Department Of Energy, Federal Emergency Management Agency and other entities; there will be a lot more intergovernmental cooperation.

Councilmember Asseff mentioned people of poverty and the effect of lack of transportation and education provided. She suggested that this issue should become more prominent.

Chair Ritter stated her son works in DC and will share with him that she conversed with Ms. Tregoning who implemented the largest bike sharing program in the Nation while Director of Planning for Washington, DC. Chair Ritter stated her son bikes everywhere and takes zip cars when he needs to travel further. She stated that one of the problems is that there are no Millennials sitting at this table to help teach us what has changed in their thinking, opposed to the Chair's generation, and would like to see them at the table. Chair Ritter stated that the Millennials do not attend meetings; they are more interested in social media interactions. She stated that the County is building more apartments instead of houses because Millennials do not have the same dream as her generation of being a homeowner.

Chair Ritter inquired as to how Ms. Tregoning communicates with some members of Congress when they do not believe there is climate change or SLR.

Ms. Tregoning stated that she asks a person "What are you trying to achieve? What is considered success for you?" and then she would talk to them about their meaning of success and how working together can make them more successful. She stated that she does not need to know what they believe; she needs to know what they are trying to accomplish and whether or not there is any overlap.

Ms. Tregoning thinks that what is perceived as ideological (whatever that is) puts a lot of people off. She stated that 48 states and more than 2000 out of 3000 counties have had presidential declared disasters between 2011 and 2013. She stated that it is pretty likely that there will be more a presidential declared disasters.

She quoted Louis Pasteur "Fortune favors the prepared mind" and stated that whatever that new uncertainty is, whether it is economic disruption, lose a major employer, a hurricane or flooding - how do we prepare for that? How do we make our communities more resilient for the disaster? She stated that our goal should be focused on how we become successful.

Ms. Tregoning stated that there are regional differences that are part of our country and constitution and it makes it hard in the changing demographics of our nation. She stated that this is something that is a struggle all the time but one can almost never go wrong attributing to someone that you sit down with and their good motives and good intentions. Let them prove you wrong. She mentioned Congressman Darrell Issa who gave the District of Columbia more autonomy to debate height choices. He was the first member of Congress in 100 years that asked how the height issue would work for us and did we want to make any changes to it.

Mr. Murley stated that concerning the issue of resilience we would be remiss if he did not acknowledge the work of the four counties: Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe which created the Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact which is supported through the Kresge Foundation and the funds from our HUD Grant. He mentioned the Summit in Miami on October 1-2, 2014 in which we hope Ms. Tregoning can attend. He stated these counties and the leadership of the county commissioners are acknowledged in the National Climate Assessment. He stated that when Ms. Tregoning returns to DC and is looking for County and City governments coming together on this issue, South Florida is a great model.

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 - None

D. Florida Regional Councils Association

- 1) FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

Mr. Murley reminded Council that Councilmember Asseff is the Chair of FRCA. He stated that attached to the highlights is the actual language that passed in the Budget and as requested by the Association; the House and Senate agreed on a \$2.5 million dollar appropriation. He thanked the RPC Executive Committee in Tallahassee, Ron Book, Rana Brown, and Sheri Coven, FRCA Director of Intergovernmental Relations, for their hard work.

Councilmember Bailey stated the staff is briefing the Governor on the Budget. He stated that they expect to have an answer around Memorial Day Weekend and suggested that Councilmembers reach out to their contacts in the Governor's Office.

Mr. Murley stated that at their seats are the allocation formula from FRCA, the Southeast Florida Tri-County, Mayor's Compact Legislative Agenda resulting from the final Summit of the Seven50, and

Brownfield Legislation information. He stated that the Council has a Brownfields Program overseen by Cheryl Cook and Karen Hamilton.

- 2) FRCA Legislative Highlights

#### VI. Announcements and Attachments

##### A. Correspondence and Attendance Form

##### B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) June 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, Hollywood)
- 2) July 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 3) August 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, Hollywood)
- 4) September 8th, 10:30 a.m. (City of Miami Commission Chambers, Miami-Dade County)

#### VII. Councilmember Comments

Chair Ritter announced that the Broward County Commission is on break from the end of June to the beginning of August and she will not be available during that time. She asked if the August 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting can be changed to August 11<sup>th</sup> for the Executive Committee. Councilmember Monestime stated that he has conflicts in July and August. It was decided that a survey of attendance will be sent out for a decision on the Council Meeting dates for July and August.

#### VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.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 May 12, 2014 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2014.

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David Rice, Secretary

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Date