

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

### Minutes

March 4, 2013

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Beacon Council Board Room, 80 S.W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2400, Miami, FL 33130. Chair Wallace called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said on this day during the Institute for Community Collaboration, Inc.'s Quarterly meeting.

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

Councilmember Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)  
Councilmember Michael Blynn  
Councilmember Esteban Bovo, Jr.  
Councilmember Heather Carruthers  
Councilmember Martin Kiar (absent)  
Councilmember Jean Monestime (absent)  
Councilmember George Neugent  
Councilmember Jose A. Riesco (via phone)  
Councilmember Stacy Ritter (absent)  
Councilmember Tim Ryan  
Councilmember Joseph Scuotto (absent)  
Councilmember Suarez (absent)  
Chair Paul Wallace  
Councilmember Sandra Walters  
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley (absent)

#### The following Ex-Officio member was present:

Ms. Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

#### The following Ex-Officio member was not present:

Mr. Rod Braun representing the South Florida Water Management District

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

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

B. Financial Report

Councilmember Ryan inquired about the increase in Account Receivables. Mr. Murley announced that Mr. Ed McGann has accepted the position of Director of Finance and Budget. Mr. McGann explained that the increase was because of two grants, Electric Vehicles Infrastructure and the Sustainable Communities Initiative. He explained it is a result of routine billing and pass through funding.

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

C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

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

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews - Proposed

- Islamorada, Village of Islands
- City of Miami
- City of Parkland
- Town of Southwest Ranches

Adopted:

- Broward County
- Town of Davie
- Islamorada, Village of Islands (3)
- City of Miami

Councilmember Carruthers inquired about the impact due to the increase in density in the Town of Davie's Amendment. Rachel Kalin of Council staff stated that the Adopted Amendment addressed the increased transportation issue.

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

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews - None  
Information only

**IV. Discussion Items**

A. Executive Committee Report

B. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Murley announced that Commissioner Xavier Suarez was appointed to fill the vacancy on the SFRPC Board by the Miami-Dade County Commission Chair Rebeca Sosa. He stated that the three County appointments are filled and will contact the Governors Appointments Office in regards to the two vacant gubernatorial appointments.

Mr. Murley stated that a Sun-Sentinel Press Release, at the Councilmember's seats, summarizes the Clean Cities Coalition Rewards Breakfast in which Councilmember Asseff is Chair. Councilmember Asseff announced that Awards were given to Waste Management Inc. of Florida; Car Charging Group; Florida Power and Light Company; Wise Gas; and Debbie Griner, Environmental Resources Project Supervisor for the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources in Miami-Dade County and commented on the presentations. She commended Ms. Christine Heshmati and Mr. Bob Cambric for their hard work. Discussion ensued regarding fuel service availability of the various alternative fuels and the public/private sector distribution; the companies that are changing to alternative fuels and how to convey this information to the public. Councilmember Asseff stated that this should become a national and international endeavor.

1) Legislative Update

Mr. Murley stated that this Agenda Item will be presented in April.

Councilmember Walters stated that Senate Bill 0214 is a proposition to terminate funding for the Florida Forever Trust Fund and that there was not an associated House Bill. She stated that she served for four years on the Florida Forever Board's Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and that Florida is a world leader in conservation, land ownership, planning and management. She explained that the ARC oversees the purchases and the management of conservation lands throughout the State. Florida Forever succeeded Conservation and Recreation Lands Program (CARL). The history of the Florida conservation programs was discussed. She explained that this had economic advantages for the State by purchasing property for protecting and managing the valuable environmentally sensitive lands when the prices are low. Mr. Cambric stated that SB 0214 is a financial issue. He explained that the plan was to close the account, not the Program and to move the funds to other associated accounts. He stated that he will track SB 0214 and monitor any changes in the language. Councilmember Ryan stated that usually if the funds are moved from a stand alone trust to a combined trust fund, it may allow for the funding to be eliminated for its particular purpose. He suggested that the Council take a position against SB 0214. He stated that this program has been successful because of the understanding that our resources are incredibly important to our fragile environment considering the huge influx of population over the years and in the future. Councilmember Ryan explained land acquisition and the sale of conservation easements. He stated that this achieves the purpose of the environmental goal to avoid development and roads that may compromise our water resources. Councilmember Walters stated that the funding between the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District has a dual purpose for water conservation and environmental protection. Councilmember Ryan suggested the Council send a strong message of viability and sustainability of this Program for future years. He stated that in traveling to Tallahassee for Broward Days he would be pleased to convey the Council's support in continuing the funding of the Florida Forever Program.

Councilmember Walters motioned that a letter and Resolution be drafted and adopted today for support in the continuation and funding of Florida Forever Program and opposes legislation that would eliminate the Florida Forever Program, such as SB 0214. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Cambric stated that a Resolution will be drafted for Councilmembers approval today.

Councilmember Asseff suggested that those Councilmembers traveling to Tallahassee bring the Resolution in support the Council's decision.

Councilmember Carruthers suggested that the Council should research the various Bills the Council supports or does not support before Councilmembers visit Tallahassee. She stated that it may be too late

if the Council waits until the April meeting. Mr. Murley stated that an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee can be arranged for a discussion on the Bills. Councilmember Ryan stated that staff should research each Bill Council is concerned about and how many Committees each Bill has been assigned. He explained that in March, if a Bill has three or more Committees to go through, chances are it will not be a viable Bill and that 95% of the Bills are passed in the last two weeks of the legislative session. He stated that in trying to stop a Bill from being passed should be done before the last 2-3 weeks before the Bill's sponsors have commitments from rules encounter and the speaker etc. because the Bill will go through. Councilmember Asseff stated that the Bills are described on the League of Cities website and the stance of legislature.

Councilmember Walters suggested that Council staff send the Resolution to the South Florida Legislative Delegation.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren stated that Ms. Karen Hamilton and Mr. Ogburn, of Council staff, are working diligently on the response documents, requested by Council, on the transmission lines for the FPL Turkey Point Project. He stated that he will keep the Council updated throughout the process.

Mr. Goren stated that in regards to the Loan Program there were no major issues to report.

D. Ex Officio Reports

V. **Program Reports and Activities**

A. Council Strategic Planning \*

The workshop will take place after Council meeting.

B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports

1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report  
Information only

2) Hurricane Wilma Bridge Loan Status Report  
Information only

3) Smart Watts Home Energy Retrofit Loan Fund Status Report  
Information only

C. DRI Status Report  
Information only

D. Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report  
Information only

E. Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan

Mr. Murley stated that Seven50 is very active.

F. FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

Mr. Murley stated that the Florida Regional Council Association Monthly (FRCA) Accomplishments and the FRCA Legislative Talking Points are at their seats. He stated that the "Talking Points" is an information page, requested by Council, to be utilized for discussions, in Tallahassee, when speaking with the Legislature and the Executive Office. He stated that Senator Margolis has filed a letter with the Senate President, on behalf of the Regional Councils, in support of the \$2.5 million allocations. He stated that she is confident that her subcommittee of Appropriations in the Senate will act favorably.

Councilmember Asseff suggested that, from an economic development standpoint, the Council should have someone from the private sector give presentations on what is needed to bring companies and jobs to South Florida. Mr. Murley stated that through our affiliations with the Beacon Council, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and Monroe County this could be accomplished.

**VI. Announcements and Attachments**

Mr. Murley stated that the Strategic Planning Workshop will begin after lunch. He introduced the facilitators, from Florida State University/University of Central Florida Consensus Center, Mr. Bob Jones and Mr. Rafael Montalvo. They gave a brief preface to the workshop and stated that there will be a summary of the workshop within the next month.

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form  
Information only

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) April 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 2) May 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Murray E. Nelson Government Center, Key Largo)
- 3) June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 4) July 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Beacon Council, Miami-Dade County)

**VII. Councilmember Comments**

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 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 March 4, 2013 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2013.

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George Neugent, Secretary

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Date