

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

July 1, 2013

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Beacon Council Board Room, 80 S.W. 8th Street, Suite 2400, Miami, FL 33130. Acting Chair, George Neugent called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)
Councilmember Frank Caplan
Councilmember Heather Carruthers (absent)
Councilmember Martin Kiar
Councilmember Jean Monestime
Councilmember George Neugent
Councilmember Jose A. Riesco (via phone)
Councilmember Stacy Ritter (absent)
Councilmember Tim Ryan
Councilmember Joseph Scuotto (via phone)
Councilmember Suarez
Chair Paul Wallace (absent)
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley (absent)
Councilmember Juan C. Zapata

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

Treasurer Neugent served as Chair and introduced the Interim President of the Beacon Council, Robin Reiter. Ms. Reiter welcomed everyone and informed them that the Beacon Council has over 87 active projects and their membership has grown. She stated that the Beacon Council is 28 years old.

The Mayor of the Village of Pinecrest, Cindy Lerner, was recognized as a meeting attendee.

Councilmember Neugent presented Mr. Michael Blynn, Councilmember for 14 years, with a donation for the North Miami Foundation for Senior Citizens, Meals on Wheels Program. Mr. Blynn stated that he enjoyed his time on the Board and thanked everyone.

II. Approval of Council Agenda

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

III. Action Items

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councilmember Walters commented that a correction needed to be made on the Minutes. Councilmember Walters stated that she informed the Council that the SFRPC was originally created by six southeast and southwest Florida counties with no involvement by the State, as these counties saw the benefit of regional planning and cooperation. A few years later, the Legislature created the statewide regional planning councils, resulting in the council boundaries that currently exist. She stated she is not supporting breakaway from FRCA but understands the valid issues that need to be discussed. She stated that the June FRCA meeting discussion will be informative.

Councilmember Suarez moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting with the modification. Councilmember Kiar seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Financial Report

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

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews - Proposed

- Broward County
- Miami-Dade County
- City of Parkland
- City of Pembroke Pines

Adopted:

- City of Plantation

There was discussion regarding the language in the City of Pembroke Pines amendment that will revise the existing 146-acre “Pines City Center Local Activity Center” (LAC).

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.D: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted with the City of Pembroke Pines amending its affordable housing language to be consistent with Broward County’s requirement. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Murley stated that the Miami-Dade County draft amendment package will be reviewed at the August Executive Committee meeting and will be presented at the September Council Meeting; the Council has not received the package.

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

F. FY 2013-14 Membership Fees

Mr. Murley explained the standard formula for the County Membership Fees and that the fees will not be increased again this year.

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve Agenda Item III.F, FY 2013-14 Membership Fees. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

G. FY 2012-13 Budget Amendment

Mr. Ed McGann, Council staff, explained the revenue adjustments and expenditures on the FY 2012-13 Budget Amendment and Work Program.

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve Agenda Item III.G, FY 2012-13 Budget Amendment. Councilmember Monestime seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

H. FY 2013-14 Draft Operating Budget

Councilmember Asseff proposed that Council staff research new energy grants and contact local banks for funding support for small business loans. Mr. Murley explained the four counties involvement with the Climate Change process, and stated that the regional effort associated with Seven/50 will continue after the HUD Grant is completed. Councilmember Walters suggested the Council become more involved with climate change issues. There were suggestions to research additional federal funding and funding opportunities through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations regarding the FEC. Mr. Murley stated that there has not been any discussion regarding the FEC funding yet. Councilmember Monestime inquired about the update of the 7th Avenue CRA Project and S.R. 7/U.S. 441 Collaboration. Mr. Murley stated that those projects as well as others are in process.

I. Duplication Costs – Statement of Organization

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.I, Duplication Costs – Statement of Organization. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Discussion Items

A. Executive Committee Report

Mr. Murley stated that he attended the Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) meeting along with Councilmembers Asseff, Carruthers and Caplan who will update the Council on the meeting. Councilmember Asseff stated that it was a great meeting with discussions on transportation, the joining together of the MPOs and the direction of the Regional Councils. She stated that Dr. Kim Delaney presented information on the proposed passenger service on the FEC Rail Corridor. Councilmember Asseff stated that the Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association's Executive Director Advisory Committee, Mr. Scott Koons, wants to assemble a Steering Committee that includes five delegates from each of the 11 Councils; FRCA appointees (3), Chair and Vice-Chair, to discuss the future direction of the Councils. The Steering Committee would discuss improving the mission statements, the logos and websites for future marketing. Councilmember Asseff stated that there will be someone to mentor the group through this process, which will happen in the next couple of months. She stated that the Council needs to get a new look and discover what our purpose is.

Councilmember Caplan stated that the opportunity for learning, cross-pollination, and the briefing on the budget policy was excellent and that the federal support message was discouraging. He stated that the proposition to self invent was discussed.

Mr. Murley explained the Brochure and Annual Report from FRCA.

B. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Murley summarized the questionnaire regarding the Council's meeting times and dates. He stated that, according to the responses, the meeting time and location will remain the same; the only change is the preference of every other month rather than once a month. He stated that this would be brought back for discussion at the September Council Meeting.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. David Tolces, Legal Counsel stated that the monthly loan reports are in the packet and wished everyone a happy July 4th.

D. Ex Officio Reports

Mr. Murley introduced Ms. Laura Corry, newly appointed Ex-Officio representing the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

1) South Florida Water Management District: Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan Draft

Ms. Corry introduced Mr. Mark Elsner, P.E., Administrator of the Water Supply Development Section for the SFWMD. He stated that about 18 months ago he presented the Council information about embarking on the update for the 2013 Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan; the process and the Plan will be finalized in September. He explained that the Water Supply Plan is looking forward and addressing how our future water needs will be met, for humans and environmentally. He stated that public participation is a major part of the process that insures that the Plan represents the issues in the area in which the Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC) is used primarily. They used diverse representation of utilities, agriculture, elected officials, and environmentalists who provided input on policy related issues. He explained the discussions that took place at the stakeholder workshops, WRAC meetings, and presentations at local governments. He detailed the Lower East Coast (LEC) Planning Area and the statistics regarding population, irrigated agricultural acreage and gross water demands and the percentage of use by water use categories for the years 2010 and 2030. He informed the Council that there were Plans in 2000 and in 2006 and they are updated every five years. Mr. Elsner explained the water supply demand projections from 1995 to 2030. He stated that there was almost a 25% decrease within the last two decades because of conservation and efficiency even with the population increase. He explained the water source options, reuse and brackish water development and how the future demands will be met for public water supply, agricultural irrigation and recreation/landscape irrigation. He gave details about water conservation and how water sources should be used efficiently by all users and environmental water needs. Mr. Elsner explained environmental water needs such as the implementation of Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and the regulatory protection of water resources. There was discussion on osmosis, brackish water and aquifers. He informed the Council that after the District updates the water supply plan, all local governments must amend their comprehensive plan; utilities have to identify the projects being developed and Utility Annual Progress Reports must be generated. Further information including the LEC Plan documents can be found at: www.sfwmd.gov/watersupply.

V. Program Reports and Activities

- A. Council Mission – Prioritize our Infrastructure Needs
 - 1) Electric Vehicle Community Readiness Plan

Ms. Christine Heshmati of Council staff explained the Council's creation of and implementation activities for the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition (SFCCC), which will be 20 years old in May 2014. She gave details on the partnership between the Coalition, SFRPC and Florida Power & Light (FPL) to help prepare the communities in the seven-county region for the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles. Ms. Heshmati stated that this Coalition complements the Seven50 effort. She mentioned the speakers from various companies and governmental agencies who are members of or are affiliated with the Program. She stated that the mission is very simple, to encourage the reduction of petroleum usage through idle reduction, propane, CNG, electric and other alternative fuel methods. She stated that Councilmember Asseff is the Chair of the SFCCC and commended her for her dedication.

Ms. Heshmati stated that the Council received a grant, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, to prepare our Region's communities for the transitioning to electric transportation. Ms. Heshmati named the major participants involved in the Electric Vehicle Community Readiness Plan, "Getting Southeast Florida Plug-in Ready": Brian Hanrahan, Director, In-Home Technologies and Electric Vehicles at Florida Power & Light; Bob Cambric, SFRPC staff, Rob Regan and Anne-Louise Seabury, from FPL; and the seven counties and cities of Southeast Florida with special assistance from Debbie Griner of Miami-Dade County. Councilmember Asseff commended everyone involved.

Ms. Heshmati introduced Ms. Ann-Louise Seabury from FPL. Ms. Seabury explained the methodology used in the forecasting of plug-in electric vehicle use in Florida and Southeast Florida. She stated that there was greater progress in the sales of electric vehicles in Southeast Florida. She explained the power of charging levels for electric vehicles and the barriers; the types of charging locations; the timing for recharging; and the expense and complexity of installation of charging stations at multi-unit dwellings. She explained the destination locations which are locations along major highways and rest stops. She stated that the quantity of public charging should grow as demand increases. She also talked about the charging stations in retail and local environments. She explained the location choices for public charging stations, the cost of installation, and where the stations will be most utilized.

Mr. Rob Regan, from FPL, recognized Rob Curtis and Mark Alvarez of the Curtis Planning Group, who provided planning expertise for the local project area, and Debbie Griner from Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory Environmental Resources who was the liaison and team member who helped distribute planning interests that would be consistent with the County's policies. He stated that the U.S. 1 Corridor Demonstration Project was to design a project that could capitalize on the area's existing mass transit infrastructure and expose up to 50,000 commuters per day to Plug-In Electric Vehicles (PEVs) and charging opportunities. He explained the design of the project. He stated that the route would have approximately 40 public charging stations for the potential demand of 140 car share vehicles.

Mr. Bob Cambric of Council staff explained that in this process the team learned about policies, codes, permitting and financial and non financial incentives that may or may not be in place. He stated that one of the main questions is how do we begin to streamline the approval process? He informed the Council that other states have made this happen and we should make sure that there is education for applicants; opportunities to learn the proper infrastructure siting needs including zoning, land use, building code issues, and implementation methods to make sure standards are in place. He stated that new buildings should be prewired so there would be no extra cost down the line.

Councilmember Asseff stated that many cities and leaders don't understand how to make it work and there should be a standardized process with information for all involved to understand.

Mr. Cambric stated that the Steering Committee and the team are wonderful resources, individually and collectively. He stated that anyone can reach out to the team for the resources needed, including presentations to any group. He stated that the fact sheets are available and they explain how issues are being addressed and what needs to take place in the future. It is all available electronically and/or through hard copies. He stated that this is an ongoing process that includes the State Energy Office in the Department of Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services, and working with the Building Commission to study the various issues and create a standard permitting process for all communities to adopt.

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

F. FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

VI. Announcements and Attachments

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form
Information only

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) August 5th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood) – **Executive Committee**
- 2) September 9th, 10:30 a.m. (Murray E. Nelson Government Center, Key Largo)
- 3) October 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 4) November 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Beacon Council, Miami-Dade County)

VII. Councilmember Comments

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 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 July 1, 2013 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 9th day of September, 2013.

Jean Monestime, Secretary

Date