

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

October 4, 2010

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Council Offices, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida. The Vice-Chair, Councilmember Gunzburger, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM ONE: Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA ITEM TWO: Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff
Councilmember M. Margaret Bates
Councilmember Michael Blynn
Councilmember Heather Carruthers (via phone)
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger
Councilmember Joseph Kelley
Councilmember Ilene Lieberman
Councilmember Stacy Ritter
Councilmember Katy Sorenson
Councilmember Rebeca Sosa
Councilmember Paul Wallace
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

The following Ex-Officio members were present:

Mr. Tim Gray, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Mr. Elbert Waters, representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Council Members arrived after roll call:

Councilmember Bruno Barreiro
Councilmember Jose Riesco

Vice-Chair Gunzburger stated that she would be conducting the meeting in the Chair's absence. She then informed the Council that Councilmember Marta Perez has resigned from the board due to overwhelming duties elsewhere.

AGENDA ITEM THREE: Minutes of previous Meetings (September)

Councilmember Lieberman moved to approve the Minutes from the September meeting. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Project Reviews

a) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Sorenson moved to approve the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Blynn seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Program

a) DRI Assessment Reports

None

b) Development Orders (DO)

1) Mainstreet @ Coconut Creek-City of Coconut Creek

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the staff recommendation on the Mainstreet @ Coconut Creek Development Order. Councilmember Bates seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

c) DRI Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SIX: Proposed Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

- a) Proposed Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments - None
- b) City of Plantation
- c) City of Miami Beach

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the staff recommendation for items 6b, and 6c. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: Adopted Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

- a) Adopted Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Amendments - City of Layton
- b) City of Parkland
- c) Town of Davie
- d) City of Margate
- e) City of Coconut Creek
- f) Broward County
- g) Islamorada, Village of Islands
- h) City of Hialeah

Councilmember Walters stated that she had a correction to page 2 of item 7b, she requested that the report show that the owners agreed to pay \$750 "per unit".

Councilmember Bates moved to approve the staff recommendation for items 7a, amended 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e, 7f, 7g, and 7h. Councilmember Sosa seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Reports

a) Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee had nothing to report.

b) Financial Report (August)

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Financial Report for August. Councilmember Sosa seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Riesco arrived at the meeting.

c) Executive Director's Report

Ms. Carolyn A. Dekle, Executive Director, stated that she did not have anything in her report this month. She mentioned that the Council is going to be working on insurance issues for staff in finding out what our options are. At this point we seem like we are in pretty good shape, but as you are all aware, things are in flux in Tallahassee so we are not engaging too much there. We are still waiting to hear about the Sustainable Communities Grant application, hoping that we will be successful. If it is not, we will still move forward with that collaborative initiative.

d) Legal Counsel Report

Vice-Chair Gunzburger stated that Mr. Samuel Goren was not present due to a medical procedure, and Mr. David Tolces was here on his behalf.

Mr. Tolces, Legal Counsel, stated that they are working on a legal opinion for the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund with staff.

e) Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM NINE: Revolving Loan Funds

a) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

Information only

b) Hurricane Wilma Bridge Loan Status Report

Information only

c) Eastward Ho! Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Information only

d) Broward County Cultural Division Artist Micro-Credit Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM TEN: Contracts

None

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Highlights of Council Activities

Information only

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE: Special Projects

a) Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program - Update

None

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN: Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP)

None

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN: Regional Initiatives with Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

None

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Other Matters for Consideration

None

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN: Correspondence and Attendance Form

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN: Councilmember Comments/Public Comments

Councilmember Wallace asked for an update on the FPL Turkey Point item.

Ms. Dekle stated that the final report was now due in February 2011.

Councilmember Barreiro arrived at the meeting.

Councilmember Wallace stated that he had some discussions with FPL and had some discussion about trying to establish a dialog, not just put out statements. I really believe that there was some progress. There was a lot of pressing about the poles along South Dixie Highway and FPL seems to be very accepting of the concept to put these lines attached to the Metro Rail instead. I asked them if everyone

was pushing for this, was it acceptable to them and their response was yes. As long as the County likes it and it is technically feasible, but there will still some cost for the communities that it goes through, but it would still be the most aesthetic solution. Hopefully that kind of compromise talk is alive and well.

Councilmember Sosa stated that she was glad that he was getting answers, because she did not have the same experience. There was an incredible project in her district that the County was able to allocate funding to. This project runs through the City of West Miami and unincorporated areas and the poles are there within the residential area. We were able to make them understand that they installed incredibly big poles in the beginning so I told them I was going to riot in the middle of the street with the community. They removed the big ones and replaced them with smaller ones, but they are still there. At some point the dialog has to take place. We need to get information on the reality of what undergrounding is going to cost, she stated.

Councilmember Gunzburger stated that it sounds like the communities need to get together and unite as one voice.

Councilmember Walters asked if the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study would be distributed to the Emergency Mangers by next hurricane season.

Mr. Richard Ogburn, Council staff, stated that the product that staff is preparing to deliver to the Region is a study that will be rolled out in December. The study will be delivered to the three county Emergency Management departments as well as other parties that might be interested. We have struggled throughout this three-year period to make sure that everyone understands that what we are preparing is a study and not a plan. The Emergency Managers will take the results of the study and incorporate them, as they see fit, into their county emergency plans. We are very hopeful that they will be able to do so by next hurricane season.

Councilmember Asseff stated that the City of Hollywood just undergrounded lines on six blocks along the beach and is intending to do 15 more. The cost for the property owner is \$4,000-\$8,000 just to run the lines to their homes. The rebate from FPL was \$300,000 on a \$9 million project.

Councilmember Barreiro stated that for the long-term we should work with the Public Service Commission (PSC); they need to take a more proactive position and change regulations. There are brand new homes being built and lines are still being run overhead. The State code should require future construction to underground the lines.

Councilmember Kelley stated that he would like to thank Ms. Cheryl Cook, Council staff, for attending his Business Assistance Workshop held for the City of Opa-Locka.

Councilmember Wallace stated that the Council decided a year ago to stop traveling for Council meetings, but he feels like Monroe County is getting neglected. He asked if the Council would consider having one meeting a year in Monroe County.

Councilmember Carruthers suggested hosting the meeting in Key Largo.

Councilmember Weekley stated that there was a lot more to do in Key West. He stated that he agreed with Councilmember Wallace and would like to see the meetings hosted in the Keys once a year.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that everyone's travel budgets are being slashed drastically and Ms. Dekle's budget is on the radar screen for the Legislature. The problem with going to Monroe County is

that Council staff has to travel as well meaning an added expense. She suggested that the Council try to amend the Statutes to permit getting a quorum via conference call.

Vice-Chair Gunzburger stated that she agreed with Councilmember Lieberman. Budgets have been drastically reduced and may continue to be in years to come.

Councilmember Ritter stated that she thought it was a great idea and was willing to rent a van at her own expense and carpool everyone down to the meeting. She stated that she would like to travel down there for a meeting.

Councilmember Carruthers stated that she understands that every county is under constraints, but wanted to remind the Council that Monroe County is under the same constraints and sometimes incurs a considerable expense for a 45 minute meeting. Key Largo is not much farther south of Miami-Dade County than Hollywood is north of it and it would be appropriate, at least one time a year, to come down to the Keys. Monroe faces the same constraint issues that the other Counties do and it is in a very unusual situation as an Area of Critical State Concern.

Councilmember Asseff suggested that the Council invest in video conferencing equipment.

Councilmember Barreiro stated that he supported traveling down to Monroe County once a year.

Councilmember Sosa stated that she also supports the idea of going down to Monroe County; in fact, Key Largo has a brand new Government Center that would be a great place to hold a meeting.

Ms. Dekle stated that the Council has a very good relationship with the County Administrator and is sure we could arrange to host a meeting there. There is a hotel that is adjacent to the Government Center that seems to be affordable. Staff will research the idea and bring it back to the Council for consideration.

Councilmember Walters stated that there were problems in the past finding an affordable hotel in Marathon, but there is a Holiday Inn Express being built. There is a good Government Center in Marathon as well, and Marathon is the center Keys.

Ms. Dekle stated if that takes place, the Council would publicize its hosting of a meeting in Monroe County and encourage residents to come and participate in the meeting. Additionally, staff would develop a program around issues that are important in Monroe County.

Councilmember Kelley stated that he also felt that it was a great idea.

Councilmember Wallace stated that there was discussion last year about hosting a Regional Government Summit and still believes a lot of people are interested. This group probably has the best placed view for making that happen and involving more people than just this group. There seems to be broad agreement that we need more regional organization, but there is not yet an agreement of what those things are. The other direction would be to discuss the over-view of the Region.

Councilmember Gunzburger stated that there was a meeting scheduled for October 1, 2010, with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, but it was cancelled. We had discussed regionalism months ago, and we were all getting together on a regional grant.

Ms. Dekle updated the Council on the status of the Sustainable Communities Initiative Grant proposal. The proposal on behalf of the seven-county Region has been submitted. It's a strong application. We

don't know if we are going to be successful or not, but are hopeful. If we are, it will be a great opportunity to kick that off. Even if we are not successful in getting the grant, the Partnership will move forward. Ms. Dekle invited Ms. Isabel Cosio Carballo to provide additional comments.

Ms. Isabel Cosio Carballo, Council staff, stated that the application was submitted on August 23, 2010, on behalf of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (Partnership). It has always been the intent that the Partnership would continue to grow and function as a regional collaborative well past the life of any one particular grant. We are expecting an announcement this month in light of the upcoming mid-term elections. It has been suggested by some of the Partnership members that we should contact members of the Congressional Delegation to thank them for their assistance and encourage them to continue expressing their interest and support at the federal level. There continues to be great interest and enthusiasm among the Partnership members. More than 30 people participated in a working group conference call just last week. The Department of Transportation is committed to this effort. They continue to offer their facilities, staff, and a consultant team to help move the Partnership forward. We need to keep moving the Partnership forward in order to be a successful Region. With almost 200 organizations supporting the Partnership either through membership and /or letters and resolutions of support, the Partnership is off to a good start.

Ms. Dekle suggested that the Council Members walk past Ms. Cosio Carballo's office to look at the letter of support that has signatures from all of our Congressional Delegates.

Ms. Cosio Carballo stated that she has heard that everyone is very much on track with the Partnership, the different components, and the fact that we have more than 200 organizations that have gotten on board. I would be very surprised to see any other Region that has one letter signed by their entire Congressional Delegation in a show of bi-partisan support for this effort as well as letters from both Senators.

Councilmember Wallace asked if there was a prohibition against his discussing this with Councilmember Ritter outside this meeting.

Mr. Tolces stated to the extent that it may come before the Council, the Sunshine Law may frown upon that, and suggested that he not do that.

Councilmember Walters suggested that the November 1 meeting be held on November 8 instead, because of the elections taking place on November 2.

Councilmember Kelley made a motion to move the November 1 meeting to November 8. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried with a no vote from Councilmember Riesco.

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN: Upcoming Meetings

- a) November 8th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- b) December 6th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- c) January 3rd, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- d) February 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 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 October 4, 2010 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 8th day of November 2010.

Heather Carruthers, Secretary

Date