

**REGULAR MEETING  
MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., Commission Chambers, Daytona Beach City Hall, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida. The following people were present:

**Board Members Present**

Ms. Kenya Ford, Chair  
Mr. Martin Tooley  
Mr. Danny Fuqua  
Mr. Steven Miller  
Mr. Oliver Ross  
Mr. Tony Barhoo

**Staff Members Present**

Mr. Reed Berger, Redevelopment Director  
Mr. Charles Bryant, Redevelopment Project Manager  
Mr. Ben Gross, Assistant City Attorney  
Ms. Becky Groom, Board Secretary

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

The roll was called and attendance was noted as stated above.

**3. Invocation**

Mr. Barhoo gave the invocation.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Mr. Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Approval of Minutes for April 12, 2016**

A motion was made by Mr. Tooley, seconded by Mr. Barhoo, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2016, regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

**6. Staff Report**

**Police Department**

Capt. J. Young presented the Compstat Report, which was included as part of the packet. Capt. Young stated there had been a 25% increase in burglaries but there has been a 62% decrease in robberies. He

stated there was a 45% increase in total aggravated assaults and batteries. Capt. Young stated there had been a slight increase in the number of car burglaries, it was primarily due to people leaving their vehicles unsecured. Capt. Young stated the zones that present the most concern are Zones 42, 43, and 44, the area between the Daytona International Speedway and Beville Road. Capt. Young stated a Violent Crime Initiative was put in place after Bike Week and had been helping. He stated those officers were watching the gas stations where most of the auto thefts occurred. Capt. Young stated the Second Annual Law Enforcement event would be held on May 14 at the Midtown Cultural Center and encouraged Board members to attend.

Mr. Ross thanked Capt. Young for the great job he and the department were doing.

Mr. Miller asked what would happen with students being out of school over the summer and asked for an update on the Bicycle Gang.

Capt. Young stated the majority of the Bicycle Gang are in the Juvenile Ankle Monitoring Program and other services offered to those individuals. He stated the PAL program would start in the summer.

Mr. Miller asked how many convicted felons were in the city.

Capt. Young stated he did not have that number but he could provide it to Mr. Miller later.

Mr. Miller asked if the number could be racially profiled, because when he reviewed the numbers from the State, they were broken down as black, white, and Asian, but asked where Hispanics are classified.

Capt. Young stated in the City, they are classified as Hispanics.

Mr. Miller asked why the helicopter flew over his neighborhood so many nights.

Capt. Young stated there must be a certain amount of service hours he had asked that the helicopter fly over the Midtown area to help deter crime and track offenders.

Mr. Fuqua stated he had observed students in the Sam Butts Park after school had started in the mornings.

Capt. Young stated he would have an officer check the area.

Ms. Ford stated she was pleased with the School Resource Officers and worked with several of them.

### **Code Enforcement**

Mr. Bryant presented the Code Enforcement Report which was included as part of the packet. He encouraged Board members to contact him or Code Enforcement regarding any concerns.

Ms. Ford asked about the number of open cases regarding lot clearings and if the property owners are charged.

Mr. Bryant stated the city had a contract with an individual that cuts the grass on overgrown lots and a lien was placed on the property for the cost of the work done by the contractor.

Mr. Miller asked if there was an open bid for the lawn contractor.

Mr. Bryant stated the bids were through the Purchasing Department but did not know details of the contract.

7. **Presentation by Waste Pro**

Mr. Bryant stated a meeting was held between staff and representatives of Waste Pro to discuss the Board's concerns.

Bill Redmond, Redmond Consulting Group, stated he is part of the consulting team that oversees the contract for the city. He stated he met with Mr. Fuqua, staff, and representatives of Waste Pro. Mr. Redmond stated Mr. Faval who was the Solid Waste Inspector for the City went throughout the City looking at the areas of concern. Mr. Redmond stated David Hand who worked for the city for 35 years was now employed by Redmond Consulting Group. Mr. Hand stated yard waste was not always separate which was the biggest deterrent to piles of yard waste being removed. Mr. Redmond stated yard waste should be placed on the curb the night before collection, many times people put mattresses or used tires in with the yard waste, then yard waste cannot be collected.

Mr. Hand stated items what can be bagged should be bagged or put in containers so the collectors do not have to pick up the piles with rakes or shovels.

Mr. Redmond stated there was an on-line tracking system to register complaints and urged Board members to register their concerns on the City's web site. He stated residents can include pictures of areas of concern. Mr. Redmond stated the garbage can was placed on the curb once the trash had been collected.

Mr. Gross stated a fine could be imposed on Waste Pro for any violations of their contract, such as improper placement of garbage cans.

Mr. Redmond provided a hand-out to the Board that was also provided to citizens when new utility service was implemented. Mr. Redmond reviewed the garbage collection procedures with the Board.

Mr. Miller thanked Waste Pro for the number of African-American males that their company hires.

Ken Deforest, Division Manager, Waste Pro, stated 10 drivers were needed, which required a CDL license. He stated there were vacant helper positions available that did not require a CDL. He stated background checks, drug/alcohol testing, and a complete physical were required for employment. He encouraged Board members to send anyone who may need a job.

Mr. Miller asked if they hired convicted felons.

Mr. Deforest stated a background check was done and would depend on how long it had been since the incident occurred. He stated there were employees who at some point in their life have gotten off the path and now good employees and he was glad to have them working for Waste Pro.

Mr. Fuqua stated he attended the meeting with staff and Waste Pro and has seen improvement in the area as a result of the meeting.

Mr. Miller stated he lived at 839 George Engram and was unable to have recycling collection at that address. He stated there was a business and residence at that address.

Mr. Redmond stated a business could contract with any recycling company that does business in the city.

Mr. Hand stated a business does not get recycling. He stated he would have recycling bins delivered to apartments.

Mr. Redmond introduced David Waller who was the Public Works Director for the City.

Mr. Fuqua asked Mr. Waller about the paving that was not complete on Caroline Street and expressed concern the project was piece-mealed.

Mr. Waller stated bids were being solicited for Caroline to have the street paved. Mr. Waller and the project was done in phases due to utility work that had to be done.

Mr. Miller asked what the requirements were to get a job in Public Works.

Mr. Waller stated there were education requirements for certain positions but some do not require a high school diploma, background checks are completed but many individuals are hired who have criminal history.

**8. Redevelopment Project Updates**

Charles Bryant, Redevelopment Project Manager, presented photos of the improvements made on Orange Avenue, showing improved sidewalks and new street lights.

Mr. Bryant stated there had been a good attendance at the concert events that were held in Midtown on Saturday nights.

Mr. Bryant stated a law enforcement program would be held on May 14 at the Midtown Cultural Center.

Mr. Bryant stated the Juneteenth banquet would be held on June 16 and the festival on June 18.

Mr. Bryant stated an AIDS awareness program was held on May 7 and it was very successful. He thanked the Salvation Army for their support of this event and other events held in the community.

**9. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**10. Board Comments**

Mr. Miller stated he had attended the concerts in the park and felt they should be held at the band shell and stated a letter should be sent from the Board to the City Manager and Commissioners requesting that activities be held at the bandshell. Mr. Miller asked who Cultural Services is and what do they do.

Mr. Berger stated he would provide a description of the Cultural Services Department at the next meeting or he could ask someone from Cultural Services to attend the meeting.

Mr. Tooley stated he would like to know the diversity of Cultural Services and he would like to know if his culture is being represented by Cultural Services.

Mr. Fuqua thanked Marsha McDonald for all she does for Midtown.

Ms. Miller commended Ms. Ford on her appointment by the Volusia County Council for service as a member of the Children Services and Family Board.

Ms. Ford asked about the Orange Avenue project and what type of stop signs would be installed. She also asked when the orange barrels would be removed from Orange Avenue.

Ms. Ford thanked Ms. McDonald for all she does for the Midtown Board and stated she has heart for all the community.

Ms. Ford stated she loved the idea of the Midtown-Motown activities and was glad that residents were able to attend a free program in Midtown; however, she felt the concerts should be held at the bandshell, particularly if the city is trying to include the students from Bethune-Cookman. She stated if there was a focus on community, the program should be centrally located for all members of the community.

Ms. Ford stated she would attend the City Commission meeting to request funds for Mr. Bryant to coordinate more programs in Midtown. Ms. Ford asked if Mr. Berger had any information on where the funds that were collected from Bike Week were used and if any of those funds could be allocated for Midtown.

Mr. Berger stated he did not have that information.

Ms. Ford thanked staff for the support of the Board.

Mr. Miller asked if there were any funds to advertise the minority business community in Midtown.

Mr. Berger stated the only funds in the current budget were for salaries. Mr. Berger stated new projects were coming on line and he hoped there would be funds that could be reallocated. Mr. Berger stated there would have to be another funding source used for advertising.

Mr. Miller stated it is amazing to him that people could be hired for \$85,000 and the city could pay the City Manager \$281,000 but there was no money for the most blighted community.

Mr. Berger stated the only redevelopment area where there was funding was for the Downtown Development Authority since they were a separate taxing district.

**11. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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Kenya Ford, Chair

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Becky Groom, Board Secretary