

**MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
DIAMOND SQUARE CRA
REGULAR MEETING
March 21, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency was held on March 21, 2022, at Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noted.

I. **Call to Order**

Agency Member Smith called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Tracy A. Moore	Chairperson
Delores Martin	Vice Chairperson
Sylvia Thomas	Agency Member
Ed Jones	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Marilyn Ross Smith	Agency Member
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Lori Chabot	Recording Secretary

PRESENT:

Marilyn Ross Smith	Agency Member
Ed Jones	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Lori Chabot	Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

Tracy A. Moore	Chairperson
Delores Martin	Vice Chairperson
Joseph G. Colombo	Agency Attorney

STAFF PRESENT:

Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director. Councilman Goins was also in attendance.

Agency Member BROWN provided the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

II. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**

AGENDA: Regular Meeting of March 21, 2022.

- * ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member JONES to approve the agenda for the March 21, 2022, DS CRA Regular Meeting with an amendment to the Year from 2021 to 2022.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

MINUTES: Special Meeting of January 31, 2022.

- * ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member JONES to approve the minutes for the January 31, 2022, as written.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

III. **Delegations**-None

- IV. **Presentations:** Habitat's Female Veteran's Village Update, Kate Dilulio was present and gave the Agency Members an update on the Female Veteran's Village. Homes 3 and 4 near finished. Mrs. Neuterman added they should receive CO within a month. Houses 5, 6 are in re permitting but should be underway fairly quickly. Agency Member Brown asked about residents for homes 3 and 4 and she confirmed they were completing documents.

V. **Action Items:**

1. Staff is requesting Agency approval for an application for the agency's Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the property located at 809 Temple St, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Program Agreement.

Mrs. Neuterman introduced the item, adding the applicant had met the grant requirements.

- * ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to approve an application for the agency's Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the property located at 809 Temple St, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Grant Program Agreement.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

2. Staff is requesting Agency approval for an application for the agency's Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the property located at 603 Washington Street, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Program Agreement.

Mrs. Neuterman presented the request stating applicant had met the application requirements and photos are attached.

* ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to approve** an application for the agency's Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the property located at 603 Washington Street, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Program Agreement.

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

3. Staff is requesting Agency approval for an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 809 Temple St, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

Mrs. Neuterman presented the request stating applicant had met the application requirements and photos are attached.

* ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member JONES to approve** an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 809 Temple St, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

4. Staff is requesting Agency approval for an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 603 Washington, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

Mrs. Neuterman presented the request stating applicant had met the application requirements and photos are attached.

* ***MOTION by Agency Member ISOM; SECONDED by Agency Member BROWN to approve** an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 603 Washington, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

5. Staff is requesting Agency approval for an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 361 Lucas Lane, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

Mrs. Neuterman presented the request stating applicant had met the application requirements and photos are attached.

* ***MOTION by Agency Member ISOM; SECONDED by Agency Member BROWN to approve** an application for the agency's Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$500 for the property located at 361 Lucas Lane, Cocoa Fl and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Program Agreement.

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

6. Staff is requesting Agency Members to choose from four options a design for Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Stickers to provide to Business Owners who are in the DS CRA.

* ***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to approve Decal Option 2 design and to purchase for the businesses in the Diamond Square CRA.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

Discussion ensued as to how long it would take to receive the decals, getting the decals delivered through door to door, churches, and that they would be for Commercial Businesses.

VI. **Attorney's Report** –NONE

VII. **Updates and Staff Report** –

Community Services Director Neuterman shared with agency members photos of signs in yards of homes that have completed the Diamond Square grants. Agency Members discussed the success and benefits of the grant programs for the Community and Mrs. Neuterman stated she will come back with an assessment of the dollars spent, remaining and whether the agency will need to approve additional funding to be moved from the Contingency Account.

- Next Month will be an update on Upstart Cocoa. Kathryn Rudolph, Executive Director of weVenture and Purvette Bryant, Upstart Recipient will be in attendance.
- There are three applicants so far for the vacancy in DSCRA. Once the backgrounds are complete, they will go to an April Council meeting.
- At the next meeting, Agency Members will vote for a Chair and Vice Chair.
- Budget Season has begun and the April meeting will include discussion of the priorities for the coming year and Mrs. Neuterman requested Agency Members to think about their priorities. Staff will advertise as a budget workshop style meeting to include input from citizens. Will have a report of the projects in the plan and status of each.

Agency Member Smith asked about the first-time homebuyers' assistance and if there was any participation. Mrs. Neuterman replied yes, staff works with Cocoa Housing Initiative - CHI to determine whether an applicant is eligible. Typically, it is about a 6-month process. Funds for this purpose are limited but typically there are 2-3 per year we can support.

Agency Member SMITH asked about the Façade Grant that someone had asked her about it and was there any flexibility to their coming up with the \$10,000 up front. Mrs. Neuterman explained they don't have to spend \$10,000, it is up to \$10,000. But that it is a reimbursement type grant.

Agency Member ISOM asked about the status of the Rosa Jones lots and the old Peach Tree Garden. Mrs. Neuterman replied staff is working on identifying any surplus properties. The April 2nd council meeting will include the surplus list to be discussed as to how to proceed with the properties.

Agency Member ISOM asked about the road work on Aurora Road and when would that be coming down towards Cocoa. Discussion ensued regarding the DOT road project and street/road work the City is doing. Mrs. Neuterman will get more information and forward to Agency Members.

Agency Member BROWN asked Councilman Goins about a Community Meeting and asked him what his priorities were for Diamond Square. Councilman Goins replied he was unsure about the available funds. He added he would like to continue working on Joe Lee Smith Park, roads, and fixing pot holes. There is not as much funding available for this year.

Agency Member BROWN asked about the Community Meeting for Diamond Square. Councilman GOINS replied he was not sure on the date but was working on it. He also expressed he wants to figure out a way to get people in attendance. He continued they have tried Surveys but didn't get as many as they needed. Agency Member SMITH suggested door to door. Councilman GOINS replied he was willing to try that. Agency Member BROWN suggested going through the churches.

Councilman GOINS discussed a car wash, Mod Wash, wanting to come in on Stone Street corner. He encouraged Mod Wash to hold a community meeting and get input. There will be workshop on March 31 at Joe Lee Smith Center at 6 PM. Councilman GOINS wants to be sure they know the history of the Diamond Square and Stone Street. Agency Member BROWN asked what affect would the car wash have on traffic. Councilman GOINS replied it would cause significant issues but mostly that Stone Street closed. He added there has been discussion about opening Lemon Street instead however, both have utility issues.

Agency Member BROWN brought up the Parks and Rec summer camp and the Diamond Square CRA providing scholarships like last year. Mrs. Neuterman explained the Brevard Parks and Rec will no longer allow for invoicing for Camp. All payment must be made up front. With that, an MOU with Parks and Recreation will be needed to allow for invoicing. Mrs. Neuterman will meet with the CRA attorney regarding this.

Agency Member BROWN asked about the Pool at Joe Lee Smith. Councilman GOINS stated it needs repairs, and it needs life guards. He continued, at the last Council meeting, he asked to pay for Life Guard Classes to become a life guard. He would like to get 4-5 people from Diamond Square to take the course to be a Certified Lifeguard.

Agency Member SMITH recommended getting information out through Veronica Jenkins as she has a large following.

Agency Member BROWN asked about the information boards at Joe Lee Center not working and the US 1 not working. He would like to see information on them. Mrs. Neuterman stated she would look into that.

Agency Member ISOM stated she invites people to come to meetings and they don't want to. In their mind, they don't see enough change and do not want to participate. Councilman GOINS replied, government is slow, not blaming anyone specifically. It takes time to get things done. The Community needs to learn how things work. He is teaching teens at McNair Middle School - Government 101. Councilman GOINS suggested using the older style sandwich signs for public notification. Agency Member ISOM agreed, it might work. Councilman GOINS will mention it to City Manager.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency will be in April 18, 2022, 6 pm at Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, Florida, unless a business need arises earlier.

VIII. Adjournment

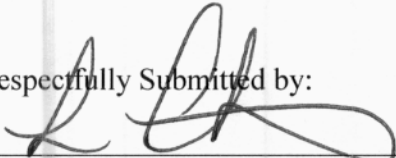
* ***MOTION by BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to adjourn the meeting.**

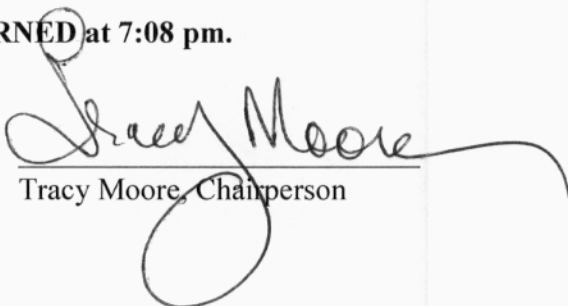
AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Lori Chabot, Recording Secretary


Tracy Moore, Chairperson