

**MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
DIAMOND SQUARE CRA
REGULAR MEETING
September 21, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Cocoa Community Redevelopment Agency was held on September 21, 2020 at City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noted.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Moore called the meeting to order at 6:05 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:

Tracy A. Moore	Chairperson
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Marilyn Ross-Smith	Agency Member
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Lori Chabot	Recording Secretary

ABESENT:

Delores Martin	Vice Chairperson
Ed Jones	Agency Member
Sylvia Thomas	Agency Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Charlene Neuterman, Deputy Community Services Director.

Chairperson Moore 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 September 21, 2020.

- * **MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED by Agency Member Isom to approve the agenda for the September 21, 2020 Regular Meeting as written.**

MINUTES: Regular Meeting of August 17, 2020.

- * **MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED Agency Member Isom to approve the minutes for the August 17, 2020, Regular Meeting as amended.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4 -0)

III. **Delegations**

None

IV. **Presentations**

Delores McLaughlin of Alliance for Neighborhood Restoration presented to the agency on the activities since October, 2019 of the Alliance Neighborhood Restoration programs, along with the Cocoa PAL, for the residents in the community. Many of the activities occurred at the Moore Justice Center and Joe Lee Smith Center and included National Night Out, Lights Out or After School which is an after school or out of school program (includes weekends), bowling with Cocoa PAL which is an opportunity for cops and kids to get to know one another and develop rapport. More events like family night meals to encourage families to eat together and have conversation and celebrating Black History Month were included. Ms. McLaughlin stated that the year started great and on schedule until March. Last August they had registered 40 afterschool participants and had on a regular basis 30 plus or minus. COVID hit and created several challenges. With some adjustments, they began providing "grab and go" meals and "weekend packs" for the community ultimately providing 5,825 grab and go meals to DS residents and 1,165 weekend packs from March 23 to July 17. In addition, youth provided non-perishable items to seniors. Summer virtual programs were added like the Virtual Academy which graduated 7-20 students who received certificates for their success. This program promotes leadership and students participate along with other PAL programs throughout the county. Sports, as always, is a part of the Cocoa PAL

and basketball was available. Many of the programs were redesigned and safety measures implemented such as masks, sanitation, reduced contact and distancing due to COVID. Mrs. McLaughlin added they were providing technology access, had purchased tablets and rebuilding computer programs to continue working with students and STAY connected even after COVID.

Chairperson Moore thanked Ms. McLaughlin and commended them for their flexibility and ability to continue their mission among the difficult times. She also asked about on site computers and whether kids that came in have computers at home. Ms. McLaughlin responded that some had them, but not all, which is why Alliance bought tablets for them to use while they were at the center. Chairperson Moore also asked whether the kids had Wi-Fi at home and Ms. Sonjia responded they did for their phone. Ms. McLaughlin stated the kids also signed a hold harmless agreement and Attorney Columbo commented they are becoming complicated. Agency Member Isom asked whether the kids had to live in DS to participate. Ms. McLaughlin replied they did not. She added they try to have mostly DS but they do not limit to DS. Ages differ depending on program. The average grade is 1st through 12th. Agency Member Brown asked Ms. McLaughlin to introduce her staff. She introduced her two staff members that came with her and commented on the wonderful work they were doing.

V. **Action Items**

1. Approve a Resolution Amending, (BAF#20-100) the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, through an adjustment in the amount of \$500 to increase the Legal Services account in order to cover the costs for the remaining Diamond Square CRA meetings (August and September). Approve a Change Order in the amount of \$500 to increase PO 75259 to cover legal expenses.

*** *MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED by Agency Member Isom to Approve a Resolution Amending, (BAF#20-100) the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, through an adjustment in the amount of \$500 to increase the Legal Services account in order to cover the costs for the remaining Diamond Square CRA meetings (August and September). Approve a Change Order in the amount of \$500 to increase PO 75259 to cover legal expenses.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

VI. Attorney's Report

None

VII. Staff Reports

1. Information Item – Budget Update – Mrs. Neuterman told agency members their updated budget was in their packets and if they had any questions to contact her.

2. Informational Item - 10 Year Stormwater Master Plan – In response to the Agency's request, Mrs. Neuterman discussed the 10-year Stormwater Master Plan as it relates to Diamond Square CRA. She continued that extensive drainage work is planned as a result of the excessive flooding in several areas of DS. With the curb and gutter, drainage will be moved away from areas that are flooding. She also stated that Public Works will notify the community as work is being done and also alert them if there will be any road closures. Chairperson Moore asked if the plan included another pond. Mrs. Neuterman responded it would, the future Verizon Pond. Chairperson Moore asked about reclaimed water. Mrs. Neuterman said she believed there is a plan for the city but doesn't know the schedule and that it was up to customers to get connected. Discussion continued among members as to where the reclaimed water was available and that the Reclaimed Water department should be contacted about access and specific streets. Chairperson Moore said it was a big discussion at Town Hall Meetings.

Mrs. Neuterman notified members the final FY 21 budget will be adopted at the City Council meeting coming up and a copy will be provided at the first DS October meeting. Mrs. Neuterman also notified the board the RDA conference was cancelled but would be having virtual classes said she will keep board posted. Chairperson Moore said she will be very interested in any CRA updates and do's and don'ts. Mrs. Neuterman agreed there have been legislation changes and additional audit requirements that may cause some additional costs to the DSCRA. Chairperson Moore asked Attorney Columbo if he had seen anything of concern and responded that he had not seen anything specific.

Mrs. Neuterman also mentioned the invitations in their Agenda packets to the Joe Lee Smith Ribbon Cutting ceremony on Saturday, October 17. The Ceremony is open to public and in the meantime, the building is open if they wanted to go see it. Chairperson Moore asked about the center and if there was an area where a reading center could be included. Mrs. Neuterman replied that Parks and Rec could create something like that.

Chairperson Moore mentioned the Habitat ceremony and how nice it was and well attended. Agency Member Brown agreed. Mrs. Neuterman responded that Habitat had 2 applications going through the process now for homes.

VIII. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency will be on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6 pm at the Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, Florida, unless a business need arises earlier.

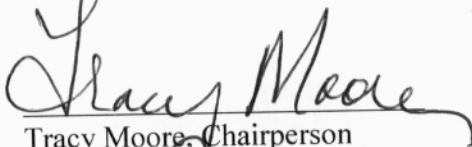
IX. Adjournment

- * * MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED by Agency Member Ross-Smith to adjourn the meeting.

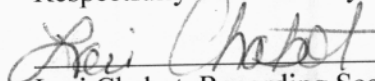
AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 7:08 pm


Tracy Moore, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:


Lori Chabot, Recording Secretary