

**MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
DIAMOND SQUARE RDA
REGULAR MEETING
June 15, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency was held on June 15, 2020 at City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noted.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Moore called the meeting to order at 6:01

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 Columbo	Agency Attorney
Landon Morley	Recording Secretary

PRESENT:

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 Columbo	Agency Attorney

ABESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Charlene Neuterman, Deputy Director of Community Development, **Alex Goins**, Deputy Mayor, **Landon Morley**, Recording Secretary.

Vice Chairperson Martin provided the invocation and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

AGENDA: Regular Meeting of June 10, 2020

- * MOTION by Agency Member Isom; SECONDED by Agency Member Brown to approve the agenda for the June 10, 2019 Regular Meeting.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

Agency Member Isom joined the meeting at 6:10pm

MINUTES: Regular Meeting of February 3, 2020

- * MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Martin to approve the minutes as amended for the February 3 Regular Meeting.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

III. Delegations

- **Shawna Ginn** from Cocoa Housing Authority spoke on the previous renovations. Covid-19 has pushed their current project back. The portion that impacts residents should be done in a year and the whole project should be complete in roughly 18 months.

Agency Member Jones joined the meeting at 6:15.

- Conversation ensued between **Deputy Mayor Goins** and **Ms. Ginn** regarding lawn maintenance on Rosa L Jones, property wait-listing, and applicant requirements.

IV. Presentations

- **James Box** purchased Demp's Childcare on Lake Dr. in 2018. He spoke on his major upcoming projects for the location including the placement of two portables for the children and a fence because the location is between drug-rehab center and an Alcoholics Anonymous with high homeless traffic. Fence completion is estimated to be in the middle of July after the portables are placed.

V. Action Items

1. Approval of an allocation of Diamond Square CRA funds to Habitat for Humanity of Brevard County, Inc. to contribute to the Water Impact Fees and meter installation associated with six (6) Whaley Street properties (Female Veteran's

Village). Approve Budget Adjustment #20-52-T moving \$15,017 into the appropriate account, to cover the \$20,000 expense.

- The agency expressed disinclination over the funds coming out of their budget and conveyed they did not want the majority of Diamond Square to be Habitat for Humanity houses.

* **MOTION by Agency Member Brown; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Jones to send the issue back to the city.**

AYES: ALL

ITEM DECLINED UNANIMOUSLY (0-7)

2. Approve a 24-month extension for Habitat for Humanity's Development Agreement between the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency and Habitat for Humanity – Brevard, executed October 29, 2018 to construct six (6) new single-family housing units for female veterans at 430, 450, 470, 490, 510, and 530 Whaley Street.

- Habitat for Humanity was unfortunately unable to meet the two-year development agreement due to Covid-19 and difficulty finding qualified female veterans. They asked for an extension because the agreement expires on October 29, 2020.
- **Chairperson Moore** emphasized that the process is long and intensive. Two years is probably an appropriate timeline.
- **Agency Member Brown** "If this were to pass, I would want quarterly updates."

* **MOTION by Agency Member Jones; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Martin to approve the 24-month extension for Habitat for Humanity's Development Agreement between the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency and Habitat for Humanity – Brevard, executed October 29, 2018 to construct six (6) new single-family housing units for female veterans at 430, 450, 470, 490, 510, and 530 Whaley Street.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

3. Consider renewing the Professional Services Agreement with the Alliance for Neighborhood Restoration for Fiscal Year 2021, upon the same terms as the current one-year agreement, approved August 19, 2019.

- **Mrs. Neuterman** outlined the benefits of the agreement made in 2019 and the conditions of renewal in 2021.

- Discussion ensued regarding the budget, specifically the rollover of unused funds and the processes required to justify changing fund allocation for the fiscal year. **Mrs. Neuterman** will present the agency with a wish-list in the next meeting.
- **Vice Chairperson Martin** noted Ms. McLaughlin from Alliance for Neighborhood Restoration does an excellent job and recommended she receive \$25,000 a year instead of \$20,000.

* **MOTION by Vice Chairperson Martin; SECONDED by Agency Member Jones to approve the contract renewal with the Alliance for Neighborhood Restoration for the Fiscal Year 2021 with an increase to \$25,000 for the year.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

4. Request Agency direction on soliciting additional service providers through a Request for Proposal process to allow for multiple service providers to potentially qualify for funding that would improve and benefit the residents of Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Area (CRA). Additional direction is requested on allocating up to \$20,000 for other service providers to continue the CRA's efforts to improve the community.

- Discussion ensued regarding the numerous groups wanting to work in Diamond Square. The agency strongly advocated for consolidating partnerships and backing programs that benefits children and the Diamond Square as a whole.
- **Agency Member Brown** touched on the importance of healthcare in the Diamond Square community.

* **MOTION by Vice Chairperson Martin; SECONDED by Agency Member Jones to provide staff direction to bring back information for proposals for services in Diamond square area.**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

VI. Attorney's Report

None

VII. Updates and Staff Reports

- i. Informational Item- Budget Report

- **Mrs. Neuterman** encouraged the agency to keep tabs on the budget meetings with council and to provide council with feedback. She also requested direction for sign refurbishment.
- The agency discussed the sign in front of the Dr. Jo Lee Smith Center. The agency was enthusiastic about keeping the words "Diamond Square" in the public eye.
- The agency discussed the grand opening of the Jo Lee Smith center, praising the work that had gone into the project. **Deputy Mayor Goins**: "We really fought hard to get Wi-Fi on the entire property instead of just the inside. We know this will be a safe-haven for lots of kids when they get off of school."
- **Mrs. Neuterman** continued praising the work, citing the refurbished basketball courts, the handicap accessible pool, and the clean locker rooms.
- **Agency Member Brown** inquired about the maintenance of the Community Garden. **Chairperson Moore** discussed the possibility of using 2021 funds to pay someone to manage the garden. **Deputy Mayor Goins** suggested relocating the garden due to lack of community interest and possibly repurposing the area. **Chairperson Moore** suggested adding the matter to the next meeting agenda.
- Discussion took place regarding the city slowly re-opening and the current effects of COVID-19.
- **Deputy Mayor Goins** had an event update on a food giveaway at 509 Blake Avenue through Farm Share on June 27, 2020 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.
- **Chairperson Moore** presented a positive encouragement to better the community.

VIII. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency will be on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 6pm at the Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, Florida, unless a business need arises earlier.

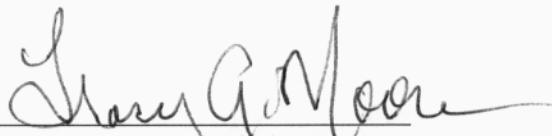
IX. Adjournment

* **MOTION by Agency Member Martin; SECONDED by Agency Member Brown to adjourn the meeting**

AYES: ALL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 7:52pm


Tracy A. Moore, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:

Landon Morley, Recording Secretary