



If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, that person will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 23, 2016 5:00 p.m.
City Commission Chambers, 100 NW 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeff Costello	Kevin Matthews	Susan Shaw	Sharon Painter
Joan Goodrich	Yuberca Pena	Anne Fredy	Suzanne Fischer
Lori Hayward	Elizabeth Burrows	Mauricio Lara	Candi Jefferson
Donald Cooper			

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ari Whiteman	Victor Kirson	Troy Baer	Stephanie Immelman
Jane Smith	Javaro Sims	Jamael Stewart	
Rachel Saunders	Jeff Goldman	Michael Coleman	

1. Call to Order

The Workshop was called to order at 5:05 by Chairman Cox.

2. Roll Call

Present: Reggie Cox, Cathy Balestriere, Joe Bernadel, Bill Branning, Daniel Rose, Herman Stevens, Paul Zacks

Absent: None

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Branning made a motion to approve the Agenda which was seconded by Mr. Zacks and passed unanimously.

4. Discussion –

A. City of Delray Beach Funding Request – City Manager’s Office

1. Clean & Safe Program

Finance & Operations Director Lori Hayward introduced the item. She reported the funding request represents an 8% increase over last year, taking the funding from \$2,324,280 to \$2,512,905. This would provide the Program with two additional police officers as well as funding for street sweeping. Police Chief Jeff Goldman then thanked the CRA for their continued support and gave a brief presentation. He noted this is the third year of a three-year Clean & Safe Funding Plan which was agreed upon by the Board in July of 2014. He reviewed various statistics from the Clean & Safe District on Thefts, Crime, etc., and stated that pedestrian, vehicle and bike traffic have increased greatly. He reported there are some 1,200 businesses in the district, including hotels which are running at 95% occupancy and 80% in the off season. He noted that the community has the perception that things are unsafe and that there is a lot of

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crime, but that in reality it is not that bad. He added that perception becomes reality, and that the feeling of safety is very important. There are two important factors he stated, education and visibility. High visibility of officers and patrol cars deters crime, enhances the perception of safety, and makes criminals think twice. This is one of the areas where two more officers would greatly assist.

Mr. Bernadel thanked the Chief for the excellent service the police department provides. He inquired as to who has the authority on the ground, and whether the CRA has the authority to ask how the monies are used. Chief Goldman stated he is the authority to go to with any questions. He noted that officers are deployed based on need i.e. event nights, crime trends etc., and that the CRA may provide input as to possible alternative deployment. Mr. Zacks commented that in his years as Assistant State's Attorney, the Delray Police were always considered to be a model for police departments, and one reason was programs like Clean & Safe. He stated that most police departments are reactive, but Chief Goldman and his predecessors have taken a different view by being proactive. They know that visibility and interaction with the community is critical. In regard to the statistics, Mr. Zacks noted that they can go up and down. He said he fully supports what Clean & Safe is requesting. Ms. Balestriere commented that the CRA has worked very hard to bring valuable economic development initiatives to the District, which has resulted in a huge tourism business and a large amount of people in the downtown area. She feels the Chief and the Clean & Safe officers are doing a great job, but that at some point there needs to be a balance. She feels a plan for working with the amount of officers employed is needed, and she would like to see conversations begin regarding that plan.

Mr. Rose stated he speaks with a lot of officers in his work, and he believes the Delray Beach Police do an exemplary job. His concern is with what he sees as a disparity regarding code enforcement as well as drug abuse issues. He feels the problem is more with drug overdoses than with dealers, and he would like to see more actions taken to combat this issue. Chief Goldman referenced the "Good Samaritan" law as to limitations on how far the officers can go. He added that a lot of the larcenies are related to the sober home residents. Mr. Rose would like to see a 'zero tolerance' message sent. He suggested the Chief look into how to manage retention of younger officers so the good ones stay in Delray, and does support this request. Mr. Stevens noted that he is trying to be fiscally responsible and does not see the numbers increasing to a point that more officers are needed. He agreed with the Chief that the numbers can be argued in different ways, but stated that when he looks at them he does not see the justification and therefore does not support the request. The Chief noted that with the 20% Leave Rule, with eight officers in the program there are sometimes only three are on duty. He stated that with two additional officers it would allow for five man teams with times when only four are on duty rather than three.

City Manager Don Cooper stated the 'ask' is based upon the City Commission's direction to emphasize the downtown and provide quality of service. He noted that he does not see the CRA as an endless bucket of money and is acutely aware of the statutory requirements for Clean and Safe. He stated that there are significant demands in all parts of the City, not just the downtown, and he emphasized that the Clean & Safe monies will never be used outside of the CRA District. He thanked Mr. Costello for excellent partnership in working toward mutual City and CRA goals. He repeated what the Chief said – that perception becomes reality – and said he receives complaints every week to improve conditions in the Central Business District. Two more officers won't solve the problem but they will help it, and as with the street sweeping, the funding request is to improve conditions in the downtown area. Mr. Stevens said he sees numbers going down and yet the CRA is being asked for more not less. Mr. Cooper said the larceny numbers and some other numbers are going up, and that there will be ups and downs. He stated he would be happy if the numbers just do not get any worse, and that this request is

being proactive to avoid that. Mr. Cox sought confirmation that based on the trend with the numbers, they are likely to go up. The Chief confirmed that was true.

Mr. Branning also noted that some numbers are going down and some up, and that he also believes there is a correlation with the drug abuse epidemic in the town. He asked Chief Goldman if there is a strategy to combat the problem and whether there was anything holding him back from implementing that strategy. The Chief responded that there is a three-prong strategy being employed: 1) Enforcement 2) Education and 3) Life Saving. He also noted the Police Department is now partnering with the State Attorney's office on the Sober Home Task Force, to which he has assigned an officer. He reported the Department is also in a pilot program to have a clinical psychologist, and he is working with Mr. Cooper on that. If that civilian position is filled, that can help with overdosed individuals. The Chief feels Delray is ahead of other areas in approaching this drug problem. Mr. Branning also asked about the homeless population at Old School Square and other places. The Chief stated he has been working with OSS staff on that, and they are looking at changes including with the lighting and the shrubbery to deter the homeless from camping out at OSS. He said a Clean & Safe officer sweeps the area in the morning, and he noted that the Department just partnered with the Homeless Resource Center. That could be a resource for a homeless person, but only if the person wants the help.

Mr. Rose asked if it might be more prudent to reallocate the requested funds and hire more officers rather than two code enforcement positions. The Chief said he would defer to Michael Coleman, Community Improvement Director, for that answer as he cannot speak to code enforcement duties as well as Mr. Coleman. Ms. Balestriere thanked Chief Goldman for having some of the Clean & Safe Officers at the meeting tonight. Mr. Cox applauded the Chief and the Department for coming to the WARC meetings and staying engaged. He said he supports this request, and also suggested having multi-lingual officers for Clean & Safe.

Next Michael Coleman took questions from the Board regarding the Clean aspect of the Clean & Safe program. Mr. Zacks asked about \$40,000 for street sweeping. Mr. Coleman stated it would be to pay for five-day street sweeping coverage. Currently coverage is Monday, Wednesday and Friday, but sometimes due to a lack of staff or a broken sweeping machine it can't be done all of those days so adequate service is not being provided. He believes five days – Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday – are necessary to keep up the downtown footprint. He noted that one piece of equipment costs \$200,000 and he stated he can outsource the sweeping for about \$50,000 for five days a week coverage. Also, if the sweeper breaks down they still have to complete the job, so there would not be the lapses in sweeping. He feels outsourcing would save money and provide services that would keep up the appearance for downtown. Mr. Zacks said he felt the City should be paying for the street cleaning.

Ms. Balestriere asked if there is more cleaning of the streets due to events. Mr. Coleman said it is a matter of heavy foot traffic that creates the five day a week need. He said there are also a lot of areas that have not been pressure washed ever which need to be. Ms. Balestriere asked if they have to clean only after City sponsored events. Mr. Coleman said that private events are supposed to clean up after themselves, but if they do not the City has to step in to make sure it is done. Mr. Coleman said that regardless of any special events, his staff provides coverage seven days a week, 18-20 hours a day. His staff comes in around 4:00 am each day, and has to have everything ready by 7:00 am when the City opens and delivery trucks start arriving, giving his staff about a three hour turnaround. Mr. Branning commented that he has seen pressure washing of the sidewalks but never of the curbs, and requested that the curbs be included when pressure washing. Mr. Coleman noted that request. Secondly, Mr. Branning asked about the landscaping on public grounds. Mr. Coleman stated that falls under Parks and

Recreation (for parks) and/or Environmental Services (for public right-of-ways). Mr. Branning asked in reference to the CRA's funding of landscape maintenance workers if Clean and Safe handles that. Mr. Coleman said his staff takes care of island nodes, annuals, and tree trimming. Mr. Branning feels the City's landscaping needs improvement, that it looks tired and unkept, and asked Mr. Coleman to pass on the request to the appropriate persons to better manage the City's landscaping.

Mr. Bernadel thanked Mr. Coleman for the work his team does, and requested a walk-through for his personal edification to see what all his staff does. Mr. Rose commented that he felt an exemplary job was done with code enforcement around the Starbuck's patio on Atlantic Avenue, and stated he would like to see more of that level of enforcement. Mr. Coleman said there were 2 other locations handled similarly, the Delray Beach Library and Café Blue. Mr. Rose felt that is where a lot of the drug problems begin on these outside patios, and he felt the tactic was a homerun and would like to see more of that kind of action.

Ms. Balestriere inquired about the overtime in the Clean & Safe Budget, and whether it was for special events. Mr. Coleman said they don't specifically factor in events, but put in what is needed to maintain the downtown. When there is an event he said, it affects the whole downtown not just the block where the event may be held. He noted that there was not any overtime previously included in the budget, and he wanted to add it in so that he does not go over budget while maintaining the downtown area. Mr. Cox referred to the Organization Chart, and asked who would be the person with supervisory control of the electricians, sanitation workers, maintenance workers etc. Mr. Coleman stated it is the Downtown Manager, Jamael Stewart, who oversees the whole program as far as accountability. Mr. Stewart in turn reports to Janet Meeks, Assistant Community Improvement Director. Mr. Cox referred to the 18 accomplishments noted in Mr. Coleman's back-up information. He stated he felt Items 8, 9, and 10 were low priority items that could be handled by other non-profit partners so as to conserve on available downtown resources.

Mr. Costello noted that the CRA's budget is prepared to accommodate the Clean & Safe request for two new police officers and the street sweeping item as discussed with the City Manager. Mr. Cox added that while it is understood the downtown management is still in transition, he has seen some positive differences in the downtown area.


In the interest of time, Mr. Branning made a motion to reconsider the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zacks and passed unanimously. Mr. Branning then made a motion to remove Items 4A2 and 4B from the Workshop Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zacks and passed unanimously. Commissioner Zacks requested a Board Consensus be taken around the \$40,000 request for street sweeping which he considers as separate from the 'Safe' portion of the request. Board consensus was supportive of the request.

2. Tennis Tournament Sponsorship (moved to Regular Agenda)

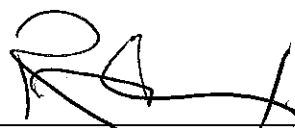
B. DBMC Funding Request (moved to Regular Agenda)

5. Adjournment

The remaining items were moved by unanimous vote to the Regular Board Meeting. The Workshop was adjourned at 6:10.



Jeff Costello, Executive Director
June 23, 2016



Reginald Cox, Board Chair