**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area**

**Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

April 5, 2016

**Tampa Police District 1 Headquarters**

3818 West Tampa Bay Boulevard

**Attendees**

**Committee Members:** Michael Martinez, Chair; George Adams, Randy Forister, Ann Kulig, Alford Poole

**City of Tampa Staff:** Jeanette LaRussa Fenton, Urban Development Manager

1. **Opening Comments / Introductions**

The regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee convened at 5:30 p.m. on April 5, 2016.

1. **Tampa Police Department Update**

No TPD representative was able to attend so there was no update provided.

1. **Approval of Minutes February 2, 2016**

Approval of the February 2 minutes was deferred to the next meeting due to an error in production of the minutes.

1. **Drew Park FY17 Preliminary Budget**

Ms. Fenton distributed the proposed draft FY17 budget. Revenues are projected at $562,393 to be allocated for: $148,500 Salaries; $2,000 Operating; $30,000 District Maintenance; $100,000 Façade Improvement Program; $281,893 Neighborhood Improvements. The Advisory Committee approved the budget by consensus.

1. **Codes Update**

Illegal dumping on Aviation Authority property was identified as a concern. Mr. Forister advised that he and his staff are working with TPD to address the problem. The Aviation Authority is also exploring installing barriers to block off every single entrance into vacant areas. The illegal dumping sites will get cleaned up again. This is an ongoing problem and the Aviation Authority will continue to monitor and clean up. Fences would cost millions of dollars so are not a viable solution.

1. **Project Update Reports by Ms. Fenton -**

* **Lois Avenue** – HART is exploring purchasing the shelters from an alternative vendor at a much lower cost. Once it is confirmed that the vendor can produce the shelters to the exact specifications then we will proceed.
* **Stamps** – City staff and the contractor are still in discussions about the appearance of the stamps on the concrete. The City is not satisfied with the stamps. Some of them are acceptable, but most of them are not. We have come to the conclusion that we are not going to get a consistent product up and down the street. We are the point right now where we are going to negotiate for a vastly reduced price and accept what we have.
* **Community Markers** – All outstanding items in the agreement between the City and FDOT have been negotiated and we are ready to move forward. FDOT is making the necessary changes to the agreement to present to the City so that it can be placed on the City Council agenda for approval.
* **Historic Markers** - We are ready to move forward, however we had to delay because we are trying to find a suitable picture to use. In all the archives we couldn’t find the right size or some other problem arose with each picture we would try to use. At this point we may have to move forward without the picture to avoid much further delay.

1. **Discussion / Questions**

An attendee asked for a refresher about the community markers location and size. Ms. Fenton explained that the community markers are the smaller identifiers that will be located on Dale Mabry and are about 10 feet tall. The larger ones, which we call the gateway markers, will be at Hillsborough and Lois, MLK and Dale Mabry, Tampa Bay Boulevard and Dale Mabry and probably at MLK and Air Cargo, and maybe eventually at Hillsborough and Air Cargo. We don’t have the construction specs for the larger ones yet. We have the construction specs for the smaller ones because we are ready to go to bid once we get the contract from FDOT done.

1. **Announcements**

Ms. Fenton advised that the application cycle for the Façade Grant program ended on March 16th. Seven applications were received and are being processed. Our target is to take them to the May CRA Board meeting. The total amount of the request is estimated at about $250,000. They are fairly diverse, with two car repair shops (one is on Dale Mabry the other is on South), one car sales company on Grady, a HVAC Service Company on Cortez, a metal fabricator on Grady and a medical facility on Hesperides.

There is one vacancy on the Advisory Committee and we are actively recruiting. The applications should be ready for distribution next week.

The Mayor’s State of the City address is coming up on April 12th at 10:30 am at the JCC Glazer Family Center (formerly known as the Armory). Everyone is invited.

The election of the City Council Chair and CRA Board Chair will occur at the next City Council meeting this Thursday.

Ms. Fenton asked the committee members if they wanted her to look into arranging alternate meeting locations in the face of the new entry procedures at District I. The majority of the members were fine with the process and elected to keep the meetings at the current location.

1. **Public Comment**

Sylvia Atwood made a comment about the trucks blocking the view on Crest between Hale and Grady. There was a very bad accident recently because the vehicles cannot see around the trucks. Currently, the rigs are still parking there. She spoke with one of the drivers, who insisted that they would not receive a ticket. Ms. Fenton advised that both TPD and Code Enforcement are working on this problem and are also reviewing from Dale Mabry further west on Crest. Three No Parking Signs will be going up on the North side of Crest (two will be between Grady and Hale and the other will be about one hundred feet to the west) and should be posted in the next 30 days.

Mr. Poole stated that there is a large pothole that is getting worse at MLK just east of Lois. Ms. Fenton offered to report it. She also shared that there is an online application to report items like this via the City’s Customer Service Center. If it’s a down street sign, limbs in the right of way, you just put in the location they will assign a tracking number. Anything that is a problem, you can use the customer service center to report it.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.