

**East Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2023

Ragan Park Community Center
1200 E. Lake Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605

Community Advisory Committee

*Clinton Paris
Connie Burton
Norene Copeland Miller*

*Jeffery Johnson
Grace Glenn
Cynthia Donnell*

Attendees

Committee Members: Connie Burton, Norene Copeland Miller, Clinton Paris, Dr. Jeffery Johnson, Dr. Grace Glenn

Virtual: None

City Staff: Erica Moody, Cedric McCray, Detective Andrew Washington, Billie J. Slatton, Mike Peterson Keith O Connor, and Chris Ullian

Other Attendees: Rick & Diann Kugler-Zeigler, Alison Hewitt, Natasha Goodley, Carlos de la Ossa, Fran Tate, Craig Fox, Jerome Lewis, Kella McCaskill.

Virtual: Andrea White, Lanita Brown, and Craig Fox

6:13 p.m. Meeting Called to Order

Invocation:

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, CAC

Member

Introductions/Roll Call

Approval of Minutes: October 3, 2023

MOTION: Unable to approve minutes under current ETCAC make up following extensive conversation.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS - IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL (3 minutes per speaker)

The following individuals made public comments:

- Fran Tate – Missing Teen
- Kella McCaskill – Owner Occupied Rehab Program
- Natasha Goodley – Nuisance Abatement Signage

- Alison Hewitt – Outreach and education on East Tampa CAC and East Tampa Partnership
- Craig Fox – FDOT East Tampa Transportation Talk Community Meetings

II. Neighborhood Enhancement Update – Keith O’Connor, Director

- Street vacuum purchased in 2005 and not currently operable. (K. O’Connor)
- Looking to purchase a Bobcat to assist in clearing alleys in East Tampa. (K. O’Connor)
- Concerns about equipment purchased being used in East Tampa (C. Burton)
- The equipment and teams are assigned to designated zones. That is where they do their work. (K. O’Connor)
- Looking to clean alleys and ask adjacent property owners to maintain them. (K. O’Connor)
- The eastern side of the ETCRA alleyways needs attention. (N.C. Miller)

III. East Tampa CRA Director & Manager’s Update – Erica Moody, Director

- Strategic Direction and all elements involved in the restructuring of the CRAs.
- Updated organizational chart, work units created and renewed work culture.
- Introduction of Melissa Martinez, Senior Project Manager
- There is a state of emergency in East Tampa. We are going to need a reset. There needs to be all hands-on deck (C. Burton)
- CAC policy update and CRA Board direction to align all the CAC’s.
- Does East Tampa and Ybor share resources? Some feel that there is special consideration for Ybor. (C. Burton)
- Boundaries are blurred and Historic Belmont Heights needs to be acknowledged. (N.C. Miller)
- Several of the changes have been made following Councilwoman Henderson being elected Chair of the CRA Board. (J. Johnson)
- There are concerns about residents’ voices not being heard with the changes being made. (C. Paris)
- We need to stop the sidebar conversations within the community and with leadership. We have so much work to do. We want real action. (N.C. Miller)
- I will touch base with Councilwoman Henderson’s Office to invite her to attend a future meeting. (E. Moody)
- Final structure and make up for all CACs related to the neighborhood associations within the East Tampa CRA.
- Historic Belmont Heights is not listed on this list. You need to get a copy of the most recent list for the Neighborhoods Office. (N.C. Miller)
- CDC of Tampa should be removed from one of the two at-large seats if you do not have other similar agencies in East Tampa listed. (J. Johnson)
- Any revisions would have to go back to the CRA Board in the future. (E. Moody)
- Looking for representatives with skillsets that will move our mission forward. (E. Moody)
- Tagline and mission statement. (E. Moody)
- CRA Focus Areas: attainable housing, connectivity, economic development, quality of life and community engagement. (E. Moody)

- Budget and funding priorities for East Tampa. (E. Moody)
- It is important that we have a timeline to ensure projects are moving along (C. Paris)
- Owner Occupied Rehab Program on November 9th CRA Board meeting. (E. Moody)
- WMBE participation will be monitored through the Job Ordered Contracting process (C. McCray)
- Comments on Destinations Church on 12th St. and Osborne Avenue. (E. Moody)
- Dormant properties owned by the ETCRA and plans moving forward? (C. Burton)
- Will Solita's be on the November 9th CRA Board agenda? (C. Burton)

VII. New Business/Announcements

- Acknowledging the lives lost in Ybor City. (C. Burton)
- Summer Youth Program and financially supporting young people in East Tampa (C. Burton)
- That's Wat'Sub Grand Opening November 10th (J. Johnson)
- Food Truck Rally at the CDC of Tampa (J. Johnson)
- Veteran's Day Ceremony at Memorial Park Cemetery (N.C. Miller)
- Workshops on healthier lifestyles and free health screenings (G. Glenn)
- A community asset map will be shared to support businesses in East Tampa. (J. Johnson)

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM

Next meeting: December 5, 2023, at 9 AM

Minutes prepared by Cedric McCray, City of Tampa East Tampa Development Manager