

CITY OF COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2024

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Jeremy Hutcherson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call

Members Present:

Commissioner Skip Williams
Commissioner Karalyn Woulas
Commissioner Joshua Jackson
Vice Mayor Jeremy Hutcherson

Administrative Members Present:

City Attorney Becky Vose
City Manager Wayne Carragino
City Clerk Karin Grooms
Senior Planner/CRA Administrator Devan Taly
Contracts Administrator Martha Horak
Development Services Director Randy Stevenson

B. AGENCY BOARD COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no reports.

C. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENT

There were no reports.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve September 19, 2023, CRA Meeting Minutes
Staff Representative: City Clerk's Office
Staff Recommendation: Approve

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JACKSON.
I MOVE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.
VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION 4:0; MOTION CARRIED.

E. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve the Commercial Visual Improvement Grant Program agreement between CRA and Gregory Dippolito and Penelope Dippolito.
Staff Representative: Devan Taly, CRA Administrator
Staff Recommendation: Discuss and Approve

CRA Administrator Devan Taly brought forward a request for approval to increase the grant funding for Woodland Business Center from \$25K to \$50K to alleviate the flooding of the area during storms. The total cost of the repairs will be \$100K.

Commissioner Williams stated that fixing that area will help the whole neighborhood with stormwater runoff and flooding, and he supports the increase.

Commissioner Jackson agreed, stating that it would not fix everything immediately, but it's a good beginning, and if they put the work in by applying for the grants, we should help them.

Commissioner Woulas wanted to hear what the plan was going to be.

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Mr. Gregory Dippolito explained that they wanted to put in a retention area for the stormwater to runoff so it doesn't inundate the storm drains in the area, so the neighboring areas can get their water in first and not get their homes flooded. There will be 4ft. retaining wall, and 2 entrances where water comes in will be cut off. The retention area should hold more than 24K gallons of water, possibly double that.

Commissioner Woulas asked where the retention area will be located. Mr. Dippolito stated it will be about 4-5 ft. back from the sidewalk, and the stormwater will go to a drain that empties into said retention area.

Vice Mayor Hutcherson questioned if the City of Cocoa Beach's engineers were on board with the project.

Acting City Manager Wayne Carragino said that the engineers have looked at it and they were on board, as well as an engineer that the Dippolitos had hired.

Vice Mayor Hutcherson said that the agenda item memo references \$25k which is what the ordinance stated. He asked City Attorney Vose if it was okay legally to bring it to \$50k. City Attorney Vose stated that it's discretionary to the Commission, and that people have not been applying for the grants. CRA Administrator Taly stated the Dippolitos are the only applicants, so there is money available.

Commissioner Woulas stated that she would like the City to also focus on plans to clean out the stormwater drains to help alleviate the flooding issue.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOULAS.
I MOVE TO APPROVE THE COMMERCIAL VISUAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN CRA AND GREGORY DIPPOLITO AND PENELOPE DIPPOLITO.
VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION 4:0; MOTION CARRIED.

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

H. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 pm.

Karin Grooms
City Clerk

Keith Capizzi
Mayor-Commissioner