

**CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 13, 2009**

A Regular Meeting of the Deltona Economic Development Advisory Board was held on Monday, April 13, 2009 at the City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2345 Providence Boulevard, Deltona, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman, Nick Conte, Jr.

2. ROLL CALL:

Karl Brown	Voting Member	Present
Nick Conte, Jr.	Voting Member	Present
Robert Desmond	Voting Member	Present
Susie M. Eutsey	Voting Member	Present
Richard Provini	Voting Member	Present
Frank Rodriguez	Voting Member	Present
Dennis Starke	Voting Member	Not Present
Patrice Murphy	Business Dev/Grant Manager	Present
Maria Perez-Conde	Recording Secretary	Present

3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Chairman, Nick Conte, Jr. determined there was a quorum present.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting – March 9, 2009

Motion by Robert Desmond., Seconded by Karl Brown to adopt the minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting of March 9, 2009 with changes.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Maria Perez-Conde handed out a flyer to the board regarding a seminar hosted by the Deltona Chamber on April 23rd.

Patrice Murphy stated that the changes they had gone over at the last meeting on the Economic Development website were made. As more changes are made she will e-mail the board. She also e-mailed the City Manager and copied the Mayor about adding a

”Welcome Message” from the Mayor onto the Economic Development website. Patrice was also able to get a uniformed crime report through 2007, which the board can get by logging onto FDLE (Florida Law Department) website. Unfortunately, Volusia County does not break out the City of Deltona (she emailed Capt Brandon about Deltona statistics) to provide comparison of the municipalities. Online you can look up the FDLE uniformed crime report from 2000-2007 by state, county, municipality, etc.

Susie Eutsey asked “How would the FDLE crime report fit into the Economic Development Advisory Board”? Patrice responded that it was asked by this board that if the statistics showed that the city’s crime rate was low it would be added onto the Economic Development website. Richard Provini said it would be a highlight. People might be looking to see if the City of Deltona has a low crime rate. Nick Conte commented that it didn’t seem like it would have a natural association, but it does and that schools and crime seem to fall together somehow.

As part of the website update Patrice will put links to Daytona State, UCF, Stetson, Volusia County School Board, etc. and will have Z-graph come in and help develop the site through the web carrier host. Nick commented that this is something the board should be well aware of, day by day technology. Z-graph doesn’t do anything for free and they may have to figure out a way to make these changes without them. He doesn’t think that the Commission will honor Z-graph’s fee. It would be great if we had staff that could design. Patrice responded that the flat pages and links can be done in house. Nick asked if there were any discretionary funds of any kind. Patrice responded that she would have to get approval from Chris Bowley, Director of Planning and Development Services, to expend the funds and she would have to see how much Z-graph is willing to do and charge. Patrice mentioned that staff is willing to help and that Joyce Kent who is the deputy city clerk is pretty good at monitoring the city website.

Patrice mentioned that across the street from the Wal-Mart on Howland Blvd, the Shoppes of East Deltona is working towards construction and one of their tenants is Game Stop. Walgreens on Howland Blvd and Fort Smith will be opening soon. Frank Rodriguez asked what was being built across the street from Walgreens on Saxon Blvd. Bob responded that it was a retaining wall.

Patrice mentioned that in the last meeting unexcused absences were discussed. In the By-Laws under “Attendance Section Two” it says the “Advisory Board may responsibly carry out its duties. All members should make every effort to attend all meetings. If a member has three unexcused absences the advisory board shall terminate his/her membership and ask the liaison to have an appointing commissioner to approve a new member to the advisory board”. The absences do not have to be consecutive. Nick Conte responded that he had to follow what the city charter is going to lay this out as. Bob Desmond stated that Mr. Starke has missed an inappropriate amount of meetings and he will make a motion to recommend Mr. Starke to be removed from the board according to our By-Laws. Karl Brown seconded. Patrice mentioned that she will get together with the Deputy City Clerk to post the opening. Nick asked Patrice who was the commissioner that appointed Mr. Starke. Patrice responded that it was commissioner Treusch. She also

mentioned that in May, Richard Provini and Bob Desmond's appointment will be up and asked if they both wanted to be reappointed. Richard Provini said that he spoke to his commissioner and that there would not be a problem with him staying on. Bob Desmond also wants to be reappointed. Karl Brown and Susie Eutsey stated that they would love to see some continuity. Nick Conte stated that he is all open to the idea of becoming a member and giving someone else the opportunity in becoming the chairman. Karl Brown responded by saying that he would like to see Nick continue being chairman and Susie Eutsey agreed. This will be further discussed when appoints are made May 4th.

Frank Rodriguez stated that he enjoyed being part of this board but wished there was more communication between meetings. If there was more communication more things can be done. Richard Provini wanted to know what he could do to stimulate economic development. Susie Eutsey handed out some pictures of signs she noticed around the city (land for sale, etc). Patrice mentioned that the planning and development staff was putting together a list of vacant commercial properties. Frank wanted to know what he could do in his free time to help. Patrice stated that the board was more than welcome to contact her at anytime and if there is something they wanted to discuss any member of the board could bring it forward to be placed on the agenda.

Bob Desmond stated that Chris Bowley offered to talk to the board about eliminating impact fees. Patrice mentioned that a one year moratorium on non-residential city impact fees was going to the Commission on the 20th of April. Nick commented that during public comments at the City Commission the board can support the motion to support the moratorium.

Patrice mentioned that there is an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant and the city has been appropriated \$730,000 from the federal government for energy efficiency. It is through the American Recovery Act. The grant is due in June, but strategies have to be created. Nick Conte stated that this was good news and that this was something the board could help out. Patrice mentioned that she and Cy Butts (Building Official) were working on writing the grant. Cy proposed the green ordinance that has passed and is certified. Nick asked if Cy had thought about where the money was going to be allocated towards. Patrice responded that Cy had met with the City Manager and Dave Denny on some preliminary ideas. There were many things you can do, such as putting solar into city hall, creating some kind of incentive for builders to put in solar water heaters, etc. The grant has to be written before money is allocated and the grant is very technical.

Patrice also stated that there were some other issues coming out of the legislature that would affect this board. Senate bill 360 that passed three years ago was meant to control growth. Unfortunately, it controls growth but it creates sprawl. They are looking at creating traffic concurrency exception areas. Areas of traffic concurrency become difficult areas because of some of the antiquated infrastructure and because our population is more than 1000 persons per square mile. We have 86,000 residents for 47 square miles, so we would actually be an exception area. If it comes out of the legislature this year it would help us on some of the concurrency issues we are having on the traffic

counts and small businesses. Richard Provini asked if there was an exception to a point. Patrice responded that it depends on the language that comes out of the legislature. They have two more weeks left which means they will get to the meat of things. When it comes out of legislation she will let the board know how it will affect the City.

Bob Desmond stated that in one of the reports that were previously handed out it showed that there were 550 acres of commercial lots available. He took one of the maps previously handed out and highlighted “the blue road”. Bob did a small presentation on his ideas on commercial development along this area. Patrice said it was a good idea, but that the main focus at this time by the Planning and Development and Economic Development Department was with the “Activity Center” and its 900 acres.

Frank Rodriguez asked “what about the bike trail? Patrice Murphy responded that the Parks and Recreation Director, Steve Moore wants to do more ECHO Development now that we have the Thornby property and Lakeshore Drive is part of the designated scenic highway.

Patrice provided an update on the Thornby property. The City was rewarded \$393,000 for the playground. It is a 50/50 matching grant. They are waiting on the ecological survey to come back in order to know where the playground will be placed on the site.

Nick mentioned that he would like to make the five year strategic plan as fluid as possible and he would like everyone’s idea and thoughts. He mentioned to Patrice that he was going to put some work into the Energy Efficiency Grant because he works in that field and if anyone else is interested in contributing they are welcomed. This information could be part of the grant.

Nick asked if there was any other Old Business. Patrice talked about the Meet and Greet with the Deltona Chamber. The Meet and Greet will be on June 4, 11 or 18. Maria will discuss with the chamber and get back to the board with a date.

Patrice mentioned that at the next meeting, May 11th, Dick Harkey (representative for Congressman, John Mica) will be present to discuss the Sun-Rail project. Three commissioners have committed to being at the meeting.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

8. MEMBER COMMENTS

Bob Desmond stated that there was no main street.

Patrice mentioned that Maria Perez-Conde will be providing the board a monthly report on new development and status.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairman, Nick Conte called for motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard Provini. Motion carried by unanimous decision. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Nick Conte, Jr., CHAIRMAN

Maria Perez-Conde, RECORDING SECRETARY