

MAYOR
Hal J. Rose

DEPUTY MAYOR
Andrea Young

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Pat Bentley
Adam Gaffney
Bill Metrick
Barbara A. Smith
John "Coach" Tice



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BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

February 27, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rich Naber called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Naber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Rich Naber, Members Bianca Bushey, Coy Clark, Ramses Rodriguez and Ted Williams.

Also present was Council liaison Deputy Mayor Young, Council Member John "Coach" Tice and City Clerk Sue Frank.

Absent was Member Blaine Barton.

City Clerk Frank stated that she had heard from Mr. Barton who would be out of town and not able to attend.

Motion made by Chairman Naber to excuse Member Barton, seconded by Member Rodriguez – motion carried 5-0.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion made by Member Clark to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2016 meeting as presented, seconded by Member Bushey – motion carried 5-0.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Members asked for an update on the Town Center. Planning and Economic Development Director Christy Fischer held a planning workshop a few weeks ago to discuss the Town Center. The public was invited to give input. Members asked for an update on the parcel

of property just south of the West Melbourne Community Park. Ms. Frank informed the members that the property owners had been contacted and were not interested in selling at the time. Discussion included to possibly appeal to the owners' sense of community by dedicating the site in honor of the parents, naming the area after the family or installing a bust of some sort.

A town center would work best with mixed-use zoning in densely populated areas. Mixed-use included commercial properties on one level with residential property above the businesses.

6. NEW BUSINESS

New Businesses in West Melbourne

Member discussion included a Walmart Neighborhood Market, which provides affordable groceries. Walmart was interested in a parcel on Minton Road near Heritage Oaks, but was also wanting to install gas pumps. The City currently has a moratorium in place prohibiting any new gas pumps along Minton Road. The residents in Heritage Oaks have stated that they would like businesses along Minton Road where they could walk or ride bikes to.

Motion made by Member Clark to encourage City Council to revisit the gas service moratorium along Minton, and possibly allow if associated with another product instead of a stand-alone convenience store, seconded by Member Williams – motion carried 4-0 with Member Rodriguez abstaining. Member Rodriguez stated that he did not have enough information to make a decision.

Additional discussion included that the City should encourage businesses to invest in West Melbourne. Members would like to know how much revenue is generated by the City from sales tax. Deputy Mayor Young informed the members that within the City's budget, the sources of revenue are listed. The budget was available on the website. There was not an item strictly for sales tax. City Clerk Frank was asked to forward the sources of revenue to the Business Advisory Board members.

The members would like a listing of vacant commercial property, along with their approved uses and suggested inviting commercial developers to a meeting to discuss potential opportunities for development.

Other discussion included concern that restaurants are not listed on the highway exit signs, concern about the homeless population and panhandling. West Melbourne does not have an ordinance regarding panhandling. Members would like to know how many calls the Police Department respond to regarding panhandling and the homeless. The main concern of the members is the aggressive behavior demonstrated by the panhandlers.

Motion made by Member Bushey to ask Council to readdress panhandling and the homeless population, seconded by Member Williams – motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Frank informed the Members that there were a couple of items to discuss that were not on the agenda. The first item was to select a Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve for 2017.

Motion made by Member Clark to nominate Member Rodriguez as Chairman, seconded by Member Williams – motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by Member Rodriguez to nominate Member Naber as Vice Chairman, seconded by Member Williams – motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Frank presented the 2016 Volunteer of the Year certificate for the Business Advisory Board to Member Rodriguez. All members congratulated Member Rodriguez.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Young presented some pictures she had taken in Cocoa of buildings with commercial on the street level with apartments above. She asked City Clerk Frank to forward to the Members.

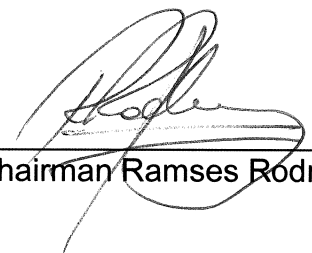
8. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Business Advisory Board was scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. and City Attorney Morris Richardson would be presenting a proposed sign ordinance for discussion.

Motion made by Member Clark to adjourn at 7:54 p.m., seconded by Vice Chairman Naber – motion carried 5-0.



City Clerk Sue Frank



Chairman Ramses Rodriguez