

INDIAN SHORES

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GULF BOULEVARD BEAUTIFICATION SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 13, 2017

The Gulf Boulevard Beautification Sub-Committee convened at 2:00 P.M.
Those present were: Mayor Soranno, Councilor Hackerson, Bonnie Dhonau, Bob Brotherton, Bill Jones, Jonathan Toner, Rachel Shields and Elaine Jackson.

1.0 Project status report and timeline review/update.

Mr. Toner stated the plans were being reviewed by Mr. Kidde, and variances for planting and medians were being reviewed by Mr. Esposito and Alan Urbonas.

Mayor Soranno stated he would try to contact FDOT and try to expedite.

2.0 Review of Maintenance Agreement – FDOT.

3.0 Discussion regarding maintenance for Gateway/Sign plantings.

Ms. Dhonau reported the Town is ready to install \$40,000 in landscaping and the signs, but three short-term competitive proposals are needed for maintenance until the entire streetscape project is completed.

Mr. Toner stated the Town will need to hire someone educated in the proper techniques, licensed for chemical applications, and able to keep ahead of schedule. Cost for maintenance usually amounts to 20% of the cost of the planting

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Elaine N. Jackson, MMC
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

Mr. Toner will provide names for maintenance contractors, so the Town may get three proposals and e-verify.

4.0 Discussion regarding Medians.

Ms. Dhonau stated Public Services already spends 140 hours per week in the growing season, and there is no time available for them to maintain newly planted areas. She questioned whether the Town should make the medians simpler to keep the maintenance down.

Mr. Toner stated sod is high maintenance in the medians and least cost effective. Proper planting design with low maintenance plants is the best solution, if properly and timely maintained.

5.0 Discussion regarding Crosswalks.

Mr. Toner reported FDOT agreed to the Town establishing the crosswalks right away if the Town would pay for it, or FDOT would do the traffic studies, and construct within their own time frame, which would be two years.

Mayor Soranno suggested sending a letter and asking them to begin the process immediately to begin the two-year time frame.

6.0 Discussion regarding additional entrance at Municipal Center.

Mayor Soranno reported Larry Nayman, former Building Official, was adamant about keeping the original entrance in place, however additional parking spaces and landscaping could be provided in that area.

Bob Brotherton reported the parking lot was value-engineered at the time the Municipal Center was build, and it was a cost-cutting measure to save the Town \$15,000 by not removing that entrance. He estimated it would cost \$35,000 to revamp the space.

7.0 Discussion relative to Billing.

Mayor Soranno expressed his concern for keeping the billing cycle in sync with the progress of the project, as the last invoice is getting close to 100% of the contract. Exact numbers are needed for payouts to Terra Tectonics.

Mr. Toner clarified that his services are 98% completed relative to the design work, and providing bid-documents. All that is left to do is the pre-construction meeting and review of bids submitted. After that, all landscaping work is contractor-driven.

Bob Brotherton suggested a person will need to be designated to answer questions. Most contractors do periodic inspections, and work with someone within the city who manages the project for the Town.

Mayor Soranno stated volunteer team members will be available on the day their properties are being planted and/or irrigation is installed.

Mr. Toner stated a good contractor will come out periodically, but stay out of the way.

8.0 Miscellaneous.

Bill Jones stated 56 easements have been signed to date, with two being Phase II easements.

Councilor Hackerson suggested a limit be set on the number of easements included in Phase I, until a cost estimate has been received. The properties in most need of improvement should be prioritized. Focus is on getting the big condominiums done first, as it will be a valuable visual for others to observe. Most properties have the water supply outlets, but volunteers will contact each designated property contact person and inform them the contractor will need to know where the water is.

Mr. Brotherton stated there are old as-built drawings at the County showing where all the reclaimed water boxes are set at every lot. There should be service to every property.

Mr. Toner stated he would like to see all easements included. If the estimate is too high, then the Phase II easements could be eliminated until the Town is ready to proceed with that Phase. The day the job goes out to bid, Phase I is locked in.

It was noted that the landscaping for the signs will be billed to the Penny for Pinellas, and that the entire set of design plans contains every easement for every property.

Bob Brotherton noted there is no contract yet for video taking the before and after conditions of the landscape for the signs, and recommended this be added as a bid item. He has photos of the area before the signs were torn down.

Mayor Soranno suggested Tom Lancto be contacted and asked to video tape with his personal drone.

Councilor Hackerson stated he would put together some FAQ's for the volunteers.

Mr. Jones reported that, of the 43 beach renourishment easements required by the County, 9 return receipts have been received, 5 came back as undeliverable, and 2 have been signed.

Mayor Soranno stated, after reviewing the numbers: of the \$107,000 total for the project, 70-80% of the contract is done, with payments equaling \$77,785.40, leaving \$29,000 left to pay.

Mr. Toner stated there is about \$25% left to bill and three months to construction.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 P.M.



Elaine Jackson, MMC
Town Clerk