

Lealman Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee
Special Meeting
Lealman Exchange, 5175 45th St N, St. Petersburg 33714
December 19, 2018 ~ 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

The special meeting was held on Wednesday December 19, 2018 at the Lealman Exchange, 5175 45th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714

Committee Members Present: Steve Cleveland, Oscar Seguban, Gary Grooms, Enoch Nicholson, Cheryl DiCicco, Arthur O'Hara, and Marsha McCoy

Absent Members: Father Carlos Rojas and Brian Ellis

County Staff Present: David Sadowsky, Caroline Lanford, Chris Moore, Ryan Brinson, and Teri Hasbrouck

1. Call to Order (Steve Cleveland)

Chairman Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Advisory Committee and Staff Introductions

After introductions, Senior Assistant County Attorney David Sadowsky discussed the "Sunshine Law" requirements with the Committee. Mr. Sadowsky mentioned that this was discussed with the Committee previously but with several new members joining it was an opportune time to revisit the relevant portions of Chapter 286 of the Florida Statutes.

3. Approval of the October 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October 3 meeting were approved unanimously.

4. Lealman Brownfield Area Grant Application (Staff Presentation)

Teri Hasbrouck with Pinellas County Real Estate Management presented the informational item. She mentioned that in 2005 Central and East Lealman were designated as a Brownfield Area and that the County will be applying for a competitive U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Assessment Grant for \$300,000 before year end. Ms. Hasbrouck explained that Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or underused properties where expansion, reuse, or redevelopment may be complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

The grant will be awarded in the fall of 2019 and if awarded, the grant funds will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments on properties in the Lealman Brownfield Area that have been recognized as having potential for redevelopment. The County would use the funds to leverage public-private investments and spur the redevelopment of underutilized properties.

5. Linking Lealman (Staff and Consultant Presentation)

Caroline Lanford, Long Range Transportation Principal Planner with the Planning Department, introduced the item and informed the group that the draft plan is almost complete and wanted to get the Committee's feedback on the most recent version prior to the public workshop to be held sometime in February of 2019. She then introduced Kimley-Horn consultant, Jared Schneider, who gave a recap of the overall draft Plan for the new Committee members, the next steps for the 54th Avenue corridor, and discussed short, mid, and long term projects that would provide for mobility in the Lealman community.

Mr. Schneider discussed "quick wins" identified in the study, which included place making/wayfinding signage, safe crossings, filling sidewalk gaps, and establishing connections to neighborhoods, trails, schools, and public/private community facilities. After a discussion, Chris Moore suggested the Committee could make a motion to support the quick wins so staff can begin the process of obtaining cost estimates

and/or preliminary designs. A motion was made to support all of the quick wins presented discussed so that staff can begin the data collection process (cost estimates, preliminary engineering, design). After a second and brief discussion, the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

6. FY19 Programs & Projects

Mr. Moore indicated that the first item, Healthy Community: Mobility and Accessibility can be skipped since the Committee took action on the previous agenda item to have staff begin their due diligence on the quick wins resulting from the draft Linking Lealman Plan.

Mr. Moore then moved to the next item, Neighborhood Revitalization: Residential and Non-Residential Improvement Programs. Mr. Moore highlighted the new changes to the FY19 programs based on previous discussions with the Committee. Next, Mr. Moore presented on a proposed Community Incubator & Services Center program. He explained that the intent of the grant program is to incentivize the establishment or relocation of businesses, nonprofits and governmental organizations providing educational, workforce development or job training services to the Lealman Exchange, and awards would be contingent upon execution of a lease or license at the facility, and that the services provided would be targeted toward residents of the Lealman CRA.

A discussion on the programs and budget prioritization followed. After initially considering a motion to approve all of the grant program presented at once, a discussion ensued and separate motions were made to approve the Neighborhood Revitalization (residential and non-residential) programs, the Community Incubator and Services Center program, and the revised FY19 Program Spending Budget. The motion to approve the Community Incubator and Services Center included language to ensure that, at minimum, the \$90,429 previously approved for the Ray Neri Youth Citizen Mentoring & Apprenticeship Program remained intact. During the discussion for the FY19 Program Spending Budget amendment, Mr. Moore indicated the changes presented reflected the grant programs discussed at this meeting as well as staff's intentions for bringing additional programs to the Committee for consideration, including the Grassroots Community Program, Community Arts and Culture Program, the Community Activities Sponsorship Program, and the Homeownership Program, and that these programmatic recommendations were based upon feedback received from the community.

7. 2019 Committee Meeting Dates

The Committee meeting dates as presented were approved unanimously.

8. Advisory Committee Member Comments

No comments were made.

9. Citizen Input

Jeremy Heath, a Lealman resident shared his family's history living in Lealman since 1946, with his grandparents building many homes in the area. He thanked the Committee for their contribution and commitment to the community. Mr. Heath stated he had seen many improvements in the area since the CRA was approved, most notably Neri Park, and that the County and the CRA should be proud of these efforts. Committee members and staff thanked Mr. Heath for attending and providing such thoughtful comments.

10. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.