



**Lealman Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Lealman Exchange, 5175 45th St N, St. Petersburg 33714
August 28, 2019, 6:00 PM**

Committee Members Present

Gary Grooms, Oscar Seguban, Marsha McCoy, Brian Ellis

Members Absent

Father Carlos Rojas, Steve Cleveland, Enoch Nicholson and Cheryl DiCicco

Pinellas County Staff Present

David Sadowsky, Chris Moore, and Tanya Kurtin

I. Call to Order

As the Chair and Vice-Chair were absent, Pinellas County Staff member Chris Moore called the meeting to order. As there was no quorum it was announced that any voting items could be discussed but no vote could occur.

II. Advisory Committee and Staff Introductions

Advisory Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

III. Approval of the June 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Since there was no quorum, the minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

IV. CRA Grant Programs Updates

- **Residential & Non-Residential Site Improvement Programs:** Mr. Moore presented on the status of the Residential and Non-Residential Improvement grant programs. The County has received a total of five (5) Non-Residential grant applications, three (3) of which have completed work and have been reimbursed. Mr. Moore also mentioned many Residential grant applicants have indicated they have experienced challenges finding licensed contractors to provide estimates and perform the work. County staff will continue to work with applicants on a case-by-case basis to troubleshoot and alleviate this challenge and have assured applicants that funding for approved applications will remain in place.
- **Community Arts & Culture Program:** Mr. Moore introduced Barbara St. Clair, Executive Director of Creative Pinellas. Ms. St. Clair presented titled Arts at the Lealman Exchange: A Partnership Between Creative Pinellas and the Lealman CRA." Ms. St. Clair stressed the important benefits and opportunities that art and cultural programs provide to underserved communities and that these programs are keys to improving educational outcomes for children, provide workforce development opportunities, while also stimulating community revitalization. Ms. St. Clair presented on two distinct programs/projects for the Exchange including the:
 - i. **Arts Education Program**, which would work directly with arts organizations that



already have successful arts education programming to leverage their knowledge and infrastructure, provide high value, relevant arts education programs; and a

- ii. **Placemaking Project**, which would work with public/social engagement artist(s) on a community-oriented project(s) designed to: (1) Create a magnetic sense of place at Lealman Exchange; (2) Connect the physical assets of the community together; (3) Create a sense of ownership and engagement; and (4) Help build a “Lealman” identity.

The arts and culture programming will be piloted as an annual program. Ms. St. Clair concluded her presentation with a detailed overview of the timeline and a breakdown of the anticipated annual cost for each program, which includes \$60,000 for the Arts Education Program, \$30,000 for the Placemaking Project(s), and a \$10,000 project management fee to be provided to for Creative Pinellas to: (1) Develop program criteria; (2) Manage organization and artist recruitment processes; (3) Engage with community, the County and the Advisory Committee; (4) Oversee all aspects of programs; (5) Manage financial aspects of the program including payments to artists; and (6) Measures success and report on results.

Mr. Moore mentioned that since the Committee did not have a quorum that they could not officially vote on the item, however the group could discuss and provide individual comments if desired. Mr. Grooms shared his support of the programs presented and commented that he felt the community would benefit greatly, especially the placemaking program. All four members present vocally supported the initiative.

V. Fiscal Year 2020 Work Plan and Budge

Mr. Moore presented on the proposed FY20 Lealman CRA Budget and a FY20 Lealman Work Plan highlighting a variety of Pinellas County initiatives broken down into five distinct categories: (1) Lealman Exchange Services; (2) Community Identity / “Pride in Place”; (3) Community Revitalization, (4) Healthy Community and (5) Economic and Workforce Development.

VI. Advisory Committee Member Comments

No Members had comments.

VII. Citizen Input

No citizens provided comments.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:22PM