



2895 SE Fairmont Street  
STUART, FL

## **Martin County Golden Gate Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes**

**Monday, August 5, 2019**

**Cassidy Community Center**

### **PRESENT**

Chairperson  
Vice Chairperson  
Members

Saadia Tsafarides  
Mariann Moore  
H.F. Hirsh  
Cynthia Ramsey  
Jackie Vitale  
Joseph Hatton III  
William McKeag

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Josh Mills, Project Manager, Office of Community Development  
James Clasby, Project Manager, Office of Community Development

**CALL TO ORDER** – meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

- William McKeag excused himself for an emergency

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Agenda Item: 19-0581, DRAFT MEETING MINUTES – June 20, 2019**

#### **MOTION**

- \* J. Hatton motioned to approve the proposed June 20, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.
- \*\* M. Moore seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY.

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** – Nothing to report

### **COMMENTS**

1. **PUBLIC** – Nothing to report
2. **MEMBERS**
  - S. Tsafarides: The Building Dept / Code Enforcement has a new program to encourage neglected properties to come into compliance, and she will email the Building Official, Larry Massing, to see when this program will start.
  - S. Tsafarides: Code Enforcement caused the Decker house to come into compliance and it now looks a lot better
    - Discussion ensued over the Cassidy House, and how it needs to be addressed
  - S. Tsafarides: Chapter 18 for CRAs are currently waiting for approval up in Tallahassee, “and no one is more excited than Julie Priest and I.”
    - S. Tsafarides: [directed to PM J. Mills] What is the status of other CRAs?
      - J. Mills: Rio is next followed by Old Palm City, Hobe Sound, Port Salerno, and then Golden Gate.

3. STAFF – Updates provided by Joshua Mills, Project Manager, Martin County CRA
- Per George Dzama's presentation at our last NAC meeting, the question was asked about the design of temporary crosswalks along Dixie Hwy until the actual improvements project begins. The implementation of temporary crosswalks is highly unlikely as they pose a liability and also safety concerns.
  - [in regards to the new STA fence being built] The contractor being used for the new STA fence is widely used by the county for all of the STA's. The county inspects the contractors work and the contractor will not be paid unless his work is acceptable. The fence is not completed at this time.
  - Thank you to all who came out for the community BBQ and workshop helping with feedback on our bike and pedestrian trail. We had 32 people sign-in, Saadia made great cupcakes and MCSO with activities, DJ Booth, along with a great BBQ setup. This event was a great success, and a lot of lessons were learned to help make the next event even better.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Agenda Item: 19-0811, VACUUM HOUSE ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Leo Giangrande presented the Public Utilities alternative compliance for the vacuum house building as part of the septic-to-sewer project. He described the building details – roof, materials, elevation, setbacks, etc. – along with a comparable located in the North River Shores community.

- S. Tsaftarides: What is the extent of the area that will be serviced by this building?
- L. Giangrande: He does not know the exact area that will be serviced by this building.
- M. Moore: When are they are going to get the project started?
- L. Giangrande: They previously had an anticipated start date; however, they are meeting the requirements set forth by county staff and that has moved the targeted start date. He mentioned they are getting close to having approved construction documents that can be sent out for competitive bid.
- L. Giangrande presented the proposed landscape plan.
- S. Tsaftarides: Will the building be closer to Garden or Fairmont Street?
- L. Giangrande: The building will be located closer to Fairmont.
- S. Tsaftarides: Is there the ability to add a community garden to the building?
- L. Giangrande: A community garden may be possible, but it should wait until after this project has been completed.
- J. Mills: We are already looking into this [community garden] as a part of the trail project.
- J. Vitale: Is there a firm start date or not?
- L. Giangrande: I do not know if there is a firm start date, but this project is a high priority.

## **MOTION**

\* M. Moore motioned to approve the proposed design and alternative compliance.

\*\* H.F. Hirsh seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Agenda Item: 19-0812, MARTIN COUNTY FIRE RESCUE SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM**

Maria Torres, Community Risk Reduction Specialist for Martin County Fire Rescue (FRD), presented the FRD Smoke Alarm program for Martin County residents. Safety, Residential Readiness, Disaster Preparedness, and other FRD programs were covered.

- M. Moore: Compliments to you and the fire department for all your efforts, you continually do a great job for the community.
- S. Tsaftarides: Are there brochures available in Spanish?
- M. Torres: Currently there are not any available, however, we are working on Spanish versions. S. Tsaftarides: Have you thought about handing these out through the schools?
- M. Torres: We would have to check with the school board about outreach within the schools.
- S. Tsaftarides: Have you reached out to St. Joseph's?
- M. Torres: We have been in contact with them, along with some other parishes that have reached out to us and requested information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 19-0812, HAWTHORNE LOTS**

Update on county surplus property that was approved for affordable housing by the County Commissioners, which went before the BOCC as a request to submit a Request For Proposal (RFP).

The board was reminded that the RFP process is a competitive process and the county will consider bids from all qualified respondents.

- S. Tsafarides: At a recent public meeting it was stated that the goal is to build two-story workforce housing apartments.
- J. Mills: That is not something I can confirm, however, there will be a requirement in the bid for this property to remain workforce housing in perpetuity.
- J. Mills: The timeline for this project will fall in line with our sewer project once service is made available.

## COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC – Brief update by MCSO Deputy Buddy Sprott

2. MEMBERS

- S. Tsafarides: The Golden Gate community is receiving post cards from various investors looking to buy homes – this means we are doing something right.
- S. Tsafarides: The County Art in Public Places program approved the disposition of the materials of a county artwork to the Friends of Golden Gate for that material to be repurposed for the Camino Trail project.

3. STAFF – Nothing to report

**ADJOURN** – the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

## MOTION

\* J. Hatton III motioned to adjourn.

\*\* J. Vitale seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY.

Recorded and Prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua Mills, Project Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Saadia Tsafarides, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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