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

**Cassidy Center at
Lamar Howard Park**
2895 SE Fairmont
Stuart, FL

Monday, October 11, 2021

PRESENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
Chairperson	Jackie Vitale	January 28, 2023
Vice Chair	Cynthia Ramsey	January 28, 2023
Members	Caitlynne Palmieri	September 11, 2025
	Rebecca Hartman	September 11, 2023
	Saadia Tsafarides ** late 6:15 pm	September 11, 2025
	Deborah Stasevich	April 23, 2022

ABSENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
Member	Mariann Moore	September 10, 2024

STAFF PRESENT

Position	Name
CRA Manager	Susan Kores
CRA Development Specialist	Jana Cox
Senior Assistant County Attorney	Krista Storey

*** Indicates a motion**

**** Indicates a vote**

***** For the record comment**

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Agenda Item: 22-0101 Draft Meeting Minutes – August 2, 2021

MOTION

- * C. Ramsey motioned to approve the proposed August 2, 2021 meeting minutes as presented
- ** D. Stasevich seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC

- L. Epstein – Who designed the Dixie Highway plan? It is a mess. There are more accidents and it is worse for drivers. The turn lanes have been used until now with no issues and now we have gone in the opposite direction. We are asking cars to make U-turns on a street that has never had them.

- D. Golden – I live on Jefferson Street. The situation is bad. A1A is a highway with functional turning lanes. How does this affect the traffic? It has always been a turning lane and now the cars have to sit at a 90-degree angle to turn. I travel this route every day and have seen many near misses and rear end collisions. Is this a major evacuation route? This will cause problems.
- T. Armstrong – I am a retired nurse. I work at C2 Equipment Rental. I have witnessed weekly accidents at Hawthorne and Dixie. We had to reroute our delivery trucks and trailers. This is impacting our customers. I realize there was a tragedy with a pedestrian, but there will be more tragedy if you allow this project to go on as planned. I want to know who was polled in the business community because we were not. We were not informed of this project either.
- R. Williams – I have owned Arlington Electric for 50 years. We have 53-foot trailers that need to get in and out of my place pushing trucks back to the neighborhood. This is truly a mess and safety has gone the other way. I also live in the neighborhood. I have been made to enclose my dumpster in my business, but the neighborhood rules are not being enforced. I see 8 or 9 vehicles on the same property.
- Peter Gorman – I am an owner in Golden Gate for over 22 years. If it is not broken, don't fix it. The exit to my business has been blocked, I do not like this plan. I want to know why we were never sent a notice about this project.

2. MEMBERS

- J. Vitale – I want to emphasize the importance for business members as well as community members to attend these NAC meetings. We are an advisory board. We do not have the power to make these decisions or change any of these plans. Your concerns will be shared with the Public Works Director.
- S. Kores – This project was brought to the community in 2015.
- T. Armstrong – Can we get a list of people who received these notices?
- D. Golden – Procedurally, what is the remedy to right this wrong?
- C. Ramsey – I live on Delmar Street. Personally, I think it is a worry about getting rear ended on A1A.
- K. Storey – As stated, this is an advisory committee and it is a FDOT project. You can reach out to the commissioners in writing to voice your opinions.
- D. Stasevich – I am new to the committee, but I have owned a business in Golden Gate for five years. When the project was presented, I was shocked that there were no turn lanes. I realize the goal is to slow the traffic and move it to US 1.
- R. Hartman – As a neighbor I am extremely concerned with the fast traffic on A1A. We have a lot of human beings living in this area. When we slow traffic, it will be a benefit to your business. People will slow down and take notice of the businesses in the area.
- S. Tsafarides – I have been an advocate of Golden Gate for 22 years trying to improve this community. I am on the MPO Board and they were also part of this project. The road was dark, and people cannot cross the road. Please give this project a chance, you will be happy with it.
- C. Palmieri – I am a renter in the neighborhood, and I have a 10-year-old. We can't do anything, we can't walk our dog, play in the park, or cross the street. I am happy about the new project and the prospect of being a walkable community.

3. STAFF

- none

PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Item: 22-00132, Golden Gate Dixie Highway Construction

Susan Kores, CRA Manager and Chris Goetzfried, Capital Projects Administrator presented an update to the project.

- T. Dillard – I am here representing the 17 businesses in Stuart Plaza. What is the logic to blocking those two streets? Was the original plan only two lanes?
- C. Goetzfried – It was to minimize the left turn movements.

- C. Clifton – We have rerouted our drivers. I would like to know when the traffic calming will be realized. Also, will the accidents be tracked?
- S. Kores – The traffic calming will come when people's habits are changed. For example, on Mapp Road in Palm City, the project has just been completed and people are already slowing down and noticing the businesses.
- C. Goetzfried – The county tracks the accidents.
- C. Clifton – It is my understanding that the CRA is grooming certain types of businesses and trying to remove certain types that they don't want in the corridor.
- S. Kores – We recently updated the Land Development Regulations and industrial was not changed. The CRA is pro-business. We want to move in other business while keeping what we have. Enclosed dumpsters will benefit your neighboring businesses as well as the residents.
- T. Armstrong – Again, the business representatives were not notified and not informed of this project. What is the science behind this and traffic calming? We are here now, and it is very unsafe and affecting our business. We need intervention, give more tickets, install crosswalks, and help us with our issues.
- P. Gorman – I would like to see a shorter median, take off 20 feet at each end. I have photographs to submit.
- C. Goetzfried – I cannot make that decision, but I can talk to my supervisor.
- D. Golden – How can we remove the left turn out of Sunoco? I have nearly taken bicyclers out every day that I travel that road. How do we educate?
- J. Vitale – You could send your comments to the Martin County Metropolitan Planning Organization, Bike and Ped committee to assist with education.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 22-0131, Golden Gate NAC Meeting Dates 2022

Susan Kores, CRA Manager presented the dates for 2022.

Calendar year 2022 proposed meeting dates are:

February 7, 2022
 April 4, 2022
 June 6, 2022
 August 1, 2022
 October 3, 2022
 December 5, 2022

The meeting take place on the first Monday every other month at 6:00 pm beginning in February.

Meetings take place at the Cassidy Community Center, 2895 SE Fairmont Street, Stuart, FL 34997.

MOTION

* S. Tsafarides motioned to approve the proposed 2022 meeting dates as presented

** D. Stasevich seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 22-0139, Indian Street Sidewalk Connection

Susan Kores, CRA Manager gave a brief update on the community clean-up project and gave the committee a sample of the door hanger and asked for their feedback.

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC
 - none
2. MEMBERS
 - none
3. STAFF

ADJOURN – Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Recorded and Prepared by:



Jana Cox, Community Development Specialist

12/6/2021
Date



Jackie Vitale, Chair

12/6/21
Date

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Golden Gate Neighborhood Advisory Committee – Sign In



CASSIDY CENTER, 2895 SE FAIRMONT ST, STUART
Monday, October 11, 2021 – 6:00 pm



NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

[illegible]

Please sign in and add email address to receive electronic communication.