

Hollywood Council of Civic Associations Membership Meeting May 18, 2009

Mtg 7:03 pm

Pledge

Treasurer's Report; \$611.08 as of 4/30/09 Bunny absent

Secretary-Minutes from April; need 2nd from board and then David will send to members for approval at next month's meeting.

Mel presented a table of figures concerning City debt and mil rate adjustments needed to cover various scenarios of decreased income to City.

Introduction of Guest Mayor Peter Bober, Rules of the forum

Mayor Bober: Answered questions from each member association.

Condos of Hollywood Beach; 1.) What are your thoughts on campaign finance reform? He supported CFR but it was sidetracked. He made an effort to bring CFR when he was a commissioner. City Atty brought out legal questions concerning contributions due to money to candidates is like free speech. When it was brought back to commission there was not a lot of support from Commissioners. Now it has been given to charter review committee in the hopes of breathing new life into it. Few people showed up when it was on the agenda even though many seem to support CFR

2.) Downtown revitalization; There are many vacancies downtown. Many businesses under-capitalized and need help. Many businesses fail even one thought to be magical such as Starbucks. Now, however CRA money not spent to subsidize individual businesses but spent to fix up lighting and need to revitalize surrounding neighborhoods to make it a desirable destination. Competition from Hard Rock and other area destinations. Many vacancies not conducive to attract people. Need to bring in entertainment on a much larger scale to the Artspark. When we turn Young's Circle into entertainment mecca then there will be no vacancies. Can't use corporate welfare to revitalize downtown.

from Parkside; 3.)CRA..No new projects under Neal Fritz..money spent downtown but shouldn't it be spent in neighborhoods? Mayor said there is no command and control. City Manager overlaps CRA. Mayor believes City Manager should direct CRA and CRA manager report to City Manager. Mayor said couldn't get 4 votes to back that up. Right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing and it should know when millions of dollars being spent. Mayor agreed surrounding neighborhoods should be revitalized to turn downtown around.

UNOSH; 4.)Young Circle; Why can't downtown Hollywood remain like a quaint village for the people who live here and not future "high-end" residents? Train hasn't left the station. Block 55 developer will have to do an agreement with the City. So we can achieve something good for the City if we negotiate and have citizen involvement. Previously people paid high money for land so they expected to build density. Now prices are going down.

5.) Will parking spaces be eliminated when Young's Circle is developed and will new Publix have its own garage or will we park downtown garage? Mayor said study shows no problem but he is skeptical. However, need to park in the garage. First 2 hours is free and 3rd hour is \$1.

6.) Is beach parking too high at \$10.? Mayor's proposal was for free parking downtown and 10. fee for beach was bundled with it so it passed. Mayor agreed \$10. is too high.

Hollywood Beach Civic Association; 7.)What is the latest concerning beach erosion on the south side of the beach? Sand needs to be consistent so needs to come from our specific area. Sand By-Pass is being blocked by Fort Lauderdale due to residents from Point of America's protested. By-Pass is large project and involves collection sites above jetties and re-depositing on south side. Various options being explored simultaneously.

8.) What is the status on the CRA/Beach Fire Station on Monroe/Madison Street? Mayor said he never heard that response time was poor on the beach. He did not understand why we needed to spend money for another fire station. He voted against it and lost 6-1. Because its CRA money different agencies need to approve. Broward County is not happy with CRA money being spent on fire station. If Commissioner majority wins fire station will move to a new site at the valiant house. If citizens or county gets its way then fire station will stay where it is.

9.) What are the plans for Johnson Street property now that Marriott has pulled out? Weds 11am special meeting at City Hall. Mayor is happy we have another opportunity to develop this site as

a major draw to this area. Mayor said he wants wide range of options due to not married to any option. He said he feels we need to do something fast due to low economy is time to lay groundwork.

Hollywood Lakes; 10.) What are the prospects of getting a sifting machine to clean sand? Mayor thought this is an excellent question. He feels education is important. Proposed ban on beach smoking not passed in other areas. If people feel sand is disgusting then its not good for our beach. He said he is on top of this issue.

11.) More bathrooms on beach? The Mayor said we will have more bathrooms on the beach. He said Johnson Street bathroom is disgusting. He said there will be new bathrooms involved. Dirty bathrooms give negative impression of our beach as a whole.

Condos of Hollywood Beach; 12.) What are views on police and fire pensions "which are breaking our city"? Mayor said when stock market falls we need to come up with promised benefit in another way. Proposed contract from collective bargaining have some surprising concessions. He said its difficult to cut salaries when we have open positions we can't fill due to area competition. Other local cities have higher pay and signing bonuses. Plan to get rid of unfunded liability from pensions is like a 30 year mortgage. It will take several decades to address it.

North Central; 13.) What has happened to the Parks & Rec 23.7 GOB funds? Bond money needs to be used for intended purpose approved by voters. Mayor will look into Pete Brewer's allegations and feeling that 350k spent on too few items. Committee oversight on money spent. Committee being disbanded due to money allocated.

14.) Is the County still holding 1.6 million for the Artspark or is the money lost? The Mayor said money is being held. Contract with the county exists.

Lawn Acres; 15.) Is the City afraid to tackle code violations that exist between 441 and presidential Circle? The situation has had little improvement thus far. Many code violations handed out. But when owner doesn't pay mortgage a lien on top of mortgage is not incentive. Bankruptcy court is an opportunity to request action from owner. City is not afraid to continue to take action to fix up the area.

Parkside; 16.) Why is Pembroke road not improved? Mayor said it has not been the highest priority it should be. There has not been a tremendous amount of momentum from the community to fix this area up.

Hollywood Hills; 17.) Why must we wait for the budget hearings to know what direction the budget debt is taking? Mayor does not support higher taxes. Also concerning outsourcing Police to BSO: We'll see what options we have. His sense is that people prefer to have their own department. there is a loss of control from outsourcing. Its not about whether we want to do something. Its damage control. No decision has been made to outsource. Only getting information on what cost savings will be. (Lakes; 18.) What can be done to make sure we keep our Hollywood Police Department; answered above)

UNOSH; 19.) Police presence seems to be down. Rarely is a police car seen patrolling. Our fear is that with further development of downtown, there will be even less police presence in our neighborhood. Is there some statistical information you can give us that will appease our fear? Mayor said statistics not important than citizens perceptions. It is important to see police to give residents feeling of security and this deters criminals. If need to raise taxes to give more security would do that.

20.) Has Habitat for Humanity been contacted for Adams Street? Mayor does not know answer of recent. He believes they were able to bid previously. They are non-profit and can go anywhere they want. He said nobody contacted him for that area. He has no problem with that organization building anywhere because they have an excellent track record. Habitat should write a letter and proposal.

Royal Poinciana; 21.) What is your vision of the City in five years? Need to have our own charter school. Hollywood should be known for good schools. We have lots of good teachers and schools so we need to get the word out. Hollywood downtown will be booming and much more successful. He is working on green initiative to beautify city. He is working with FDOT to replace concrete with 5000 trees. Infrastructure groundwork laid for development. The Mayor said the future of Hollywood is bright.

Mel said Royal Poinciana wanted to speak about their factual research and changes being made to improve their area.

Delegates:

Proposal to set up Pembroke Road coalition. HCCA will be happy to bring in committed Commissioners and Pete Brewer will aid since he has done this before and City Planning Department will help design each piece. HCCA wants to see if members of various associations surrounding Pembroke Road want to participate as one coalition with HCCA help mentioned above.

Mel asked Mayor to talk about Water increase. 37% increase to those on sewer and 27% increase to those not on city sewer. Mayor said infrastructure will fail if fees not raised. This bill will be coming due. The best way is to find out what are the most serious problems and what is the best way to get repairs that are not "Rolls-Royce" but are sufficient. Large user agreements not getting a free ride. Costs will be shared by big users.

Mel f/u to his budget question: Will citizens be polled about various budget options? Mayor said we are having lots of citizen participation. In the past there was not a lot of people at budget meetings. Various civic associations should get member participation to give input about what needs to be cut from the budget.

Pete Brewer: Moratorium of social services tour of social agencies cancelled and item not on agenda. Rules are set by state for social services. Neighborhoods with problems are from US1 to I-95. He wants to know why can't we ask the state to house social service agencies on State land at Pembroke and University. Mayor said Commission will propose some sort of moratorium. He says be mindful of cause and affect. He says other things are negative affects on neighborhood including poor economy, prostitution, rentals. Some people need social agencies in tough times.

Andre Brown: Is the pension the reason that neighborhoods are not being fixed up? Mayor says no. Pension issues will exist long term and neighborhoods will not be neglected.

Bill (Park East): Will City force property owner at Millennium to do something with the vacant property. Mayor said he can't force development due to poor economy. James(Driftwood-same issue)

Terry (Lakes) P&Z board passed elimination of PD downtown. Campaign finance reform will be coming to Mayor soon also. Mayor said he is looking forward to receiving the recommendations. Cynthia(Condos of Hwd Beach)-no comment But Alliance says traffic so bad that emergency people had trouble getting through. Mayor said construction and special event big problems because tiny antiquated roads exist in that area. Some measures such as left turn only out of garage so traffic does not clog Surf Road is being done. May need police to direct traffic. Sometimes improvement construction making things hard now.

Charlotte Greenberg(Broward Coalition) What can be done to clean up Federal Hwy Corridor? Mayor says need to change zoning and give reasons why people will come in and make money on new ventures. Charlotte says Police need to crack down. Motels are making money hand over fist. They will not want to sell properties. Mayor says courts will not be on our side to shut down business.

Nancy Smith (Lawn Acres): Why hasn't the City done anything to beautify Hollywood Blvd West of presidential Circle? Mayor said he has interest in doing this and he lives close to there. He said FDOT has control. He said they decide when to do median. They have a plan by 2011 and Mayor has asked to add trees and green to the planned median. Nancy asks for lamp posts to be put down to 441. Mayor said he will look into it. Bond issue passed without funds for that due to not wanting to make heavy bond. Nancy says doesn't have to be complicated. Mayor said it should be beautiful and substantial. He has proposed several solutions.

Lynn Smith (North Central): Concerned about Lincoln Park issue. 2 issues: school and park. Mayor said he will look into that due to public needs to know what is going on and not misinformation.

Helen Chervin (UNOSH): Habitat for Humanity is not considered due to the way project is set up. In phases and also not all LMI. Habitat was approached but due to bid type they could not participate. Mayor wants quality affordable housing and doesn't care who builds it. Said Habitat should write him a letter about any obstacles they see to their participation and propose a quality project for the City to consider.

Mel said he wants the City and HCCA to work together.

The Mayor said that members of HCCA supported him. The participation of the members of the

HCCA is vital now more than ever.

Meeting adjourned 9:04