

**CITY OF
MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA**

**NE CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**



December 12, 2023

Call to Order

Having been duly noticed as required by law, Mrs. Rona Rowe, Chair of the Northeast CRA Advisory Committee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call, Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Rona Rowe, Chair; Lillie Taylor, Lynn Tacher, Bryan Belk, Stevie Harley, Rosalyn Harris, Ozwell Ward

Absent: none

City Staff: Ryan Winkler, *Senior Planner*; Catherine Hutcheson, *CRA Coordinator*; Chris Carson, *Special Events Manager*; Michael Gibson, *Police Chief*; Kenneth Lopez, *Northeast CRA Officer*

Public Comment Period

Pastor Bobbie Rowe disclosed some special events happening within the community. The Drive thru Community Christmas Celebration on Saturday, December 23, 2023 from 11am-1pm.

Mr. Rowe and Ms. Taylor also discussed the upcoming Unity Day on January 13, 2024.

Some discussion between the board members about the Town Hall meetings. Taking place every 4th Tuesday of the month. Next meeting to be held on January 23rd, 2024.

Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2023

Ms. Tacher motioned to approve the October 10, 2023 minutes. Mr. Ward seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion Items

Town Hall Meetings

Topic moved to next committee meeting, January 9, 2024.

Mural Art with Chris Carson, Special events Manager

Mr. Carson let the committee members know that the crosswalk mural project had been cancelled. Due to lack of art submissions.

Mr. Carson introduced a new mural concept for the MLK building. The mural would be painted onto the left side wall of the building, facing the street. He requested the members get with the community to provide a concept to him that he could present to the artist.

Mr. Belk requested more information about the cancellation of the crosswalk mural.

Mr. Carson re-stated that it was due to the lack of concept submissions.

Mr. Belk asked if the artist would be presenting themselves to the committee.

Mr. Ward suggested getting the community involved, the young people mostly, to have a hand in designing the mural concept.

Mr. Carson introduced Officer Lopez as the artist.

Officer Lopez gave further information about the mural. He stated he absolutely wants the community to be involved. That was his whole point in starting this mural, to get more involvement with the Northeast.

Mr. Belk asked about the permitting process for this type of project.

Ms. Tacher asked who the artist was.

Mr. Carson re-stated that it would be Officer Lopez.

Ms. Rowe asked what side of the building the mural would go on.

Mr. Winkler gave direction about the permitting process. Stating it should only take about 30 days for approval. Pending everything was submitted properly.

Further discussion on the permitting process.

Mr. Belk made comment about the importance of the project not being done halfway. He would like to see lots of color in the mural and possibly a spotlight to show it off during the evening.

Mr. Winkler stated the spotlight was absolutely do-able.

Mr. Ward stated he did not want to see this opportunity wasted. He really wants to see the committee and community take advantage of this. To represent their community right.

Ms. Harris brought up a possible deadline for the project to be submitted to the city for review.

Ms. Rowe further discussed the possible color scheme for the mural.

Further discussion on these two topics with Mr. Carson and committee members.

Mr. Ward asked who would be "head" of the mural project.

Mr. Carson stated it would be the Parks and Recreation Department.

Further Discussion on how the community can be involved.

Mr. Rowe stated that they could further discuss this at their next town hall meeting on January 23, 2023.

Further discussion on Town Hall with the committee meetings.

Mr. Carson stated that he does not want to "over complicate" the project. He would rather keep it streamlined so it does not get held up in the planning stages.

Ms. Rowe requested that Mr. Carson state what he needs from the board for the project to move forward.

Councilman Walker approached the podium to request that the committee members go outside with him to look at where the mural would be painted. To get some ideas generating on what could be painted there.

(Committee members all gathered outside to briefly look at the wall).

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Carson what would be painted on the wall. He felt that Mr. Carson already had an idea of what he wanted to be painted.

Mr. Carson stated Martin Luther King.

Further discussion between the committee members and Mr. Carson on this.

Ms. Harris made a motion to support the project pending the community would have a say on what would ultimately be designed and painted on the wall.

Mr. Walker requested information of who would maintain the mural.

Mr. Carson and Mr. Winkler stated that since the City owns the building than the City would maintain it.

Further discussion on the mural project amongst the committee members.

Ms. Harris motioned to approve the mural project as long as there was community approval.

Mr. Belk seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

MLK Building Photos

Ms. Hutcheson presented a photo packet of the photos to be hung in the building. She requested the board to give her an answer on if they would like historically accurate story plates or if they would like to create the statements for the plates themselves.

Mr. Belk stated he felt they should be historically accurate.

The remaining committee members stated they would like them to be historically accurate.

Ms. Taylor stated she felt she had not made herself clear on what she wanted the photos to be. She stated that she was wanting more photos of the community, not just the Rosenwald School. She would like to see the first, second, or third officer of the community.

Mr. Harley agreed, he would like to see some photos of old east-town barber shops.

Ms. Hutcheson stated that if anyone had any photos they would like to have represented she would see about getting them blown up and switched out the current photos every now and then. To add variety to the building photos.

Ms. Rowe suggested having the committee members send Ms. Hutcheson some photos that they have. Make sure that they were of good quality.

The committee members agreed to do that and requested this topic be added on as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Other Business

Ms. Harris asked Mr. Walker about the solar program.

Mr. Walker gave a brief description of it.

Ms. Harris requested information on the Solar program be added to the next agenda.

Ms. Harris asked Mr. Winkler about Code Enforcement and the carports in the northeast.

Mr. Winkler gave a brief overview of setback regulation.

Mr. Ward requested that Mr. Winkler give a presentation on setback regulations at the next meeting. He also requested the Ms. Hutcheson get him some information about code cases in the northeast.

Mr. Winkler stated he would be happy to get that information for him.

Ms. Hutcheson stated she would discuss with Mr. Sumner and get back with Mr. Ward.

PD Update

Ms. Courtney Likely approached the podium to discuss an issue she had dealt with the previous week with Mount Dora PD. She stated the incident happened on Ms. Taylor's property. She stated she would like to be more involved in to community policing efforts. She would also like to see better communication between officers and community members.

Officer Lopez stated he agreed and gave an overview of a coffee program he was hosting to get to know the community members. If anyone had any complaints, issues, or questions they could come speak with him for an hour to discuss. He will be hosting this every Wednesday at 10-11 am.

Ms. Taylor also made comment that she was very upset with how the events were handled. She was very disturbed and felt action needed to be taken to correct the error that was made.

Mr. Ward asked Chief Gibson if he was aware of this issue.

Chief Gibson stated he knew of and was aware of the situation but was not at liberty to divulge what happened. He further stated that more training is always encouraged at MDPD.

Mr. Belk made comment that the current topic was out of the committee's purview and shouldn't be discussed.

Ms. Harris and Ms. Rowe agreed.

Mr. Ward stated he just wanted to make sure that Chief Gibson had followed up with Ms. Likely.

Chief Gibson stated he would do so.

Announcement of next scheduled meeting date: January 9, 2024

To be added to next meeting's agenda: MLK Photos, Community Recreation Center Update; Solar Program Information; Set back presentation; and PD Update.

Adjournment

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Belk seconded the motion. All approved unanimously by voice vote. There being no further business, Ms. Rowe adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM.



Rona Rowe, Chair,
Redevelopment Board



Catherine Hutcheson Northeast
Coordinator