



**CITY OF MOUNT DORA  
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT  
MARCH 11, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

---

*The City of Mount Dora Northeast Redevelopment Committee met on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, in the Mount Dora City Hall, located at 510 North Baker Street, Mount Dora, Florida to discuss matters pertaining to the Committee.*

---

**I. Call to Order**

Having been duly noticed as required by law, the March 11, 2025 meeting of the Mount Dora Northeast CRA was called to order at 5:58 p.m. by Rona Rowe, Chair.

**II. Roll Call, Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance**

**Present:** Rona Rowe, Ozell Ward, Rosalyn Harris, Lynn Tacher, Juan Perez

**Absent:** Lillie Taylor

**City Staff:** Catherine Hutcheson, Administrative Coordinator; Adam Sumner, Northeast CRA Manager/ Planning Director; Officer Darrer Graham-Holts

**III. Approval of February 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

***MOTION by Mr. Perez, SECONDED by Ms. Tacher, to APPROVE the minutes with the two corrections of the date and typo.***

***For:*** Rona Rowe, Ozell Ward, Rosalyn Harris, Lynn Tacher, Juan Perez

***Against:*** none

***Motion Carried:*** 5-0

**IV. Public participation/hearing for non-agenda items**

(After Public Comment had already passed/ end of meeting) Northeast Community member Tracy Jackson, discussed his vexation due to being pulled over by a Mount Dora Police Officer on Jackson Avenue while coming home from work for “no reason”. Mrs. Rowe stated that he only had three minutes to discuss his topic as the public comment period had already



**CITY OF MOUNT DORA  
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT  
MARCH 11, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

---

passed. Mr. Jackson continued to speak on policing in the Northeast until Mrs. Rowe and Mr. Sumner stated public comment time was over.

**V. Discussion Items**

1.) Legislative Update

Mr. Sumner discussed the most recent legislation session, stating the new bills were posted on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. He discussed his coordination of lobbyist efforts in Tallahassee for the City and both CRA's. He stated that he has read every draft bill that has come out so far and that he is currently tracking 70 bills that could affect the City and/ or the CRA's. He discussed Senate Bill 1242 and House Bill 991 which are very catastrophic to CRA's if they become law. He further discussed the City's Lobbyist Firm, Gray Robinson, and that they are fighting to make sure that the bills do not come to fruition.

Mr. Sumner discussed that the bill states that all CRA's will cease to exist by July 1, 2025 and that no new projects may be started. Mr. Sumner fully explained what that means and the support against the bill running. He will provide the updates on the situation to the committee members.

Mr. Sumner discussed other bills that could still be harmful to the CRA's including cutting of property taxes and how that could affect the CRA's. He stated that this will affect money that supports the community redevelopment agencies.

Mr. Ward requested for Mr. Sumner to forward information to the committee members regarding the proposed bills.

Ms. Tacher discussed writing to Truenow with their concern over the bills.

Mr. Sumner agreed and stated that he has had a long standing friendship with Representative Cobb and has spoken to her personally and that she stands with the CRA's as well as Representative Yarkosky. He stated that if they are on our side that means the Senator is on our side as well.

Mr. Ward Discussed if the Florida League of Cities have put out any papers or talking points.

Mr. Sumner stated that they have and that he will share them with the committee members.

2.) PD Update

Officer Graham-Holts began giving his crime stats for the Northeast CRA and comparisons throughout the City. Mr. Ward discussed his disgruntlement over the report provided by Officer Graham-Holts stating that it was not what he asked for. Further discussion was had on what he expects from the Police Department.



**CITY OF MOUNT DORA  
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT  
MARCH 11, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

---

**VI. Other Business**

Mr. Sumner gave an update on Witherspoon Lodge stating that he did find an appraisal company and has them under contract to do an appraisal on the Witherspoon Lodge. He stated that work has started and they will be here, he believes, this Friday, to take photos, measure the dirt to verify the data. He continued saying that the City cannot get them inside the building as they did not think that was going to be necessary. The report should be completed two weeks after that. Once he has that information it will be given to the attorneys to start the steps to acquire the building.

Further discussion on how the lodge will be acquired and who will have control over that. Mr. Sumner stated the Historic Preservation Board will be assisting with the rejuvenation of the Lodge.

Further discussion amongst the board members and Mr. Sumner on how to attract residents and tourists.

**VII. Announcement of next scheduled meeting date April 08, 2025**

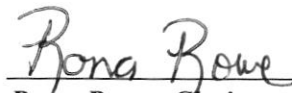
**VIII. Adjournment**


***MOTION by Mr. Ward, SECONDED by Mr. Perez, to ADJOURN the Northeast Community Redevelopment Committee Meeting at 7:00 PM.***

*For: Rona Rowe, Ozell Ward, Rosalyn Harris, Lynn Tacher, Juan Perez*

*Against: none*

*Motion Carried: 5-0*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rona Rowe, Chairwoman,  
Northeast CRA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Catherine Hutcheson  
Administrative Coordinator**