

Recap of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting September 26, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 A.M. by Chairman Anthony Arena. The members in attendance were: Chairman Anthony Arena, Vice Chairman Jim Mills, Greg Truax, Don Coryell, Vincent Tafuro, Calvin Johnson, Gaye Townsend, Anne Madden, Bea Black, Kay Doughty, and Mark Snellgrove. Members absent were: Jeffrey Rhodes and Miller Dowdy, One seat is vacant. Staff in attendance: Felicia Crosby-Rucker. A quorum was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Coryell, followed by introductions by each member. Ms. Doughty explained the role and responsibilities of the CAC for the viewing audience.

Meeting Recap – The recap of the August 22, 2008, meeting was moved by Mr. Snellgrove, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and approved unanimously.

Public Comment #1 – None.

Presentation by One Bay Elisa N. DeGregario and Stuart Rogel – Ms. Degregario provided a Powerpoint presentation (One Bay Presentation attached) which provides an overview of One Bay and its work in creating a regional vision. One Bay encourage all members to complete surveys and contact the office if more is needed.

Presentation by Code Enforcement – John Ferdon and Kemly Green – Mr. Ferdon provided the CAC with an overview (Code Enforcement Presentation attached) of the Code Enforcement Department. He highlighted some of the areas that the department addresses include but are not limited to electrical work, inoperable cars, plumbing, fire safety, interior structure, vacant and unsecured dwellings. A/C units are not monitored by the department. Mr. Ferdon introduced Ms. Green, Community Relations Staffperson, and highlighted the popular Dirty Dozen Brochure that the department uses as part of this public awareness campaign. The department is able to get 90-95% compliance – voluntarily. CAC members can email if they would like to get on the list for the department's newsletter and tip of the month.

Presentation by Head Start Director Louis Finney – Mr. Finney provided a presentation (Head Start Presentation attached) which provided an overview on the Head Start Program. Mr. Finney announced that the department was just awarded the first and only program in the United States for an Innovative Grant to implement Agriculture and Science Program for preschoolers (Math and Science) - a Gardening Project. The department seeks other funding sources as well to include but not limited to Nike Corporation, State Funds, Federal Government and nonprofit partners.

Other Business – After discussion about the County Mayor Issue no longer on the ballot for this year, it was moved and seconded and approved unanimously that the County Mayor Issue be removed for discussion from the agenda for next month.

The CAC discussed several options in regard to the December Meeting. Several suggestions included: Tour of Aviation Authority (original planned visit); Tour of Skyway Bridge; Tour of Wetlands Area; and Tour of various water projects. Staff was directed to follow up with Mr. Miller at the airport to see if the expansion project is underway and if the CAC should visit now or wait until next year before the project is completed. CAC Members (who suggested alternative tours) will bring more information on the tour to the October Meeting. Also, Staff was directed to follow up on a MacDill update or visit for next year. CAC Members will bring more information on the various tours at the October Meeting.

Ms. Townsend requested that the CAC be notified on the date and time of the Moral Courage Award so they could attend. Also, she informed the CAC that Mr. Hughes did not meet the criteria for the award and that should be revisited. Ms. Black discussed the Tampa Bay Higher Education Alliance and asked Staff could follow up with them to do a presentation at the November CAC Meeting. The members noted that several institutions have not responded to the CAC interest and that this education alliance could make a short presentation. In addition, any institution that is interested or has responded should attend as well.

Vice Chair Mills noted that he represented the CAC in attending the opening of the new HART Site.

Public Comment #2 – None.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.