

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

### Minutes

January 5, 2015

South Florida Regional Planning Council's Executive Committee met on this date at the South Florida Regional Planning Council, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL 33021. Chair Ritter called the meeting to order at 11:26 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call was accomplished before the Institute for Community Collaboration (ICC) Meeting.

#### **I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

Boardmember Patricia Asseff  
Boardmember Mario J. Bailey (via phone)  
Boardmember Margaret Bates  
Boardmember Frank Caplan  
Boardmember Tim Daubert  
Boardmember Nelson Hernandez (absent)  
Boardmember Martin Kiar  
Boardmember Jean Monestime (absent)  
Boardmember George Neugent  
Boardmember David Rice  
President Stacy Ritter  
Boardmember Xavier Suarez (via phone)  
Boardmember Paul Wallace  
Boardmember Sandra Walters  
Boardmember Jimmy Weekley  
Boardmember Juan C. Zapata (absent)

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel was present.

The following Ex-Officio Member was present:

Ms. Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Ex-Officio Member participated via phone:

Ms. Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

#### **II. Approval of Council Agenda**

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

James F. Murley, Executive Director stated that Agenda Item V.E., 79<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Partners in Progress Initiative and Community Action Plan, be deleted since it was discussed at the ICC meeting.

#### **III. Action Items**

##### **A. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Councilmember Kiar seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Financial Report

Councilmember Weekley moved to approve Agenda Item III.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Wallace inquired about a financial overview regarding the current financial status, revenue sources, and any progress that was made.

Mr. Murley stated the financial information on this Agenda Item is through November 2014. He stated that the Annual Audit will be presented at the Council in March and provided to all the Councilmembers. He informed the Council that in December a final payment, of approximately \$50K, was received from work completed on Opa-locka. He stated final reimbursement from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Adaptation Action Areas (AAA) Grant should be received soon. He reminded the Council that there was an AAA presentation in Key Largo and will keep them updated on the progress. He stated that the Grant works in conjunction with the Regional Compact; because of the work on AAA, the DEO has asked the SFRPC to head up a new Federal Grant Application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and are waiting on the decision. He stated another important subject to the Region is transportation. He informed the Council that he is in continuous contact with the Florida Department of Transportations, District IV and District VI, and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties in trying to establish a regular stream of revenue through them. He stated there is a grant in place with our Regional Transportation Authority and a report should be finalized in the next quarter. He stated that the SFRPC has made some progress and continues to be in a situation that was created four years ago when state funding was eliminated. He stated that we continue to look for opportunities to fill that in and work hard to cut expenses.

C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

- Broward County 14-8ESR
- Miami Dade County 15-1ESR
- Monroe County 14-3ACSC
- City of Cooper City 15-1ESR
- Town of Davie 15-1ESR
- City of Doral 14-4ESR
- City of Miami Beach 14-1ESR
- Village of Pincrest 15-1ESR
- City of Plantation 15-1ESR
- City of Sunrise 15-CIE1
- City of Weston 15-1ESR

Councilmember Walters inquired what “TBD” means on this Agenda Item. Mr. Murley clarified that it means “To Be Determined”. He explained that the elected officials’ votes are not always included on the transmittal of a Proposed Amendment and the vote is always recorded for an Adopted Amendment.

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve Agenda Item III.D, Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews – None

F. Election of Council Officers – 2015

Mr. Goren, Legal Counsel, stated that the Nominating Committee met this morning and under the Council Rules the Executive Committee is required to be a balance between the Governor Appointees and local Government Officials. He informed the Council that Commissioner Monestime resigned his Vice Chair position at the Council; the consequence is, under the rules that govern the advancement on the Executive Committee, Commissioner Monestime would have become the Chair and with his absence it left two open positions of Treasurer and Secretary. He stated the recommendations were:

Councilmember Walters, Treasurer, becomes Chair  
Councilmember Rice, Secretary, becomes Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Suarez was nominated as Treasurer  
Councilmember Asseff was nominated as Secretary

Mr. Goren stated that both Councilmembers Suarez and Asseff were consulted and accepted their nominations and Chair Ritter is now the Immediate Past Chair. He stated that the Councilmembers have legally constituted recommendation from the Committee and asked Councilmember Wallace for confirmation for the record.

Councilmember Wallace stated that the Nominating Committee consisted of Councilmember Kiar, Weekley and himself and confirmed the nominations and their approvals.

Councilmember Kiar reminded the Council that there is a vacant Broward County Commission representative and that Councilmember's seat will be hopefully filled in February when the new Broward County Commissioner is sworn in.

Councilmember Weekley moved to approve Agenda Item III.F, Election of Council Officers – 2015. Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Immediate Past Chair Ritter thanked the Council.

G. Proposed Meeting Locations – 2015

Chair Walters asked if there are concerns regarding the 2015 meeting locations.

Councilmember Weekley commented on the City of Miami Commission Chamber's location and if there is another possible location in Miami-Dade County.

Councilmember Rice stated that, coming from the south, the City of Miami Commission Chamber is a difficult location for travel. Chair Walters reiterated to the Councilmembers on the phone that the discussion is regarding an alternative meeting place in Miami-Dade County, possibly further west, and closer to major transportation corridors. The location suggestions were the Sunlight Stadium, FDOT VI, and the South Dade Government Center off the turnpike. There were questions on the parking and Councilmember Wallace explained the South Dade Government Center is a large complex with a Courthouse, Government offices, a library and plenty of parking.

Mr. Murley stated these locations will be looked into.

Chair Walters requested a deferment and Mr. Murley proposed the Executive Committee take action on this Agenda Item next month.

Councilmember Weekley moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee, at the February Executive Committee Meeting, regarding the location change in Miami-Dade County for 2015. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Wallace suggested the Council thank the City of Miami for the use of their Chambers for our meetings. It was mentioned that the City of Miami Chambers is a beautiful location.

#### **IV. Discussion Items**

- A. Executive Committee Report - None
- B. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Murley congratulated the newly nominated Executive Officers.

Mr. Murley stated that Governor Scott sent a letter encouraging Florida Counties and community partners to thank our First Responders by declaring January 5-9 as Florida First Responder Appreciation Week. Mr. Murley explained the RPCs are involved on a regional level and would like to make a motion to take action and request the Counties and cities do the same.

Councilmember Weekley motioned that a letter, regarding Governor's Scott proclamation of recognition for the First Responders, be sent to the cities and counties to encourage them to do the same. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Chair Walters suggested Governor Scott be made aware that the RPCs, especially the SFRPC, play a very significant role in coordination with our First Responders.

Mr. Murley announced the Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) meets this week and Councilmembers Caplan and Bailey will be attending; Councilmember Rice is unable to attend at this time.

Mr. Murley informed the Council that the Downtown Development Authority, Increment III Development of Regional Impact (DRI) in Miami will be coming before the Council. He stated it was originally approved by the Council in 1986. He stated that this is an opportunity to work with our local government partners. He informed the Councilmembers that they will review the Application for Development Approval (ADA) when it is submitted; a report will then be prepared and reviewed before final action is taken following the Council's recommendation.

Mr. Murley stated that at the FRCA meeting in Tallahassee an important item will be discussed regarding the Region. He explained that it is about Amendment 1 and the distribution of the documentary tax allocation the Constitution requires. He stated that Monroe County Commission and Administration has taken a proactive stance to make their needs known. He is asking the Miami-Dade and Broward County Administrators to see if there is a similar list so there is a fair return back to the Region for the most documentary tax dollars available. He stated that Downtown Miami is the largest single development area in the Country. He explained the documentary taxes would go into the State pot and one third will be allocated by the legislature to a series of activities. He thinks it is important and this will continue for 20 years. He stated that a base line can be established to work with our county governments and consolidate strategies at the regional level. He would like to suggest it to FRCA since this would be a way

for the RPCs to support our cities and counties. He stated that he will report back to the Council after the FRCA meeting. He stated that this not just about buying land, it is about managing land, taking care of our beaches, water quality and other uses; the question is how legislature will decide to allocate the funding. He stated that the input will come from various sources.

Councilmember Bailey informed the Council that a few weeks ago, letters were stating that the legislature will be written for a 5-Year Plan per municipality to allocate these funds. He stated that the Council should come up with a resource strategy.

Mr. Murley requested to speak on the Agenda Item FRCA Monthly Accomplishment for an update at this time. Chair Walters approved.

Mr. Murley stated that there is a proposed Agenda before the Policy Board Meeting on Friday but it does not specifically talk about Amendment 1. He explained that Amendment 1 will be part of the Executive Director's Meeting on Thursday. He stated the FRCA Policy Board will be reviewing the FRCA Action Plan that was spearheaded when Councilmember Asseff was Chair.

Mr. Murley informed the Council about Palm Beach County's decision to stay with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TRCPC). He explained the recent history; that in the summer, Palm Beach County Commission indicated interest in leaving the TRCPC to rejoin the SFRPC where they started 30 years ago. He stated the initial vote of 4-3 to move forward with a move to the SFRPC. He stated that in December 2014, there was another meeting, which he attended, and in that meeting the Palm Beach County League of Cities was not ready to support the move. He stated the second vote, in December, was to stay with the TCRPC. He stated that they voted an alternative motion to ask FRCA to review the RPCs' boundaries. He explained a discussion in a public debate was if Palm Beach County were to join SFRPC the three remaining Counties could not financially survive and would have another adjacent County join the TCRPC; this will create a domino effect. He stated that Executive Director of FRCA, Ron Book, is involved with these discussions and will present this at the Policy Board Meeting. He stated that this interest is at the State level for a solution. He stated that the SFRPC will continue as is and will continue to work together with TCRPC.

Mr. Murley stated there is information from the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) in regards to the last review of the RPC boundaries and how it relates to other entities' boundaries. He stated that this is another point of reference.

Mr. Murley stated that the Annual Report of FRCA is at their seats.

Councilmember Wallace inquired if the Palm Beach County Commission vote was the determining factor or is it a recommendation; do they have the legal power to leave?

Mr. Murley explained that the Palm Beach County Commission has the legal power to leave and give notice under their MOU with the other Treasure Coast Counties. He stated that the one external authority on this issue is the Governor, if he approves the map that divides the State into sub-state planning areas. He stated that in the past prior Governors have adjusted the map to the desires of the Counties. He stated that this is primarily a County decision; the County Commission is responsible for the dues. Mr. Murley explained that the Palm Beach County Commission realized this one county change could cause repercussions throughout the State; it was decided to not move forward at this time and they asked FRCA to review the boundary issue.

Councilmember Caplan inquired about a possible discussion regarding Amendment 1 or wait to hear what happens at the FRCA meeting; would it be left to the County Commission to determine an order of priorities, and is there a need to have a project established? He would like to know the procedure.

Chair Walters stated that the RPC may not have the data to make recommendations; it is at a county by county level. She stated that the SFRPC has not had input from the other Counties in regard to Amendment 1.

Mr. Murley suggested the Council play the role of monitoring the outcomes and see how the funding is allocated. He stated a lot could be related to the Everglades.

Councilmember Bailey is concerned that if we wait, we will not get most of the funding that is available. He stated that they are planning now and we should come together to have the Counties come up with a plan to be able to get the maximum amount of dollars.

Chair Walters, who had served on the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) from 2000-2004, which is the Board that oversees the Florida Forever Program stated the composition of the Board is the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection because of the Division of the State Lands, the agency heads of the State Parks, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and other various State Agencies. She explained that they are the major players with managing state conservation lands as well as three Governor Appointees. She stated that she had reviewed hundreds of state management plans, in addition to many applications for listing on the Florida Forever priority list; she also participated in developing the first rule to implement the Florida Forever Program. She said that from that experience she found that the system that worked through Florida Forever is very good because it considered the relevant rankings of different conservation lands around the State. She stated the Florida Native Areas inventory is a huge staff contributor for the data that the ARC reviews and it identifies the major environmental priorities. She stated that management is a huge need. Her recommendation, since there is no opportunity to get some input from our three counties right now, would be the legislature to enable this funding to go through the ARC, since the process has been established over 15 years, to administer that funding. She stated that there is a system in place right now that she has seen works very well.

Councilmember Ritter is concerned that the legislators will look at this as turkey money and feed over this to see who can bring home the most money for a particular district and the elected officials will want credit for it. She stated that there is a bigger issue here not just bringing home money to your district. She stated that if FRCA is involved, Councilmembers from both sides of the aisle can talk to leadership and try to explain the issue as having a state-wide impact if not a local impact.

Chair Walters strongly recommended this. She stated a system has been created and is being fine tuned to administer these funds and the management of the process. She stated that Monroe County is not going to suffer from this process since ARC still ranks Monroe County projects at the top. She stated that the data supporting the evaluation process developed over the years is very extensive and has a tremendous amount of input with a great deal of data as to what the appropriate priorities should be.

Councilmember Rice stated that prioritization for the Region should not be the Council's role; he thinks the leadership should come from the elected officials from each County. He stated that Monroe County started this process long ago. He thinks there is a need to act individually or as a group to communicate to the Counties in case they have not started this process of prioritizing and the prioritization for lobbying; it is not too early to start. As a matter of fact it may be too late.

Councilmember Bailey stated he is starting to see legislation where the funding is allocated in different ways. He stated the Council needs to be ahead of the game and this would be a great way to show the Council is relevant.

Chair Walters stated that with her personal experience, the Counties brought projects to the ARC, some of which were management projects, as did the State Agencies who manage all state land in the different counties who needed funding for management. She stated that when she served on the Board there were several properties in Miami Dade County that had specific management issues and seek prioritization in funding. She stated that Counties have always been players and she thinks people may have forgotten that to a certain extent because of the funding decreasing so dramatically that supported the Florida Forever Program. She stated that 10 years ago the funding was good and there is a process that was created so the wheel should not have to be created.

Councilmember Kiar supports Councilmember Ritter's suggestion. He stated when he was first in the legislature there was the Community Budget Issue Request System (CBIRs). He stated that he loved CBIRs because he was able to receive funding for his district in Broward County as well as others. He stated that the economy became dead (slow) and CBIRs went away. He informed the Council, while talking to a colleague, it was mentioned that it could be CBIRs days all over again. He stated the reason he brought this up is because this is the mind set in Tallahassee and taking an approach like Councilmember Ritter brought up would be very beneficial for this Council and other Councils throughout the State.

Mr. Murley stated that in the past the maximum amount of money that was processed and spent, including Florida Community Trust, was approximately \$300 million. He stated that this funding will be closer to \$600 million reminded the Council that one-third of all doc stamps will be allocated and will continue for 20 years. He said there was discussion of putting a Five-Year Plan in place. He thinks it is important, by the first year, for the SFRPC to use all the input and work through FRCA to show our relevancy to this process. He explained that it is one third of the absolute collection, not a fixed number like the bonds that are issued. He stated there are a lot of things in play and our job is work with our Counties, they have the lobbying cores and the knowledge, then information can be provided and give the Council further suggestions. He wanted to emphasize the amount of money that will be issued and that this is a 20 year plan.

Chair Walters stated she appreciated Mr. Murley's input because of his former role as Secretary of Department of Community Affairs, Chair the Florida Communities Trust. She stated that with Mr. Murley's input, she would like to suggest that the Council follow Executive Director Jim Murley's advice and see how things go at the FRCA meeting with our participation and representation through the Counties.

Mr. Murley stated that the Everglades has a separate appropriation in Tallahassee and that appropriation will help our three Counties as well as the other Counties.

Chair Walters stated that the people who were the major supporters, who got the whole program rolling to get this Amendment passed, that the Everglades is a major focus of theirs, which is a huge benefit for us.

Mr. Murley recognized Immediate Past Chair Ritter by the Council donating \$100 to Family Central, a not for profit of her choice.

Immediate Past Chair Ritter thanked the Council.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren reminded the Council that in December there was a discussion authorizing an internal loan regarding the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI) and in approving minutes today confirmed the fact that the internal loan was authorized and any other loan transactions that may have occurred. He stated that a note and back up documents were prepared but nothing has been accomplished. He stated he will update the Councilmembers at the next meeting.

Mr. Goren stated that Agenda Item V.B.I, regarding the Revolving Loan Program has fewer loans in default. He stated that most of the loans are performing; some of the loans are under legal action in which they are paying on a per month basis. He stated that there is no other litigation to report. He informed the Council that the relationship Cheryl Cook has with each borrower is personal and she and staff are a very successful aspect in this program.

Chair Walters congratulated staff for the turn around from last months meeting. She stated that this is a great tribute to staff.

D. Ex Officio Reports - None

Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) stated that FDOT is updating of the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Plan. She stated there will be Regional Forums in February and will be working closely with District VI and District IV offices. She asked if Chair Walters would like FDOT to come before the full Board or Executive Committee for a presentation on this state wide, year long effort.

Chair Walters stated she would like the presentation to be in front of the full Board.

Ms. Boucle stated that at the February 2, 2015 meeting, she can inform the Board of the dates and locations of the Regional Forums. She stated that at the March Council Meeting, FDOT can present the input received and the upcoming meetings. Chair Walters and the Board agreed with Ms. Boucle's suggestion.

**V. Program Reports and Activities**

A. Council Mission

B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports

- 1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- 2) Smart Watts Home Energy Retrofit Loan Fund Status Report

C. Emergency Preparedness Program Status Report

D. Florida Regional Councils Association

- 1) FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

**VI. Announcements and Attachments**

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) February 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (Executive Committee Meeting, SFRPC Office, Hollywood)
- 2) March 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (City of Miami Commission Chambers, Miami-Dade County)
- 3) April 6th, 10:30 a.m. (Executive Committee Meeting, SFRPC Office, Hollywood)
- 4) May 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Murray E. Nelson Government Center, Key Largo)

## **VII. Councilmember Comments**

Councilmember Asseff announced that Christine Heshmati was given an award in Colorado regarding the Clean Cities Coalition Program.

Ms. Heshmati, of Council staff, stated that the award is actually the Council's Award. She explained the members of the Clean Cities Coalition for Southeast Florida include Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. She stated that there is an Annual Report on fleet administration for both private and public entities which include cities, counties and private companies. She explained that in this Report's Survey various entities were asked how many "clean" vehicles are in operation, CNG, electric and so forth, the kind of idle reduction measures the companies are taking, and how many cars are being pulled off the road because of their bus systems and TriRail. She stated that our Coalition is one of the largest Coalitions in the Country and has been awarded as the third most improved fuel economy nationwide. She thanked Councilmember Asseff and stated that she will be contacting fleet administrators later in the month and coping Councilmembers in regards to this Annual Report Survey of 2014 energy efficiency measures.

Councilmember Wallace requested an update on the Railroad Project during one of the full Council Meetings.

Mr. Murley stated that he will extend the invitation to all parties involved. He stated that he would like the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), TriRail, to present the opportunities that are presenting itself because All Aboard Florida expansion of passenger service on the existing track system.

Councilman Wallace would like to know the relationship between TriRail and the All Aboard Florida Project.

Mr. Murley stated that there are multiple levels. He acknowledged the presence of Linda Westin, from SFRTA. He stated that he would coordinate with SFRTA and All Aboard Florida to give presentations and that the two FDOT Districts will probably be in attendance.

Chair Walters stated that the next full Council Meeting will be in March in Miami-Dade County. She asked that the Councilmembers plan ahead to meet in May Key Largo. She stated that the Monroe County Members would appreciate it.

Councilmember Caplan suggested that a letter of recognition be sent to Commissioner Monestime since he resigned from the SFRPC and became Chair of the Miami-Dade County Commission.

Chair Walters thanked Councilmember Caplan for the suggestion.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the

January 5, 2015 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2015.

---

Patricia B. Asseff, Secretary

---

Date