

DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

**City Hall at St. James
117 West Duval St., 1st Floor
Lynwood Roberts Room**

Friday, May 3, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

DIA Members:

Oliver Barakat, Chairman

James Bailey, Vice-Chairman

Kay Harper Williams, Secretary

Antonio “Tony” Allegretti, Board Member

Melody S. Bishop, Board Member

Paul Perez, Board Member

Robert Clements, Board Member

Michael Saylor, Board Member

Donald Harris, Board Member

DIA Downtown Experience Committee:

Tony Allegretti, Chair

Don Harris, Committee Member

Mike Saylor, Committee Member

Board Members Present: T. Allegretti, D. Harris, M. Saylor, and O. Barakat

Office of General Counsel: Jason Gabriel

Attendees: Paul Crawford, OED Deputy Director, Eric Lindstrom, DIA Staff Liaison, and Michelle Stephens, Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board member Allegretti, Chair of the DIA Downtown Experience Committee called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board member Allegretti provided a Power Point presentation (attached) that featured the recent One Spark event.

Board Member Allegretti provided the following update:

- The Hemming Plaza meeting yesterday he thought went well. Seems like we are on track to get a RFP out for a not for profit that will be an umbrella agency to take ideas and actually get them to the park. Effort will help people engage in the park more and help to streamline what it takes to do an event in the park, which is not easy due to insurance requirements, permitting, etc.
- Meeting is scheduled with OGC, OED, Risk Management and a few other producers of events downtown to review and streamline the requirements. The current permitting process is not completely dysfunctional, but is in need of improvement. He noted that there are some onerous things that risk management has said have always been in place, but in his

opinion are a bit prohibitive to those wanting to do things downtown. From that meeting the group will come up with ways to either streamline the process, draft a new ordinance if necessary, etc.

- Suggested moving the meeting from 4:00 or 5:00 pm versus 10:00 am. Those present had no objection to moving the meeting to 4:00 pm.

Board member Bishop commented that she thinks there is an overlap between the Experience Committee and the Environment Committee suggesting in an effort to use time more wisely we need to either understand clearly what the differences are or possibly combine them.

Board member Bishop referenced

Board member Allegretti ask Jack Shad about the bicycle corral and/or possible metered space absorption. Mr. Shad replied regarding the bike corrals that he met with Public Works and they were fine with the concept, they don't think legislative action is needed to make it happen. Basically, a plan is needed, code requirements, insurance requirements, funding, etc. Temporary pop-up bicycle parking may not be an issue but doing anything longer term or leasing space to a private business may require legislation.

Chair Barakat commented as DIA enters its second year and we have a lot of momentum with a lot of events happening downtown asked Board member Allegretti what he thinks the DIA's role should be going forward with all of these events referencing the Cultural Council, DVI, the Chamber, ad-hoc groups, etc. Board member Allegretti replied that he sees the Committee serving as clearing house assisting people interested in having events downtown.

Referencing the Shipyards RFI

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bruce Foraker: Mentioned that the Charles Adams-class Destroyer as a floating museum could be an ongoing experience downtown. Docking space is needed and six acres of land, suggested the COJ could donate 6 acres of the Shipyards property to the Adams Museum Foundation with the stipulation that if the museum is not successful the land would go back to the city, and suggested that about \$400,000 of the money that became available to the DIA could be used for work needed on the bulk head area.

John Nooney: Would like for the DIA to support the boat ramp master plan for 2013, mentioned the floating dock at the shipyards being excluded from the RFI.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board member Allegretti adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:11 a.m.

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. For verbatim comments for this meeting, an audio CD is available upon request. Please contact Michelle Stephens, Office of Economic Development at (904) 630-1979 or by email at msteph@coj.net.