



Community Redevelopment Agency
306 E Jackson St., 2nd Floor North,
Tampa, Florida 33602
Office (813) 348-1146

EAST TAMPA CRA
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 9 AM
City Center, 2555 E. Hanna Avenue, Tampa, FL 33610
Minutes and Action Items

I. Call to Order: 9:05 AM
Attendance

Connie Burton	Aileen Henderson
Norene Copeland-Miller	Rev. Dr. Jeffery Johnson (Absent)
Eboney De Costa	Frankie Jones
Cynthia Donnell	Carlos de la Ossa (Virtual)
Craig Fox	Clinton Paris, Esq.
Toinette Gaines (Virtual)	Fran Tate
Dr. Grace Glenn (Virtual)	Diann Zeigler
Kimberly Headland	

CRA Staff: Cedric McCray; Melisa Martinez and Belix Parks

Community: Rick Kugler; Mida “Mimi” Martinez; Nancy Bolen; Jasmine Doby; Jaida Clark; Marquis Holley Alison Hewitt

Virtual: Toinette Gaines; Carlos de la Ossa; Alison Hewitt; Brenda Thrower; Grace Glenn; Jomar Lopez and b35ed714-ad53-46eb-a

II. Public Comment: None

III. Action Items

- A. Approval of March 5, 2024, CAC Meeting Minutes – There was a motion by (de la Ossa/Tate) The minutes were approved unanimously.

- B. FY25 Budget – ETCAC Manager McCray requested that ETCAC members become acquainted with the current budget in preparation for the FY25 budget discussion during the May 7th ETCAC meeting. All Tampa CRA budgets will be presented to the CRA Board during the June 2024 meeting.
 - Mrs. Copeland Miller requested information on the resurfacing projects that have been completed in the last 5 years.
 - Mr. Fox inquired about the budget approval process following the ETCAC recommendations.
 - Chair Paris suggested all ETCAC members review the FY24 budget information and reach out to Mr. McCray with any questions.
 - Mrs. Copeland Miller questioned Stormwater retention ponds funds in the FY25 budget?

IV. East Tampa Project Updates (Melisa Martinez)

- A. 1102 E. Curtis Street (Destinations/Faith Baptist Church)
 1. Community meetings are scheduled for April 16th and April 20th.
 2. Staff working the Planning and Neighborhood Engagement Departments to schedule community meetings in April 2024.
 3. Looking to have a vendor in place to handle remediation and lead paint removal no later than June 2024.
 - Ms. Burton wanted to ensure the community was involved in the decision-making process regarding the redevelopment of Faith Baptist Church.
 - Mr. de la Ossa mentioned a conflict with the SESH Association meeting on April 16th and requested communication be sent to their attention.
 - Ms. Henderson believes it is important to see the total number of projects since the ETCRA inception in 2004.
 - Mrs. Ziegler felt it was important to focus on the existing projects.

- B. (Gator Building) 3623 N. 22nd Street.
 1. Working with Contract Administration Department to procure a design plan and conduct public engagement on the future use of the site as well as estimated project costs.
 2. Phase II environmental testing discovered a tank on site of the property.
 3. The goal is to rehab the existing building.

C. CRA Arts Projects Coordinator Interviews

1. Completed interviews.
2. Several local candidates.
3. Will be responsible for public arts projects within the CRAs.
 - FDOT has held public meetings in East Tampa on roadway improvements and aesthetics (C. Fox).
 - Round-a-bouts are not high on my list as it relates to future projects (N.C. Miller)
 - The community needs to move in together and eliminate any division as projects are prioritized based on the needs of the community (C. Burton).

V. **CRA Communications (Belix Parks)**

- A. Engage Page for community engagement information.
1. Community meetings on April 16th and April 20th.
 2. Direct mailers to direct residents to the Engage Page.
 3. Description of project phases from beginning to end.
 4. Provide additional details on the specific projects.
 5. Received approval to post larger signs prior to community meetings.
 6. Online survey to solicit responses from residents and sign up for notifications.
 7. YouTube channel for CRA Board and CAC meetings.
 8. Communications RFP will be released in the near future.
 9. Kiosk in East Tampa will have CRA information posted.
 - Digital signs and locations within the East Tampa CRA (C. Paris).
 - Thank you for the uplifting report and communications information (C. Burton).
 - Request the ETCAC meetings be in the Florida Sentinel quarterly (F. Tate).

VI. **Managers' Report**

- B. CRA CAC Trainings on March 25 & April 1st
- C. East Tampa CRA Community Redevelopment Plan Update
- D. Tampa CRA 2023 Annual Report.
- E. 1308 E. 17th Avenue – for Housing Rehabilitation Program
(Motion by N.C. Miller/F. Tate) to approve funds up to \$150,000 from the Housing Rehabilitation line item in the ETCRA budget for the property at 1308 E. 17th Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.
 - What specifically does the exterior owner-occupied rehabilitation program cover (D. Zeigler)

- It is unfortunate that it has taken this long to assist this homeowner. Please do whatever we can to expedite this effort. There are probably 100 other homeowners in a similar situation. We need more notice when requests such as this come before the ETCAC (C. Paris).
- There have been some strong advocates that have assisted in this effort. We need to continue to push to make things happen (C. Burton).

F. East Tampa Summer Youth Update (Rugina Castillo)

1. Coordinator position start date.
2. Information session on June 3rd at Ragan Park Recreation Center.
3. Orientation on June 10th at Gary Adult School.
4. 21 students from last summer have reapplied.
5. Symposium event on July 29th at C. Blythe Andrews Library.
6. 54 applicants have been approved to move forward in the hiring process following the pre-screening process.
 - What happened to the additional students and hiring additional staff to support more students? (C. Burton and A. Henderson)
 - If ETCAC members wanted like to participate, how can we be involved. Fox)?
 - How is communication taking place to inform students about the program? (E. DeCosta)
 - Will additional funding let over to hire additional staff for the summer? (A. Henderson)
 - What eliminates students from being hired? (C. Donnell)

G. Memorial Park Cemetery Veterans Memorial Monument

1. Shared the request to increase the height of the monument.
2. Shared estimates for restoration of the Veterans Memorial.
3. Fencing RFP is out, and a vendor should be selected in the coming months.

H. New Business Updates

1. Probate and estate administration.
2. CRA Board Chair Henderson meeting invitation.
3. Public Art in East Tampa CRA
4. Project Tracking Sheet
5. CAC Training budget
 - Opposed to spending funding designated for ETCAC training with the FRA Conference. (C. Burton)

I. CRA Board Motions

VII. New Business

- A. Request staff provide an update on the extension of the CRAs within the City of Tampa (C. Burton).
- B. Formalize a tracking program for the residential grant funded programs. (K. Headland)
- C. Inquired about the possibly to invite Parks and Recreation rename or memorialize and commemorate the history Memorial Park Cemetery in the June 2024 meeting. (C. Fox)

VIII. Announcements

- A. Resolution 568 relating to the harm done to African people will be discussed at City Council. (C. Burton)
- B. Historic Belmont Heights Neighborhood Association Reunion will be on May 4th 10 AM – 2 PM. A cemetery tour of Memorial Park Cemetery will start at 9 AM. Working with Belmont Heights Little League as well. (A. Henderson)
- C. Introduction of Blake Ballard student at Villa Madonna shadowing Atty. C. Paris. (C. Paris)

IX. Adjournment: 11:05 AM