



**Ybor City Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Summary
When: May 28, 2024, at 4 p.m.
Where: Entrepreneur Collaborative Center
2101 E. Palm Ave, Tampa, FL 33605**

CAC Members Attending		City Staff/Team members	
Rich Simmons, Chair- <i>At-Large</i>	Olivia Aye – <i>At-Large</i>	Brenda Thrower	Offc. Charlie Hathrox
Michael Murphy - <i>At-Large</i>	Marcia Austin – <i>At-Large</i>	Melisa Martinez	Capt. Dan College
Arnold Trueba- <i>At-Large/HCSO (V)</i>	Walter Pinillos – <i>Gaybor</i>	Jason Stewart	Offc. L Rodriguez
Chris Wojtowicz – <i>At-Large</i>	Carolyn Rhodes- <i>HEYGNA</i>	Rene Lopez	Offc. Daniel Perez
Brittney Barrie – <i>At-Large (V)</i>	David Bailey - <i>HYNCA</i>	Offc. James Wilcher	Offc.Jasmine House
Tom DeGeorge- <i>YMA</i>	Fran Costantino - <i>Emeritus</i>		
Carmine Iavarone – <i>At-Large</i>	Rich McIntyre- <i>At-Large</i>		
CAC Members Absent		Guests	
Joseph Capitano Sr. - <i>Emeritus</i>	Steven Barbas - <i>YCMS</i>	Jack Smith	Andrea White
Larissa Baia- <i>HCC</i>	Carisa Erion- <i>At-Large</i>	Lee Bell	
Liz Welch, Vice Chair – <i>BLC</i>	Cristal Lastra - <i>Social Clubs</i>		

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** The Ybor CRA Community Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. as an in-person/call-in meeting by Chairperson Rich Simmons. A quorum was present. Trueba and Barrie were attending virtually. Roundtable introductions were made, and member roll call was taken.
- II. **Public Comment (3 minutes):** None
- III. **Action Item:**
Approval of Ybor CAC Minutes of April 30, 2024: The minutes were offered for review and comment. Hearing no comments, Chair Simmons entertained a motion to approve. ***There was a motion (Murphy/Rhodes) to approve the April 2024 minutes. The vote was unanimously approved.***
- IV. **Community Policing Reports**
 - a. **Tampa Police Report:** Captain Dan College reported on the crime stats included in the agenda packets. Overall, crime is down but DUI arrests were up due to check points. Wojtowicz asked about extending the closure to 3 am. McIntyre asked about parking lot security and the status. DeGeorge asked about the security guards and Bailey said an annual operation plan review requirement by the city would be good. Iavarone inquired about the YES Team helping later at night. Stewart said ambassadors are scheduled until 2 a.m. There was a question about extending their hour, but College didn't believe their presence after 2 a.m. would be beneficial.

TPD handles the 3 a.m. club closure time now. The parking lot ordinance revisions should be going to the City Council in June.

- b. **Homeless Liaison:** Officer Perez provided the homeless liaison reports. He reported housing one individual at Tampa Hope. The laundry mat at 8th Avenue and 34th Street has been an issue, and they are monitoring it. This alley is between Crowbar and Kress building and 3-4 individuals have been sleeping in the area. Wilcher mentioned cleaning out another alley as well. Rhodes mentioned issues at East Ybor Park and the picnic tables have been moved into the sun to deter loitering.
- c. **Enhanced Code Enforcement Report:** Renee Lopez, Code Enforcement Officer, provided report that was emailed to the CAC members. Rhodes asked if complaints are mentioned at this meeting are they logged in? Perez advised her to report complaints through the online system so they are tracked. Bailey asked about vending permits since there is illegal vending taking place in the lots. Iavarone asked about the process to remove illegal vendors from private property. It was advised to call TDP to trespass the individuals. .
- d. **YES! Team Report:** Jason Stewart, Block by Block Manager, reported on the monthly activities and provided a detailed report.

V. **Special Presentations:**

- a. **Javier Marin, Director for Economic Opportunity, City of Tampa** – Thrower introduced Mr. Marin to the CAC and he shared his background as a banker for 23 years and working with small business development. His role at the City of Tampa is to support small businesses to generate economic growth in the community. He presented a power point presentation where he shared the economic development dashboard 47 indicators. He mentioned that 15.6% of the population in the City are in poverty so the goal is to provide more training and job skills that will lead to employment. The City partners with Tampa Bay Wave who provide technical assistance and entrepreneur training. There are also grant programs available. DeGeorge said he is a bar owner who has advocated for small businesses. How do small businesses know about these services? Marin said he has a small business navigator on staff, CT Harris, and she reaches out to small businesses. He provided his contact information so members can follow up with him. Thrower asked Marin to explain the Community Benefits Advisory Council to the CAC and how they can apply to participate.

VI. **Reports**

a. **CAC Chairman's Report: Rich Simmons**

- **CRA Board Meeting Recap:** Simmons summarized the May CRA Board meeting. He welcomed our newest CAC member, Rich McIntyre who was present today.

- **YCDC Inc. update-** The organization will be resuming meetings this summer to continue to work on bylaws, mission, vision, and branding. HCP has assisted with the transferring the paver program landing page and payment platform as part of their migration planning process.

b. CRA Manager Report- Brenda Thrower

- **CRA Projects Report** – The report provided by the Projects team was included in the agenda packet. The bricking project is planned to commence this summer and will keep the CAC updated. Bailey mentioned that HYNCA has some ideas for the neighborhood that they would like considered for funding.
- **FRA Awards Applications** – The deadline is June 14 and Ybor will be submitting two awards: 1) 7th Avenue Archway Lights since they didn't win an award last year and 2) the Ybor YES Team. The annual conference will be held in Tampa this year October 22-25.

Unfinished Business – none

New Business- There was general discussion about today's meeting attendance with so many absences and luckily, we were able to achieve a quorum. With that said, the CAC agreed that it would be helpful to take a break this summer so members can enjoy their planned vacations and not worry about missing a CAC meeting. Thrower said the City Council/CRA Board takes a vacation break in July and it's the discretion of the CAC if they would like to schedule one too. ***There was motion (Wojtowicz/lavarone) to cancel the July 30 CAC meeting for a summer vacation break. Vote was unanimously approved.***

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Next Ybor CAC Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 4 p.m. at the ECC.