

Lehigh Acres Community Planning Corporation, Inc.
June 8, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order by President / Chair Bo Turbeville @ 7:00 PM

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call by Secretary Baker

Present

- ✓ Bo Turbeville, John Dixon Morrow, Charlie Difelice, Keith Richter, John Miller, Wayne Elrod, Willard Baker, Azelma Simmons, Jim Fleming, Damon Shelor, Patty Vealey, Moises Gallegos

Excused

- ✓ Liz Eilf, Frank LaRosa

Approval of May Minutes – correction to the spelling of Borosch

Motion to Approve Minutes with correction – (Baker, Richter) Unanimous

Jim Mudd – spoke on the recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan for Lehigh BOCC may approve \$25 ~ \$50K

- If LACPC chooses to prepare an Extensive Comprehensive Plan (ECP) it could cost up to \$200K, suggested speaking to Commissioner Albion to get his feel on possible support for the larger complete plan
- If LACPC goes for the ECP, Mudd felt the RFP should go out for bids regionally not just countywide
- Dec '05 BOCC will be looking for a “progress report” on the plan, Sep '06 is when the full plan should be completed
- To be included in the Plan – Vision for Lehigh / Community Goals / Series of Policies that would become Law
- Land Development Code revisions; or Moratoriums could be addressed as possible issue to the overwhelming growth in Lehigh and rezoning of Commercial properties
- This could be addressed now, does not have to wait for the plan to be completed and submitted
- LACPC will have a meeting in the next few weeks to discuss options between the two plans and to prepare a proposal to present to the BOCC in July/Aug

Bo – stated that the By-Laws would be followed regarding

- Purchases, reimbursements for the Board
 - Checking account required two signatures on all checks (Chair, Co-Chair and/or Treasurer)
 - Checks would not be authorized without prior approval from the Board
 - Treasurer's report was submitted
 - **Motion to approve Treasurer's Report** – (Richter, Shelor) Unanimous
- Subcommittee's are to record all meetings, and submit electronic copy to the Recording Secretary
 - Fleming stated he would donate two digital recorders for the Boards use
- Meeting Information – dates, times, locations are to be submitted to the Recording Secretary who will submit the information to the local media for public notification

Subcommittees

- Fleming – CoChair / Planning & Zoning
- Gallegos – Chair / Architectural & Code Enforcement
 - Linda Carter appointed to CoChair / Architectural & Code Enforcement
 - **Motion for Carter to CoChair** / Architectural & Code Enforcement (Fleming, Simmons) Unanimous
- Shelor – CoChair / Law Enforcement & Public Safety
- Vealey – Exofficio / Finance & Grant Committee
 - Shelor expressed interested in CoChair also with Parks & Rec (to be addressed at July Meeting)

Attorney / Parliamentarian

- Fleming, Elrod, DiFelice, Miller, Anderson to form Committee to pursue a Parliamentarian for assistance to the Board
- Someone to guide Board through meetings who would be familiar with By-Laws etc is more what is needed
- Fleming suggested Robert Anderson as Parliamentarian, Anderson refused the position but agreed to assist the committee
- Attorney offered by the Chamber still an option
- **Motion for Committee to form to pursue an Attorney or Parliamentarian** (Morrow, Vealey) Unanimous

Subcommittee Reports

- Morrow – was unsure if LACPC would be in existence this week so his committee has done nothing, after this meeting he felt more positive and would pursue outreach and trying to bring the public back to the meetings
- Richter – has done nothing, has found many websites that can be used to build upon the initial funds provided by BOCC to fund the plan
- Baker – Joel Blvd on hold due to Phone Co & FL Util, requested support from the public to push for Sidewalks and Bike paths
 - County meeting on the 15th @ 3:00 (3rd Wed of ea month)
 - Sidewalks are set up for the next five years
 - Fleming stated the County need to enforce existing Codes and encouraged new homes be required to install sidewalks for new construction
- DiFelice – spoke of a broad plan to expand services
 - N-S corridor from SR-82 @ Green Meadows that could connect from Alico Extension through Sunshine Blvd to SR-80
 - Would allow Commercial expansion on Sunshine
 - Opens the airport, University, 3-malls; assist with evacuations; lessen traffic on Lee Blvd
 - Hawks Haven Subdivision - Hearing Examiner's meeting – June 15th 10:00 / will go for a full vote to BOCC (you must put your name down to speak at the Hearing Examiner's meeting in order to speak when it goes before BOCC)
 - Robert Anderson interjected into the meeting urging the Board to make a resolution regarding the N-S Corridor

- **Motion for a resolution to be prepared to present to BOCC to have a Right of Way in the Hawks Haven development to allow a N-S Corridor** – (Shelor, Baker) Unanimous (DiFelice to represent LACPC)
 - LACPC Board members and residents urged to attend
- Transportation / Lee Tran – Lehigh previously had an “express route” to downtown Ft Myers
 - Route cut in 2001, to go from Lehigh to downtown area now takes 2 hrs
 - Lee Tran Director doesn’t feel that there is enough support to change the route
- LaRosa – no report / absent
- Shelor – no report / new position; Pat McDonald stated he welcomed Damon and they could begin again
- Turbeville – praised Miller’s Beautification subcommittee, they really helped with Code Enforcement issues
 - Miller’s crew really “cleaned up Lee Blvd” offered a “special thanks for all of their hard work”
 - Will pass all of his facts and information on to Gallegos who will assume Chair of the subcommittee
- Miller – going through county code, investigating various plants, report submitted
- Eilf – absent / LaLeike reported Liz is recovering well
 - June 14th, next meeting
- Elrod – discussion, visionary meetings
 - Trying to get updated maps, need to slow things down, land is being rezoned faster than they can plan for
 - June 16th, 7:00 next meeting

Open Board Comments:

- Richter – cannot believe this is the same group, got more accomplished in this one meeting than in the last 7 months; encourages the attendees to tell others and get them to come back to the meetings; believe we can do the job!
- Miller – bills submitted desired reimbursement; this was for the Spring Festival for \$123.21 (signs, postcards, plants, handouts) did a lot of networking and outreach
 - Bo – stated he wanted it to wait for next month; wanted to get policy established
 - **Motion to approve the reimbursement for \$123.21** (DiFelice, Richter) Unanimous
- Baker – stated he could wait an additional month if needed to be reimbursed for the POBox; this was previously approved and is to be paid
- Miller – brought up the fact of the \$25.00 check he signed over to Linda Carter was to allow her to attend the Community Planning Training she was vital in bringing to the group
- DiFelice – encouraged the Board to go for the Extensive Comprehensive Plan that will include everything not just the quick short items; We deserve the \$200K to get the plan that will be the best for Lehigh
- Baker – will be representing the Community Council on the N-S Corridor Right of Way issue
- Fleming – spoke of an outfall needed above the Franklin Lock
 - Requested a resolution from LACPC in support of ECWCD to support the outfall that will have to go through Hawks Haven

- **Motion for a resolution from LACPC to the Planning Dept, BOCC and Developer to work with ECWCD to find a solution to Lehigh's outfall problem to the Caloosahatchee** (Fleming, DiFelice) Unanimous

Open Public Comments on Any Subject (2-3 Minutes Enforced) (no Board comments, listen and digest the information)

- Pat McDonald – informed the Board that local property owners fought this corridor 3 yrs ago, so they are ahead of this proposed resolution
- Robert Anderson – stated it was a very good meeting;
 - Old check issue not discussed;
 - Questioned Barrett as CoChair of the Planning & Zoning Subcommittee;
 - Miller again with the cart before the horse
- Linda Carter – Hurricane season is upon us; Need to do it right, plan now! Accessibility
- Nolan Joseph – liked the idea of a clock for all to see; requested copies of the plan Jim Mudd supplied to the Board be available at the next meeting
- David Adams – Angered with his private information being released to the public
 - Disgusted with Fleming not offering any public apology
 - After receiving a letter from the County Attorney feels that Fleming Violated public records law
 - Stated Fleming should be removed or step down for violating public trust, no longer should sit on the Board
- Mike Welch – Congratulations on the meeting w/o turbulence;
 - People don't follow those they can't trust;
 - Take responsibility for your actions;
 - Board needs to address these issues just mentioned – openly and publicly and take responsibility for their actions
- Karen Adams – brought up the fact of the \$587.00 expenditure Fleming authorized for creation of a logo (Fleming previously stated to the Board he had the Logo, it was designed in the 70's, and that he had rights to use the Logo)
 - The issue of needing to spend \$587 to create a logo was never brought before the Board
 - The issue of reimbursement was never approved by the Board

Bo stated he appreciated everyone's support, public comments discussed at the end of the meetings will be compiled for a future Agenda items to be discussed

Motion to Adjourn the meeting @ 8:45 PM - Unanimous