MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
DIAMOND SQUARE CRA
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency was held on May 20, 2024, at the City of Cocoa, City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noticed.

I. **Call to Order**

Chairperson **MOORE** called the meeting to order at **6:00 pm**.

Invocation: Vice Chairperson **McQUEEN** provided the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairperson **MOORE** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

Tracy A. Moore	Chairperson
Crystal McQueen	Vice Chairperson
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Brenda Fox	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Angelia Smith	Agency Member
Marilyn Smith	Agency Member
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Ryan Browne	Recording Secretary

PRESENT:

Tracy A. Moore	Chairperson
Crystal McQueen	Vice Chairperson
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Brenda Fox	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Angelia Smith	Agency Member
Marilyn Smith	Agency Member – via phone
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Ryan Browne	Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Community Services Director NEUTERMAN and City Manager WHITTEN, were in attendance. Agency Liaison GOINS absent.

Chairperson MOORE welcomed our two new members, Brenda FOX and Angelia SMITH.

II. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**

AGENDA:

Agenda - Regular Meeting of May 20, 2024.

***MOTION by Agenda Member BROWN; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson McQUEEN to approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2024, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

MINUTES:

Minutes - Regular Meeting of April 15, 2024.

***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson McQUEEN to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 15, 2024, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

III. **Delegations**:

1. Anita Gibson, 451 Stone Street.
    i. Asked what is being done about the homeless hanging around the area. City Manager WHITTEN described efforts the City is making to curtail the homelessness issues. He explained the complexity of the issue, as well as its universality – an issue not only in this district, but, also, across the City, County, and Country. Will take a comprehensive, collaborative long-term approach to seriously address it. The will is not there yet to do so. City continues to seek options and explore opportunities to work the issue. Board is asked to continue to report issues to the City Manager, who in turn can inform the Police Chief, especially if some new issue arises. Manager WHITTEN explained that the new state law provides municipalities the ability to move unhoused – but, only if they have a bed for them somewhere else.

ii. Asked if the Michael C. Blake Subdivision is getting an HOA. Agency Attorney COLOMBO replied that would be up to the residents, once the entire subdivision is completed. Would only encompass the Subdivision, so would not affect her, as she is a neighbor to the Subdivision, but, is not inside it.

iii. Finally, Ms. Gibson asked about the status of her rehab. Director NEUTERMAN explained that, currently, she is number 3 on the list.

IV. **Presentations**: None.

V. **Action Items:**

1. Request Agency approval for an application to the Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed $1,000 for the property located at 622 South Carolina Avenue, Cocoa, Florida and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Grant Agreement.
   i. Introduction. Director NEUTERMAN introduced the item.
   ii. Discussion.
   iii. Vote.

***MOTION to approve the application by Vice Chairperson McQUEEN; SECONDED by Agency Member BROWN, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

2. Request Agency approval for an application to the Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed $500 for the property located at 622 South Carolina Avenue, Cocoa, Florida and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Grant Agreement.
   i. Introduction. Director NEUTERMAN introduced the item.
   ii. Discussion.
   iii. Vote.

***MOTION to approve the application by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

3. Request Agency approval for an application to the Paint Grant Program in an amount not to exceed $1,000 for the property located at 714 Bernard Street, Cocoa, Florida and authorize the City Manager to execute a Paint Grant Agreement.
   i. Introduction. Director NEUTERMAN introduced the item.
   ii. Discussion.
   iii. Vote.

***MOTION to approve the application by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson McQUEEN, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

4. Request Agency approval for an application to the Beautification Grant Program in an amount not to exceed $500 for the property located at 714 Bernard Street, Cocoa, Florida and authorize the City Manager to execute a Beautification Grant Agreement.
   i. Introduction. Director NEUTERMAN introduced the item.
   ii. Discussion.
   iii. Vote.

***MOTION to approve the application by Vice Chairperson McQUEEN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM, as written.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

5. Request Agency provide Staff with feedback about Budget Priorities for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Planning process.
   i. Introduction. Director NEUTERMAN introduced the item.
   ii. Discussion.
      1. Director NEUTERMAN explained how the Four Corners Visioning process by consultant RVI is related to the CRA Plan Update and the Budget process. Chairperson MOORE asked about the timeline. Director NEUTERMAN ran through the timeline for the budget process. July feedback. August prep documents. September goes to

Council. October goes into effect. Members asked to bring ideas to next meeting.

iii. Vote. – **NO VOTE; only discussion.**

VI. **Attorney's Report**: Inspire Placemaking Collective CRA Plan Update Agreement has been finalized and is now ready for the City Manager's signature. CRA Staff and the Purchasing Manager did a nice job, as always.

1. Chairperson MOORE asked if there were any Benchmarks? Agency Attorney COLOMBO replied that there are Five Phases, where they are only paid if completed.

VII. **Updates and Staff Report**

1. Director NEUTERMAN: gave various administrative updates.
   i. Welcomed two new Agency Members, FOX and A. SMITH. Thanked them for serving.
   ii. CRA Plan Update draft begun.
   iii. Michael C. Blake (MCB) Subdivision – Five new homes. New homeowners signing final documents soon.
   iv. Parks & Rec Summer Camp. Applications are open. Two scholars awarded, 8 more waiting on paperwork.
   v. Reminder. Annual Ethics Training.
   vi. Reminder. Upcoming Events (flyers in packets).
      1. Memorial Day (Mon. May 27).
      2. Juneteenth (Sat. Jun. 15).
      3. WeVenture Hispanic Business Summit (Sat. Jun. 22).
   vii. Diamond Square Initiative Program ($10k) – publicly released today. Results will be brought to next meeting.
2. City Manager WHITTEN: gave various administrative updates. Hopeful that Old Joe Lee Smith building money gets approved at state level, approx. $2.5 million to renovate the building, putting in a health clinic and Montessori school.
3. Vice Chairperson McQUEEN asked the City Manager if the Four Corners project had a quality project proposed. City Manager WHITTEN replied that they do not at this time. The Four Corners Vision process should help with getting us closer to something usable. Be sure to participate, so we know what you would like to see there.
4. Chairperson MOORE: gave updates from a trip to museums in Tallahassee and brought back ideas for our museum. She detailed ideas and best practices that she picked up on from this trip with the Florida Historical Society. Wants to see more interactive exhibits and, possibly, eventually a gift shop. Also, interested in paving the parking lot. She is concerned that we fully utilize this community resource to teach children their heritage.

VIII. **Next Meeting Date**

The next scheduled meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency will be on **June 17, 2024** at **6:00 pm** at the **Dr. Joe Lee Smith Community Center**, located at **415 Stone Street**, Cocoa, Florida unless a business need arises earlier.

IX. **Adjournment**

***MOTION to adjourn by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM.**

AYES: MOORE, McQUEEN, BROWN, FOX, ISOM, A. SMITH, M. SMITH.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 7:23 pm.

_____
Tracy Moore, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:

_____
Ryan Browne, Recording Secretary