

HOMELAND DEFENSE/
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD
MINUTES

5/27/03 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF MIAMI
Miami Riverside Center
10th Fl. Main Conference Room
444 SW 2 Avenue
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33133

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m., with the following members present:

Rolando Aedo
Ringo Cayard (entered at 6:50 p.m.)
Mariano Cruz
Robert Flanders (Chairman)
Walter Harvey
David E. Marko
Gary Reshefsky
Manolo Reyes (Vice Chairman)
Rhonda Vangates

Absent: Sonny Armbrister; Luis Cabrera; Steven Caseres; Julie Grimes; Jami Reyes; Louis de Rosa.

I. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2003.**

HD/NIB MOTION 03-38

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2003.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: M. CRUZ
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA; S. CASERES;
J. GRIMES; L. de ROSA; R. CAYARD

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ ADDRESSES THE BOARD.

Commissioner Sanchez appeared before the Board requesting support for his district's Memorial Linear Park Project. The Audit Committee recommended approval of the project. The Board voted to adopt the Audit Committee's recommendation.

B. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER:

- **Walter J. Harvey – nominated by Mayor Diaz.**

Walter J. Harvey is a partner with the law firm of Steel, Hector & Davis. He is a member of the Public Health Trust and a former member of the Charter Review Task force for Miami-Dade. He has also served on the Dade County Community Relations Board.

C. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT.

Board Member Reshefsky made an appeal to the Board for more volunteers to serve on the Audit Committee. Chairman Flanders commended the Audit Committee on the fine job the Committee has been doing and on the many hours Committee Members have logged in furthering the work of the Board. Board Member Marko echoed the need for more volunteers to the Audit Committee, to relieve some of the pressure placed on the present members and on City staff (i.e. Danette Perez and Kelly da Silva) in performing the work of the Committee. Board Member Vangates volunteered to serve on the Committee. Board Member Reshefsky reminded the Board of the need for volunteers to the Communications Committee, as well. CIP Director Jorge Cano expressed his appreciation for the work the Audit Committee has been doing and the support the Board has been providing. Board Member Reshefsky provided the Board with a monthly update as to how the City is performing in expending funds on various projects.

- **Schematic Design and Scope of Work presentation for Memorial Linear Park Project.**

Presentation by Enrique Nunez -- City of Miami Department of Planning and Zoning, along with Anthony Lopez of the firm of Falcon & Bueno, consultants to the project. This project is located in Commissioner Sanchez' district. Commissioner Sanchez appeared at the meeting and made an appeal to the Board to support this project. The Audit Committee recommended approval of this project, subject to identification of budgeted line items for maintenance and security of this project. The scope of work for this project will include the installation of empty conduits/sleeves for future electrical wiring and irrigation.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-46

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE MEMORIAL LINEAR PARK PROJECT; FURTHER, THAT THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL INCLUDE THE INSTALLATION OF EMPTY CONDUITS/SLEEVES FOR FUTURE ELECTRICAL WIRING AND IRRIGATION; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF BUDGETED LINE ITEMS FOR MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY OF THE PROJECT.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: M. CRUZ
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Resolution authorizing an increase in the construction contract between the City & Unitech Builders, Corp. to cover unanticipated change orders for additional work to the new recreation building at Jose Marti Park - \$100,000.**

Presentation by Ed Blanco--Dept. of Parks & Recreation. This project encompasses construction of a new recreation building in the park. Approximately \$800,000 of bond funds are earmarked for this project. Park staff/park manager are presently in place at this park. The Audit Committee recommended approval of this project, subject to the Parks Department identifying a line item in its budget for maintenance/security/programming for this project.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-45

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE INCREASE IN THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MIAMI AND UNITECH BUILDERS CORPORATION TO COVER UNANTICIPATED CHANGE ORDERS FOR ADDITIONAL WORK TO THE NEW RECREATION BUILDING AT JOSE MARTI PARK; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION/PROGRAMMING OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
 SECONDED: M. REYES
 ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
 S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
 J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Ballet Gamonet project.**

Presentation by Jimmy Gamonet., Arthur Curtis and George Mercille (phonetic). This is a project that Commissioner Winton has identified in his quality of life funds to support the capital interior build-out of a ballet to be housed in the historic Alfred I. Dupont Building located in downtown Miami. This project represents an expenditure of \$300,000 from Commissioner Winton's quality of life funds. The Audit Committee recommended approval, including the following conditions:

(1) Lease with the Alfred I. Dupont Building to be reviewed by the City of Miami, and subject to the City's approval.

(2) Should Ballet Gamonet decide to relocate from the Alfred I. Dupont Building, such relocation must remain within the City of Miami.

(3) Provide outreach programs for underprivileged children within the City of Miami.

(4) Provide performances at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, when feasible.

(5) Work with CIP Department in order to obtain expedited permitting of the build-out of interior space.

(6) This approval is subject to the approval of the City of Miami Bond Counsel.

Board Member Aedo expressed discomfort at the idea of the Board recommending approval of appropriation of bond funds for any projects/organizations which are not owned by the City of Miami. He further suggested that if there were some way whereby investment in this project would result in

some type of a guarantee on the investment, then he would have no reservations on approving the project.

Vice Chairman Reyes agreed with the philosophical concerns raised by Board Member Aedo, and reminded the Board that approval of this project would be subject to bond counsel's legal opinion of same.

CIP Director Cano reminded the Board that citizens voted for a quality of life component to the bond funds and each Commissioner was given discretion to identify projects such as this that would stimulate the quality of life in their respective districts.

Board Member Marko expressed concern re setting the wrong precedent by using bond monies for things that are not traditional capital improvements.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-39.

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BALLETT GAMONET PROJECT, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: (1) LEASE WITH THE ALFRED I. DUPONT BUILDING TO BE REVIEWED BY THE CITY OF MIAMI AND SUBJECT TO THE CITY'S APPROVAL; (2) SHOULD BALLETT GAMONET RELOCATE FROM THE DUPONT BUILDING, SUCH RELOCATION SHOULD OCCUR WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI; (3) PROVIDE OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI; (4) PROVIDE FOR PERFORMANCES AT THE GUSMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS WHEN FEASIBLE; (5) CONSULT WITH CIP DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN EXPEDITED PERMITTING OF BUILD-OUT OF INTERIOR SPACE; FURTHER, APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY CITY OF MIAMI BOND COUNSEL.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: M. CRUZ
NAYS: R. AEDO
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA; R.
CAYARD

- **Fencing project at Melrose Park.**

The Audit Committee recommended approval of this project, which involves replacement of a chain link fence with a steel picket fence. Funds to be appropriated from the \$45,000 of bond monies earmarked for Melrose Park, with a condition being that the Parks Department budget include line items re maintenance/operation of this project. Estimated cost of this project: \$45,000.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-40

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE MELROSE PARK FENCING PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECOND: M. REYES
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Fencing project at Triangle Park.**

This project is located near the Roads Neighborhood. The Audit recommended approval of this project which costs approximately \$40,000. Funds to be appropriated from the \$50,000 of bond monies earmarked for Triangle Park.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-41

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE TRIANGLE PARK FENCING PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECONDED: W. HARVEY
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Playground at Pine Heights Park.**

This park is located near the Jackson Hospital/Civic Center area of the City. It is also close to the Children's Home Society. The Audit Committee recommended approval of this project, which costs approximately \$30,000. Commissioner González has expressed support for this project.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-42

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE PINE HEIGHTS PLAYGROUND PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECONDED: M. REYES
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Site furnishings at Grapeland Park.**

Approximately \$1.3 million dollars of bond funds have been earmarked for this park. This particular project will cost approximately \$25,000. This park will also be subject to the new master plan which is being developed. The Audit Committee recommended approval of this project, subject to Parks Department identifying line items re maintenance/operation/security of this project.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-43

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE GRAPELAND PARK SITE FURNISHINGS PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECONDED: M. REYES
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

- **Playground at Grove Mini Park.**

This park is located near the area of the Orange Bowl. Estimated cost of this project is \$22,500. Approximately \$40,000 of bond funds have been earmarked for this park. The Audit Committee recommended approval, subject to the Parks Department identifying line items in its budget for maintenance/security/operation of this project.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-44

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE GROVE MINI PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY LINE ITEMS IN ITS BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE/SECURITY/OPERATION OF THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECONDED: W. HARVEY
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

III. CHAIRPERSON'S OPEN AGENDA.

Chairman Flanders invited CIP Director Jorge Cano to discuss a concept which has been developed regarding the issue of how \$28,000,000 of unallocated bond funds would be appropriated. An additional \$28,000,000 in bonds were sold in the first series which were not appropriated to specific projects. Every dollar in the first series needs to be associated with a project. Discussions were had about having a CIP workshop including input from all City Commissioners, as well as community activists and other members of the public. Mr. Cano felt that if a simpler solution could be provided, based on the integrity of how the first \$255,000,000 were allocated, it might be more appealing to everyone. Of the \$255,000,000 in projects accounted for in the Bond Program, approximately 61 percent of the projects were City-specific projects. Approximately 39 percent of the projects were district-specific projects. The same percentage of the City to district ratio was applied to the unallocated \$28,000,000, resulting in an additional allocation of \$11,000,000 for district-specific projects, (\$2.2 million per district), and \$17,000,000 for City-specific projects. Mr. Cano has been meeting one on one with each City Commissioner, explaining the reasonableness of this approach as it maintains the same ratio of City to district projects, and a list of recommended projects would be provided to the City Commission for consideration and approval. All Commissioners have expressed agreement to this concept and a list of recommended City-specific projects to be funded from the \$17,000,000 has been prepared, for review by the City Manager and for discussion by the Commission. One concern expressed by all Commissioners is that they would like to see City-specific projects happening in their districts or affecting their districts, i.e. a new police training facility, acquisition of land to build new fire stations and construction of a seawall at Bicentennial Park.

IV. ADDITIONAL ITEMS.

Larry Spring, Chief of Strategic Planning, Budgeting and Performance informed the Board that pursuant to a meeting with the new Acting Director of Municipal Services, and subject to City Commission approval, two to three million dollars will be allocated for a maintenance plan re development of CIP Projects. He also informed the Board that the Parks budget has been a topic of discussion among the City Commission.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-47

A MOTION TO ADJOURN TODAY'S MEETING.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: M. CRUZ
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; L. CABRERA;
S. CASERES; J. GRIMES;
J. REYES; L. de ROSA

Note for the Record: Motion passed by unanimous vote of all Board Members present.

***Please note time change from 6:30 pm to 6:00 pm.**