

HOMELAND DEFENSE/
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
BOND OVERSIGHT BOARD
MINUTES

12/23/03 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF MIAMI
CITY HALL - CHAMBERS
3500 Pan American Drive
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33133

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

Rolando Aedo
Luis Cabrera
Ringo Cayard (entered at 6:30 p.m.)
Mariano Cruz
Robert A. Flanders, Chairman
Walter Harvey
Suzanne Peters
Gary Reshefsky (entered at 6:34 p.m.)
Manolo Reyes, Vice Chair (entered at 6:20 p.m.)
Luis de Rosa
Rhonda Vangates

ABSENT:

Sonny Armbrister
Steven Caseres
David E. Marko
Jami Reyes

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF OCTOBER 28, 2003 and NOVEMBER 20, 2003.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-98

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF OCTOBER 23, 2003 AND NOVEMBER 20, 2003.

MOVED: M. CRUZ
SECONDED: L. de ROSA
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; S. CASERES;
R. CAYARD; D. MARKO;
G. RESHEFSKY; J. REYES; M. REYES

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

II. OLD BUSINESS:

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Site furnishings at Jose Marti Park.
- Court renovations at Moore Park.

Both these projects were reviewed at the November meeting, but due to lack of quorum no motion was made regarding the projects. The Audit Committee recommended approval of both projects at its November 14, 2003 meeting.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-99

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND (HD/NIB) OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE JOSE MARTI PARK-SITE FURNISHINGS PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT \$10,000 OF HD/NIB (PARKS & RECREATION) BOND FUNDS BE ALLOCATED TO THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: L. de ROSA
SECONDED: M. CRUZ
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER;
S CASERES;
R. CAYARD; D. MARKO;
G. RESHEFSKY; J. REYES

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

HD/NIB MOTION 03-100

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND (HD/NIB) OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE MOORE PARK-COURT RENOVATIONS PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT \$100,000 OF HD/NIB (PARKS & RECREATION) BOND FUNDS BE ALLOCATED TO THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: W. HARVEY
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; S. CASERES;
R. CAYARD; D. MARKO;
G. RESHEFSKY; J. REYES

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

III. NEW BUSINESS:

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Miami High Bungalow Site Survey & Construction Material Testing.

Presentation by Alan Poms of the CIP Department. Mr. Poms provided Board Members two bills which came in after construction was substantially done -- one from ATC for the cost of inspecting foundations before concrete was poured (approximately \$168), and the other bill was for a proposal from the surveyor on the project to update the existing survey to show the placement of the Miami High Bungalow on the site. When the project commenced, no survey of Southside Park existed. One was done for the construction plans, and usually, at the conclusion of a project, the surveyor will perform a review of the improvements that were done. Cost of the surveyor's proposal was approximately \$500. Miami High is the first and oldest high school in Miami.

Board Liaison Danette Perez informed the Board of the recommended approval by the Audit Subcommittee, but requested to hear from the City's Parks Dept. regarding the future use of the bungalow. The Audit Subcommittee also requested to hear from the City's Historic Preservation Officer, Sarah Eaton regarding the appropriation of approximately \$668 from the Historic Preservation Initiative line item. Ms. Eaton appeared before the Board and recommended approval of this appropriation.

Vice Chair Reyes inquired as to whether the cost for the scope of work had changed in any way.

Mr. Poms informed the Board of several additive alternate items that were in the bid re this project, which the two major components were to restore the original porch of the building, which was done, and also to replace the historic roof of the bungalow, which was also done. Mr. Poms further informed the Board that at a later date, he would provide the Board with the sum total for rebuilding the roof and the porch. Board Member Aedo further requested that Mr. Poms inform the Board of whether any additional monies would be needed for this project, and what amount would be needed. The Audit Subcommittee was curious as to what the next step would be as far as utilizing the building.

Parks Director Santiago Corrada addressed the Board re this project, informing the Board that the building would be utilized for educational programming, which was the original use of the building. Many non-profit organizations have approached the City's Parks Department expressing a willingness to provide tutoring programs in the building at no cost to the City. The building could also be utilized as a computer laboratory. If a non-profit organization utilizes the building, such organization would also provide maintenance to the building at no cost to the City.

Board Member Reshefsky indicated that the Audit Subcommittee at its December 15, 2003 meeting recommended approval of this project. Board Member Aedo explained to the Board that the original allocation of approximately \$250,000 was done after

the fact, and that, in itself, created some trepidation.

Board Member Cabrera and Vice Chair Reyes expressed concern over the exorbitant renovation cost to historical projects. Parks Director Corrada assured the Board that by working with CIP, Parks would cut costs wherever possible.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-101

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND (HD/NIB) OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE MIAMI HIGH BUNGALOW SITE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT \$668 OF HD/NIB (HISTORIC PRESERVATION) FUNDS BE ALLOCATED TO THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: G. RESHEFSKY
SECONDED: M. REYES
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; S. CASERES;
D. MARKO; J. REYES

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

- Flo Jo Monument at Curtis Park.

Presentation by Parks and Recreation Director Santiago Corrada. Some time ago, Gold Medalist, Olympic Superstar Flo Jo (Florence Joyner-Griffith) visited Curtis Park and left cemented imprints of her feet and hands in the Park. On a recent visit to the park by Mr. Corrada and Commissioner González, the monument was uncovered. A decision was made to preserve this monument as it is an important part of the history of Curtis Park. Plans are underway to relocate the monument to a safer location within the park.

Board Member Reshefsky informed the Board that at its December 15, 2003 meeting, the Audit Subcommittee voted to recommend approval of the allocation of \$18,750 to this project. The Audit Subcommittee further recommended that the Office of Communications should publicize this

item and that a global plan should be developed for Curtis Park.

Mr. Corrada explained that for Curtis Park, a major renovation of the bleachers is needed and most of the money that has been allocated to this park will go towards bleacher renovations. Major renovations are also needed for the existing building at the park and eventually it is hoped that a NET office and a Parks office will be located within the park. Track and field renovations have also been done at the park.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-102

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BY THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND (HD/NIB) OVERSIGHT BOARD AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE OF FLO JO MONUMENT AT CURTIS PARK PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT \$18,750 OF HD/NIB (NEIGHBORHOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS-CURTIS PARK) FUNDS BE ALLOCATED TO THIS PROJECT.

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

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

- Art Thrones at Margaret Pace Park.

Presentation by CRA (Community Revitalization Agency) Director Frank Rollason. On November 25, 2002 Omni/CRA Motion No. 02-94 was passed by the CRA Board, wherein the Board directed the Executive Director to request reimbursement of a CRA grant in the amount of \$25,000 to the New World School of the Arts for completion and installation of three Art Thrones in Margaret Pace Park. Reimbursement was to be sought from both the Miami-Dade Office of Art in Public Places and the City of Miami. Art in Public Places has determined that such request is not reimbursable. Though the grant authorization was for \$25,000, a total of \$22,635 was actually expended on the project. Funding is needed to complete the project. A welder on the project, frustrated over not being paid, reached the point where he decided to destroy the throne

he was holding in his shop, which would mean the end of the artwork. It would take approximately \$25,000 to finish the project. The CRA Board, upon the appeal of Mr. Rollason voted to fund the \$25,000 to finish the project with the caveat that the CRA would pursue reimbursement for the funding from the County and the City. The funding source from the CRA was Tax Increment Funds (TIF). The rules of using TIF monies require that the project to which TIF funds are appropriated must be a part of the CRA master plan. Margaret Pace Park is not a part of the CRA master plan, so the monies should be refunded to the CRA by the City. Mr. Rollason requested that the Board allocate bond funds to refund these TIF monies to the CRA.

At its December 15, 2003 meeting, the Audit Subcommittee voted not to support this project at this time. According to his understanding, Board Member Reshefsky noted that in the past, the City has already refunded the CRA for all construction that took place at Margaret Pace Park. He further noted that there are additional projects of greater importance (i.e. shoreline stabilization, and a cover for the tot lot) that need to be addressed at Margaret Pace Park before expending funds on something that is not considered a priority.

Board Member Aedo added that at the December 15 meeting, there was also mention of the park ranger position which the CRA had committed to funding and that to date, the position has not been filled.

Parks and Recreation Director Santiago Corrada informed the Board that the CRA was able to allocate \$30,000 for a three-year period for the park ranger program, but a delay occurred because of difficulty in coming to an agreement on who would manage the park ranger, whether it would be law enforcement staff or Parks staff. Several meetings were had with Employee Relations to make this determination. Job specs have now been submitted re this position and Parks is looking to hire temporary staff to fill this position.

Mr. Rollason reiterated his understanding of the concerns of the Audit Subcommittee, but stressed the fact that this project is a part of construction which has already been completed and installed. This artwork is considered a signature piece within the park. That being the case, the CRA should be reimbursed. Mr. Rollason further explained that the project was designed to be done with

Homeland Defense bond dollars from the very beginning. There was some delay in the bond dollars being put in place and going forward with the project, and the CRA Board did not want to wait, so the Board funded the money through TIF dollars to do the project, with the intent that once the money was in place, the CRA would be reimbursed.

HD/NIB MOTION 03-103

A MOTION BY THE HOMELAND
DEFENSE/NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT BOND
(HD/NIB) OVERSIGHT BOARD RECOMMENDING
APPROVAL OF THE MARGARET PACE PARK-ART
THRONES PROJECT; FURTHER RECOMMENDING THAT
\$22,635 OF HD/NIB (NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
IMPROVEMENTS-MARGARET PACE PARK) FUNDS BE
ALLOCATED TO THIS PROJECT.

MOVED: M. REYES
SECONDED: L. de ROSA
NAYS: G. RESHEFSKY
ABSENT: S. ARMBRISTER; S. CASERES;
D. MARKO; J. REYES

Note for the Record: Motion passed by a vote of
10/1.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT:

Chairman Flanders reviewed the annual report (Exhibit D-Spread Sheet), reflecting total approved projects, total amount appropriated, allocations, six- to nine-month follow-ups, et cetera. The City is fortunate to have good bond counsel and a dedicated City staff. The Board will make its report to the City Commission in February 2004. The City is being rebuilt in every neighborhood and no one is being left behind. Chairman Flanders attributed the Board's success to the dedication of its members and the support of the community who voted in favor of the bond. He further expressed his pleasure in being a part of the Board for the past year.

Larry Spring, Chief of Strategic Planning, Budget and Performance addressed the Board. He is

preparing a cost allocation analysis and will provide same within the next two to three weeks.

Chairman Flanders indicated that by vetting projects on behalf of the City, this volunteer Board has saved the City hundreds of thousands of dollars in terms of consulting.

V. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

No additional items.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.