

CLEARWATER DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT BOARD
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
August 21, 2014 – 5:30 PM – City Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present:	Paris Morfopoulos	Chairman
	Craig Rubright	Treasurer
	Dennis Bosi	Member
	John Doran	Member
	Stu Sjouwerman	Member
	Tony Starova	Member
Also Present:	Bill Jonson	Ex-Officio/Councilmember
	Anne Fogarty France	Board Administrator
	Geri Campos Lopez	Director, Economic Development & Housing Department
Absent:	Thomas Wright	Vice-Chairman
	Jay Polglaze	Ex-Officio/Councilmember

1. Chairman Morfopoulos called the Downtown Development Board (DDB) meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and introduced members.
2. Citizen Comments. There were no comments.
3. Adopt FY 2014-2015 DDB Budget
 - a. Policy Review – Chairman Paris Morfopoulos reviewed the Goals, Purposes and Policy documents distributed to each Board Member and reminded everyone that these guidelines would be used in discussing, editing and approving the budget this evening.

b. Line Item Review

Income: No line items under the income section of the budget were discussed.

Expenditures: Line items were discussed in each section of the budget and a dollar amount was assigned to each item.

After the line Item for the Farmer's Market was discussed a citizen had comments.

Tucker Boyt, representing the 600 block merchants, advised that the merchants met on August 20, 2014 and expressed interest in having the Farmer's Market move to Station Square Park. They also have some ideas of their own to attract people to Station Square once a month. Mr. Boyt advised the main reason for wanting the Farmer's Market at Station Square Park is the disruption of traffic on the retail side of the street in the 600 block. The merchants asked

him to advise the Downtown Development Board that they are on board with them and want to get involved.

After the line Item for Pianos in Pinellas formerly named Pianos on Main Street/Pop-Up Gallery was discussed a citizen had comments.

Colin Bissett, President of the Clearwater Arts Alliance, advised he was available to answer any questions that the Board might have. Mr. Bissett explained that the cost of one piano was originally \$2,500.00. Many of the local businesses were near the end of their fiscal year and had not budgeted for this item and the decision was made to decrease the cost of sponsoring the piano to \$1,800.00. Mr. Bissett advised that there were 10 pianos to be distributed throughout Pinellas County, and one was on Cleveland Street. When asked how they could lower the cost of the sponsorship of the piano, he explained that this is to be a fundraiser for the Clearwater Arts Alliance. They cut back on their costs and ten pianos were donated. Mr. Bissett added that there had been 5 applications from local artists to paint the pianos and they would be on the street from November 25, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

Member Bosi moved to adopt the FY 2014-2015 DDB Budget minus the funding for the Santa & Suds event. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Treasurer Craig Rubright, Member Bosi, Member Doran, Member Starova and Member Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None.

Member Bosi moved adopt sponsorship for the Santa and Suds line item in the amount of \$3,500. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Member Starova recused himself.

“Ayes”: Chairman Paris Morfopoulos, Treasurer Craig Rubright, Member Bosi, Member Doran, and Member Sjouwerman.

“Nays”: None.

A final copy of the 2014-2015 Budget is attached to these minutes.

4. Final Comments

Ex-officio/Councilmember Jonson requested an agenda item be added to the next meeting on behalf of himself and Ex-officio/Councilmember Polglaze. They would like the permission of the DDB for Councilmembers Jonson and Polglaze to meet to discuss downtown. They would be a subcommittee of the City Council and the Council approved the subcommittee at their August 20, 2014 meeting. However, it would also have to be a subcommittee of the DDB to allow them to discuss downtown issues because they are Ex-officio members of the DDB. The meetings of this subcommittee would have to be noticed and minutes taken.

Member Bosi asked if a DDB member would also be attending the meeting. Councilmember Jonson responded that a member could if they wanted, however, Anne Fogarty France cautioned that because the meetings for the individual entities are advertised differently, she believed that a DDB member could attend but would be unable to take part in the discussion. It was agreed to add this item to the next agenda.

Treasurer Rubright advised that he was comfortable with the progress made in this meeting.

Member Bosi felt that the meeting and finalization of the budget went very well.

Member Sjouwerman commented that this was his first budget meeting and felt it went well.

Member Doran stated it was a good meeting.

Ex-Officio/Councilmember Jonson felt the Board should be proud of the way they handled the meeting.

Chairman Morfopoulos thanked the Board for a good meeting.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.