

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 10, 2014, 8:00 a.m.
1 Alhambra Plaza, Suite 617, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	COMMISSIONERS
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Scott Sime Chair	E	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Mayor Jim Cason
Alberto Manrara Vice-Chair	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P		Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Jack PJ Mitchell	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Commissioner Pat Keon
June Morris	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E		Commissioner Vince Lago
Alexander Binelo	P	E	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	E	P		Commissioner Frank Quesada

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
X = No Meeting

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Leonard Roberts, Acting Director, Economic Sustainability Department

Craig Leen, City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

Jorge Casuso, Business Development Analyst, Economic Sustainability Department

Meeting Motion Summary:

Mr. Manrara made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2014 Board meeting. Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Sime brought the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Review of the minutes of the June 4, 2014 Board meeting.

Mr. Manrara made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2014 Board meeting.
Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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2. Update on Business Tax Licenses and New Businesses

Mr. Roberts presented an update to the board on Business Tax Licenses and New Businesses.

3. Other City Business

Mr. Roberts informed the board that the Miracle Mile Streetscape project is moving forward and that two community workshops have been set up to discuss the plan. One is on July 15 at 3 p.m. at Actors' Playhouse, the other on July 22 at 5 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. The Commission is expected to vote on the project August 26. The Board agreed to include an agenda item at its August 6 meeting to take a position on the proposed plan.

4. Presentation by Mr. Craig Leen, City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

Mr. Leen provided an overview of his duties and responsibilities as City Attorney, a post he has held for three years. The City Attorney, along with the City Manager and City Clerk, are the only officials appointed by the City Commission. As chief legal officer of the City, the City Attorney is instrumental in guiding the City Commission and Administration in the development and implementation of policies and procedures and represents the City in all litigation matters. As City Attorney, Leen said he provides legal counsel and representation to the City Commission, Boards and Departments. He provides legal interpretations, writes legal opinions and reviews all ordinances and resolutions. He also serves as the City prosecutor, particularly in code enforcement cases. The City Attorney has the authority to settle issues of up to \$25,000 and can settle those of up to \$100,000 with the proper approvals, Leen said. In addition, the City Attorney can fix errors in the City Code as long as they don't change the meaning. Mr. Leen told the Board that its primary role is "to look for different economic development opportunities" The Board can weigh in on economic issues that will go before the City Commission by requesting information and providing input. The Board chair or a designee can address the Commission. The Board also can provide advice to staff. As the City's Chief Ethics officer, Mr. Leen also discussed Florida's Sunshine Law regarding open government.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

The next Economic Development Board meeting will be held on August 6, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Jorge Casuso, Business Development Analyst
Economic Sustainability Department