



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES Metro Miami Action Plan Trust

Office of the Metro Miami Action Plan Trust
19 West Flagler Street
Mezzanine Room 106
Miami, Florida 33128

April 16, 2008

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Board of County Commissioners

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OFFICIAL MINUTES
METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST
MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2008

The Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust (MMAP) convened a meeting at the Office of MMAP Trust Board Room, 19 West Flagler Street, Mezzanine Room #106, on April 16, 2008 at 12:00 Noon, there being present: Chairperson John T. Jones, and Members: Ms. Marie B. Hyppolite, and Mr. Herbert Robinson; (Mr. Arthur J. Barnes, Ms. Greicy Lovin, Ms. Veldrin Freemon and Dr. Marzell Smith were absent).

ROLL CALL:

Staff members present were: Mr. John Dixon, MMAP Trust Interim Executive Director; Ms. Marlene Blanco, Mr. Clarke Brian, Ms. Melba Gasque, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Mr. William Simmons, Mr. Joey Walker and Mr. Anthony Williams, Mr. Frank Tarrau; Assistant County Attorney Terrance Smith; and Deputy Clerk Karen Leonard.

MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Jones called the meeting to order at 12:59 p.m. and introduced Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith, whom he noted would now be assigned to MMAP in place of Assistant County Attorney Shannon Summerset.

Chairperson Jones noted the Trust members would discuss Agenda Items I.B1 and I.B2 in the Agenda package until a quorum was present at today's meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

Approval of Previous Minutes

(September 19, 2007, October 9, 2007, October 17, 2007, November 14, 2007, December 19, 2007)

I. Trust Action Items

A. Committee Action Items

1. Housing
2. Education
 - A. Black History Tour**
3. Criminal Justice
4. Community and Economic Development
5. Legislative
 - A. Becker and Poliakoff Renewal**
6. Budget
 - A. Budget Reduction Request (3%) Current Fiscal Year**

Mr. Dixon noted that MMAP staff was instructed by the Trust to respond to the budget reduction request in writing. He noted the concern was that the 3% reduction would carry over into 2009 and MMAP would lose the total budget. Mr. Dixon referred to the memorandum from the Chair

to the County Manager, dated April 3, 2008, noting that no correspondence had been received in return.

B. Additional Trust Action Items:

1. Score Card Strategy Map

Mr. Dixon noted MMAP's staff had met and discussed with County staff MMAP's score card objectives, which were to look at its mission and to include the action committee process under each project that MMAP serviced within the community. He added that this item was presented at the Executive Committee meeting and he wanted to provide more detailed information.

Ms. Blanco noted that the score card entailed information regarding the customer's internal financial status and learning/growth prospective. The information section of the customer's portion of the score card was based on the Trust's role in the different programs, but MMAP staff added the advocacy role to this section and needed the approval of the Trust, she noted.

Chairperson Jones responded that the Action Committees were automatically advocacies.

Ms. Blanco noted that this added information had not been placed on the current score card, but needed to be implemented in order to move forward and to track the accountability of the action committees. She noted that the score card information only included Teen Court, Housing, Economic Development, and the MLK Academy.

Mr. Dixon added that rating measures would be attached to the various committees and that this item may not need approval from the Trust, but was more for informational purposes, and MMAP staff felt it was important that the Trust be informed in order to move forward. He noted that the Trust had already approved the action committee process.

Discussion ensued regarding the action committee did the basic framework of the MMAP Trust which should automatically made the outcome part of the score card.

Mr. Simmons noted for clarification MMAP's staff's request was for the Trust to approve staff moving the score card forward to the County Manager's Office.

Ms. Blanco noted that the Office of Strategic Business Management suggested that MMAP's staff bring the score card before the Trust for approval.

Chairperson Jones noted that he felt the action committee process was already a part of the score card procedure, approval was automatically granted to include it in the score card, and this was not an action item.

2. MMAP Media Forum

Mr. Dixon noted MMAP staff's effort to develop the program by using the local media regarding MMAP's mission to address disparity within the targeted areas, and to present the idea of implementing a MMAP media roundtable to the Executive Committee to discuss social economic issues. He added that this event would be held at the Joseph Caleb Center (JCC).

Mr. Walker added that he had an updated schedule for the forum and the input from the Trust

regarding changing the setup of the roundtable. He noted that MMAP's staff needed approval of a budget for this item from the Trust in order to move forward. Mr. Walker informed the Trust's members that Mr. Dixon submitted to the Commissioners' offices a letter that was approved by Chairperson Jones requesting that the JCC be reserved for June 7, 2008 from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m.

Chairperson Jones noted that the Trust had previously discussed inviting Mr. Michael Baisden, Hot105 radio host, to participate in the forum because he had good contact with youth and it was time to infuse other young people into the MMAP mission.

Discussion ensued regarding contacting Mr. Baisden and mailing an invitation to participate in the forum to the following organizations: NAACP, Collective Banking Group of Greater Miami, Miami Chamber of Commerce, and all fraternities and sororities as well as elected officials.

Mr. Dixon noted he had already begun scheduling meetings with those organizations.

Chairperson Jones recommended that MMAP's staff include the Miami Dade Teachers Union due to MMAP's collaborative efforts with them on a project. Additionally, he recommended that MMAP staff ask Mr. Carlos Martinez from Public Defender's office and Ms. Marie Osborne, Chief of the Youth Division, to participate as well.

In response to Ms. Hyppolite question regarding as to whether Commissioner Edmonson had responded to the letter dated April 2, 2008 that was included in the Agenda package, Mr. Dixon noted a response was still pending since Commissioner Edmonson had been out of town.

In response to Chairperson Jones inquiry as to whether the forum would be broadcast live on both AM and FM radio stations, Mr. Walker noted that a meeting was scheduled with the telephone company to ensure connections were possible with the multiple stations. He noted this was part of the budget process that was requested, along with having the telephone lines secured. Mr. Walker advised that the cost for the telephone line connections would be approximately \$285.00, which included a monthly charge of \$25.00.

Chairperson Jones recommended to include the \$25.00 monthly fee in the MMAP budget and to identify the resources. He noted he had hoped that if the monthly charge was covered, the Commissioners in those areas would support MMAP on this project and possibly use the services in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding the agenda for the forum and the number of participants that would attend.

Chairperson Jones noted that the community participation would be most effective and noted the need to have youth representatives that were knowledgeable of this subject sit on this panel.

Mr. Walker advised that MMAP's staff had planned to include students from all the local colleges and universities, including Florida Memorial, Miami Dade Community College, and University of Miami.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the need to include those students that dropped out of school in the forum in order to get additional input.

Chairperson Jones recommended inviting the student presidents at those colleges, including Florida International University, to participate.

Ms. Hyppolite suggested inviting representatives from the Minority Business Government Center to address any business-related issue.

Additionally, Chairperson Jones recommended that entities that offered job opportunities and elections be participants as well.

II. Trust Information Items

A. Committee Information Items

1. Housing

A. Zamora Homes Meeting

Mr. Eric Johnson noted that he attended a meeting with representatives from Zamora Homes regarding the development projects. The sale of properties in the housing market had slowed down and the intent of the meeting was to discuss feasible strategies, which included staging an event involving realtors that would showcase a range of houses for sale starting at pre-construction, he also noted. Mr. Johnson added that a consultant who specialized in affordable housing and worked with a number of developers in locating funds through the Florida Housing Corporation (HOP) Program attended the meeting.

Mr. Johnson referred to the HOP Program application process for funding, which he noted could total \$70,000.00 or 25% of the property sales price to assist homebuyers with low income. He noted that he had someone who was familiar with the application process accompany him to the meeting to make a presentation.

Ms. Hicks noted that an inventory of 20 available properties was currently online and their sale prices were reduced from \$280,000.00 to a price range of \$180,000.00 to \$200,000.00 in order to adapt to the drop in the market for competitive purposes.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the various sizes and price range of available housing in the Zamora Homes development.

Mr. Johnson noted that the representatives of Zamora Homes wanted to identify what direction would the market move in and the building cost before the sale date. He added the need to find financing resources in order to reach the targeted audience of borrowers because they would need subsidy funds within the next 18 months.

Mr. Johnson noted that the representatives of Zamora Homes appeared to be receptive to participating in the event and MMAP staff would follow-up with them as well as the marketing efforts, including the planning for the event. He stated he was aware of the communication with the consultant regarding the applications requesting subsidy funds for housing through the State of Florida (HOP) Program.

In response to Mr. Robinson's request regarding the address of those housing units, Mr. Johnson noted that he would provide the addresses of the actual housing units, which he noted were located in the Homestead area.

2. Education

A. Overpayment to Miami-Dade County Public Schools Update

B. MLK Academy Community Outreach

Mr. Dixon provided a brief overview of the MMAP MLK Academy Community Outreach efforts made by MMAP's staff to find a building to accommodate Teen Court as well as the school. He noted meetings with several people, included with Representative Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, with Commissioner Audrey Edmonson regarding funding and supplemental funding and with Commissioner Barbara Jordan, etc. Dr. Smith had been overseeing this project and MMAP staff hoped that through the Superintendent's restructuring process, MMAP would gain one of the closing schools or share a facility that was under enrolled, Mr. Dixon noted.

Mr. Dixon spoke of MMAP staff's efforts to outreach and a letter that was sent to no avail to Mr. Freddie Woodson, who was over the facilities in the school system. He noted he received a call from Dr. Gallon, who advised him to contact Mr. Jamie Torrance regarding an available building and the possibility of having some information about the program after today's school board meeting. He also noted that Dr. Gallon pointed out if a facility was provided to MMAP, other entities would be afforded this opportunity, which would require another process including a process loan. Mr. Dixon said he would continue trying to contact Mr. Torrance.

Chairperson Jones recommended that MMAP staff monitor today's School Board meeting because this would probably be an item on the agenda due to State budget cuts and some facilities may be made available. He added that MMAP's focus had been on the Carol City Middle School facility.

Discussion ensued regarding a letter that would be sent to Mr. Torrance explaining MMAP's goal on this project and the meeting to inform the School Board of MMAP's need for a facility to house the Teen Court program and the school.

C. Teen Court Relocation

3. Criminal Justice

4. Community and Economic Development

A. Occupational License Funding Status

Mr. Dixon noted that the Trust's members developed a plan regarding the 8% Surtax Dollar Funding and the partners that MMAP worked with over the years. He advised that the plan was approved by the County Attorney's Office and the money from that funding remained in escrow at the Office of Community Economic Development (OCED). Mr. Dixon noted his several conversations with the County Manager regarding the release of those funds.

Recently Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, proposed reconvening a meeting on April 28, 2008 regarding those monies, in lieu of the Manager asking the Director of OCED to make the plan that was approved by the County Attorney available for review by

applicable individuals at a meeting, noted Mr. Dixon. He pointed out that Ms. Curry also proposed releasing the money and following that meeting, the plan go before the Economic Development and Human Services Committee (EDHSC). Subsequently, upon approval, and then at the Chairman's approval, it would go before the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Dixon indicated that those actions seemed appropriate since MMAP reported to the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding the process of going before the other individuals involved rather than move directly forward to the Board.

Mr. Dixon noted that Ms. Curry's proposal entailed a Sunshine meeting on May 30, 2008.

Mr. Dixon noted for the record, that he felt it was not useful to meet with those entities after the plan had been approved, except in that it afforded the Finance and Budget departments an opportunity to meet and see the plan. He added that his understanding was the plan had already been approved by the Board and was emailed to all those individuals and the Finance and Budget departments had no say-so once it was approved.

Further discussion ensued regarding the process for having the plan approved.

Mr. Robinson expressed concern that the meeting with the other entities may involve another agenda and the plan should move directly to the Board.

In response to Mr. Dixon noting that April 30, 2008 had been a proposed meeting date, Assistant County Attorney Summerset stated that this proposal was for a sunshine meeting for the ordinance amendment and did not address any of the business tax issues.

Mr. Dixon noted if the plan went before the Board, the filing would be on May 20, 2008 at the next meeting.

Further discussion ensued among the Trust members as to why the additional committee that was established needed to review the plan if it was approved by the Board.

Assistant County Attorney (ACA) Shannon Summerset advised that the added committee was organized based on concerns from the Beacon Council, and the other past meetings did not involve the Beacon Council. She noted, however, that it appeared the intent of that committee's members was for them to be able to appear before the Beacon Council and present a report of any action taken.

ACA Summerset noted it was appropriate for the Beacon Council to be informed of any financial request concerning MMAP and this would give the Beacon Council an opportunity to provide input before the item was placed on an agenda. She added this would minimize any conflicts.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for MMAP's staff to prepare for the meeting scheduled on April 28, 2008.

In response to Ms. Hyppolite's question regarding MMAP only receiving 8% of surtax dollars and the Beacon Council receiving 92% of that funding, Chairperson Jones noted that the

community needed to understand why a large difference in distributed funds existed between both entities.

5. Legislative
6. Budget

- III. Executive Director's Information Items
- A. **South Dade Community Forum**
 - B. **Teen Court Monthly Report**
 - C. **Housing Monthly Report**
 - D. **Fiscal Management Report**
 - E. **Public Information**
 - F. **Criminal Justice Report**
 - G. **MLK Academy Monthly Report**

Mr. Frank Tarrau reported that MLK Academy recently completed the FCAT Exam and the rate of participation was 95% for Miami Dade County Public Schools, but MLK Academy rated 100% in the 6th through 8th grades and 95% in the 9th grade. Those ratings would have to be validated by the alternative education department, he noted.

Mr. Tarrau noted that MLK Academy received an excellent evaluation and he commended Mr. Dixon and MMAP's staff for their support. He noted the school facility was reported to meet the criteria and only had three items that needed improvement.

Mr. Tarrau added that the Miami Herald newspaper published an article regarding MLK Academy students that were selected by various colleges and universities as well as in the Gospel Truth newspaper.

He spoke of the current events that would take place at the MLK Academy, including the school prom, which would be held on May 22, 2008, as well as a dual enrollment for 2009 in Miami-Dade College North Campus (MDC) for 9th grade students on May 30, 2008. He added that this agreement between MMAP and MDC was negotiated to also motivate the 8th graders that had grade point averages (GPA's) of 3.0.

Mr. Dixon emphasized that the program with MLK Academy students and Miami Dade College was newsworthy.

In response to Chairperson Jones requesting a written report, Mr. Tarrau noted that the report was documented in the media future section of the MLK Academy Report and would be featured in the main section next month with photographs.

Further discussion ensued regarding chaperones and sponsors for the 2008 MLK Academy prom.

Add-on Item

In response to Chairperson Jones' inquiry regarding an update on the Sunset of the Surtax ordinance, Ms. Hicks noted the latest negotiation would be an extension of (23) twenty-three years rather than a repeal, and a hearing would be scheduled.

Assistant County Attorney (ACA) Summerset added that the legislature was looking into extending the Sunset to the year of 2031 and putting additional safeguards in place that would require an independent annual financial audit, as well as limiting administrative costs to 10%. She added that neither the 10% administrative cost nor the Surtax dollars could be used to pay for that audit. ACA Summerset noted until that legislation had passed, she was uncertain how the County would work with MMAP to perform the annual financial audit.

Discussion ensued regarding Legislation and the facts that MMAP did not have a representative under contract and it would be an issue to pay a bill through County regulations.

Further discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding a bill of outstanding expenses that had been itemized and which were in process, and certain pending projects like 'The status of black men and boys' along with several economic development projects.

In an effort to address teen violence, Mr. Dixon noted the Teen Court staff would like to arrange a conference on May 6, 2008, had established a working relationship with the Restorative Justice Program through Miami Carol City Senior High, and had hoped to work with Miami Edison. He noted this would allow both schools to participate in this non violence program.

Mr. Anthony Williams explained the process of developing the non violence program to address teen violence through MLK Academy's collaborative effort with those schools and inviting Mr. Michael Baisden and others to participate. This event would be a preview to the conference by Mr. Baisden that would be held in June, 2008, he added.

In response to Ms. Hyppolite's question as to why other schools were not invited, Mr. Williams noted the only reason was because of the existing working relationship with those schools, which afforded easier access to those students in this late period of the school year.

Mr. Dixon added that MMAP staff met with Mr. Mark Zeyer, Student Services at Miami Dade Public Schools (MDPS), to discuss establishing the Restorative Justice Program throughout the school system. He expressed concern that MMAP's staff would not make a premature move involving a number of schools and both Miami Carol City and Miami Edison Senior High was workable and open to participate in the program. Mr. Dixon noted that he hoped other Miami-Dade County schools would participate in this program that would eventually be an annual event. He also added the half day event would entail continental meals and MMAP staff requested a written opinion and approval from the County Finance Department for MMAP to provide lunch at this event. Mr. Dixon noted that MMAP staff received written approval to provide lunch to those students.

Discussion ensued regarding how MMAP staff had negotiated with the hotel to accommodate the number of students that would be attending and how to use other resources through the School Board.

Although Carol City Senior High had a Law Magnet Program and Miami Edison had a Law Academy, Chairperson Jones noted, he recommended that MMAP staff to invite some students from Miami Northwestern Senior High since the school was located in the vicinity of the event.

Further discussion ensued regarding inviting more students from schools throughout Miami Dade in the future and the issue of transporting students.

Chairperson Jones recommended that the Trust's members be called for a special meeting since this event was scheduled for May 6, 2008, and in order to address the agenda items that needed to be acted on by the Trust members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

John T. Jones, Jr., Chairperson
Metro Miami Action Plan Trust