



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

October 20, 2004
As Advertised

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Board of County Commissioners

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**METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST
MEETING ON OCTOBER 20, 2004**

The Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust convened at 12:24 p.m. on October 20, 2004, at the Office of the Metro-Miami Action Plan, 19 West Flagler Street, Mezzanine – Room 106, there being present Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr.; Trust members: Mr. Arthur J. Barnes, Mr. Tony E. Crapp, Jr., Mr. Thomas Donaldson, Ms. Marie B. Hyppolite, Ms. Beverly Kovach, Ms. Greicy Lovin-Meighan, Mr. Herbert Robinson, Dr. Marzell Smith, Ms. Cynthia Stafford and Mr. Daniel Wick, Jr. (The following members were absent: Ms. Veldrin Freemon, Mr. Robert Holland, Mr. Benedict Kuehne, Mr. Omar Malone, Ms. Ruth Page, Dr. Marty Pinkston, and Dr. Richard E. Williams.)

In addition to the members of the Board in attendance at today's meeting, the following staff persons were present: MMAP Trust President/CEO Vincent Brown; Staff members: Mr. Jacob Berry, Ms. Cindy Campbell, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Ms. Joann Hicks, Mr. Caesar Phillips, Ms. Natelege Powell, Mr. William Simmons, and Ms. Gloria Taylor; and Mr. Gary Hartfield, Assistant to Assistant County Manager Tony Crapp; and Deputy Clerk Ms. Mary Smith-York.

Chairperson John T. Jones called the MMAP Trust meeting to order at 12:24 p.m.

ROLLCALL

After calling the roll, MMAP Trust staff member Ms. Gloria Taylor announced that the following Trust members had requested excusal from today's (10/20/04) meeting: Ms. Veldrin Freemon, Mr. Benedict Kuehne, Mr. Omar Malone, Dr. Marty Pinkston, and Dr. Richard E. Williams. Ms. Taylor advised that Trust members Mr. Robert Holland and Ms. Ruth Page had confirmed their attendance but were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Clerk of Courts)

None presented.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes made to the agenda.

BOX LUNCH SERIES

Following a brief overview of the MMAP Trust's Economic Development and Housing goal of reducing disparities in Miami-Dade County, Chairperson Jones, in his introduction of the day's Lunch Box speaker, provided a detailed account of Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) Director, Mr. Robert (Bobby) Parker's personal, societal, educational, and career accomplishments, after which he commended Mr. Parker for his many accomplishments.

MDPD Director Robert (Bobby) Parker greeted members of the Trust and expressed appreciation for this opportunity. Mr. Parker provided a lengthy report on the accomplishments of the Miami-Dade County Police Department and accredited those

achievements and his readiness for the Director's position to past administration. During his presentation, Mr. Parker addressed the following points:

- Decreased overall crime rate throughout Miami-Dade County
- Increased domestic violence and sexually oriented crimes in isolated area of County;
- Partnered with MTA and the State Attorney's Office on the "Don't Ride With Strangers" initiative;
- Increased focus on department's Mission Statement: Integrity, Respect, Fairness, and Service;
- Increased FY 2004-2005 budget 8% to \$493 million;
- Increased representation of community makeup in race and gender;
- Increased police responsiveness to public.

Mr. Parker concluded his discussion by stressing the importance of fair treatment of people and getting the job done in a respectful and professional manner.

Following Mr. Parker's presentation, Chairperson Jones opened the floor to Trust members to respond to the foregoing presentation. Mr. Parker highlighted the following points in response to questions from members of the Trust:

- Approximately 23% African Americans employed at MDPD;
- Slightly less than 50% Hispanics employed at MDPD;
- Police to citizen ratio ranked below national average: approximately 17 officers per 1000 citizens;
- Percentage of crimes solved per year by MDPD ranked above national average;
- Several MDPD sponsored educational programs within the public school system.

Chairperson Jones affirmed the Trust's commitment to assist and support the MDPD through its Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee (CJSAC).

III. TRUST ITEMS

E. Teen Police Academy (TPA) – Budget Request

Chairperson Jones announced the TPA presentation and introduced Dr. Richard Holton as Program Director and CEO.

Dr. Holton greeted members of the Trust and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share the TPA's accomplishments with them. He then presented TPA Program Development Coordinator, Ms. Renita Samuels-Dixon. Dr. Holton directed Trust members to the hand-out included in their meeting packet and provided a lengthy overview of the TPA program. Dr. Holton furnished a PowerPoint presentation outlining activities sponsored by the TPA. The following points were highlighted:

- Students' anger/aggression levels were tested at start and end of the course to measure effectiveness of the program;
- Instructors and speakers were evaluated by students;
- The Teen Police Academy consisted of four phases:

- Criminal Justice System
- Economic Awareness
- Political Awareness
- Civil Rights Tour
- MDPD and the City of Miami Police Department had provided several presentations regarding proactive criminal justice programs to students;
- Pre-Trial Intervention Program had presented useful information to students; and
- A mock trial had been performed by students;

Dr. Holton distributed booklets detailing the Teen Police Academy's plans for a Youth Ambassadors Nonviolence Education & Historical Tour to Johannesburg, Soweto, Durban, and Cape Town, South Africa from June 17 to June 1, 2005 to meeting attendees. He provided a brief overview of the process teens underwent in order to qualify as ambassadors and informed Trust members that the youth would be asked to raise \$1,500 through efforts based on their financial awareness classes. Dr. Holton announced that TPA intended to take 14 youth on the tour and noted their need for financial support.

Following his presentation, Dr. Holton awarded two attendees with TPA T-shirts as a prize for each having received one of the two booklets that were distributed with his business cards attached. He proceeded to read a memorandum highlighting pertinent information on the Teen Police Academy's March through September 2004 Achievement Report dated 10/14/04 from Trust member Omar Malone, who was absent, after which he distributed copies of the report to each Trust member to review in consideration of the TPA FY 2004-05 budget request of \$248,990.00 or greater.

Discussion ensued among members of the Trust regarding the number of students enrolled in the TPA program and the method used to enroll students into the program. Trust members also discussed using funds from the Teen Court's budget to fund TPA's FY 04-05 budget, during which Chairperson Jones informed the Trust that the Teen Court program would eventually be phased out completely. He indicated that the phasing out of Teen Court was a part of the County's implementation of a new juvenile justice department. Further discussion determined that a clear picture of how the phasing out of Teen Court impacts the Trust would not be possible until the Article 5 funding process had been completed. Chairperson Jones commented that Trust members may need to attend the Public Safety Committee meeting in support of the Teen Court's survival.

There being no further discussion on this matter, it was moved by Mr. Crapp that the MMAP Trust accept the Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee's recommendation to approve an allocation from the Teen Court Budget in the amount of \$249,000 to supplement the Teen Police Academy, Inc.'s FY 2004-05 Budget. This motion was seconded by Ms. Marie Hyppolite, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Trust members Ms. Freemon, Mr. Holland, Mr. Kuehne, Mr. Malone, Ms. Page, Dr. Pinkston, and Dr. Williams were absent).

G. Orange Blossom Classic Parade and Festival

Chairperson Jones recognized Ms. Elaine Black as the speaker for the foregoing proposed agenda item.

Ms. Elaine Black of Tools for Change representing Soul on 7th Street Festival, appeared before the Trust and introduced Ms. Corkey Dozier, Executive Director Greater Miami Host Committee.

Ms. Dozier provided a brief overview of the Martin Luther King (MLK) Legacy Program and stated the goal was to restore the community and preserve the history of the Liberty City area. Ms. Dozier highlighted the following benefits of the program:

- Implement the standard of neighborhood and revitalization
- Promote commercial, social, and economic development;
- Enhance neighborhood quality of life;
- Promote and preserve the history and legacy of the area;
- Provide attractive public areas;
- Expand opportunities to put more people on the streets;
- Create incentives to revitalize, enhance, and beautify the physical environment;
- Demonstrate renewed investor confidence in the area; and
- Address issues regarding the perception of safety.

Ms. Dozier pointed out that the proposed Soul on 7th Legacy program would embrace Tourism as a tool for community and economic development in the Liberty City area. She noted that Miami-Dade Community College and Florida International University School of Hospitality were currently working on a Tour Guide Program for the subject area, along with the Miami-Dade Transit. Ms. Dozier then asked Ms. Black to provide details of an upcoming event for the Soul on 7th Street Festival program.

Ms. Black informed members of the Trust that on the day after Thanksgiving, November 26, 2004, the Orange Blossom Classic would return to Miami, Florida after being away for nine years. She indicated the path that the parade would follow and stated that Mr. Bill Cosby, comedian and actor, would be the Grand Marshall. Ms. Black noted that the festivities would last from 12:00 noon until 10:00 p.m. Ms. Black distributed a proposal for funding to each Trust member for consideration and stated that in return for MMAP's sponsorship, the Trust would receive at least six publicity plugs on the main stages, advertisements for MMAP Trust would appear in all printed publications and displayed on banners, a hospitality tent and VIP parking would be provided in addition to grandstand viewing and the opportunity to have a photo taken with Mr. Cosby. Ms. Black indicated that the Orange Blossom Classic parade is just one event in the ongoing cycle of the Soul on 7th Festival that was started in February 2004. Ms. Black distributed a copy of the MLK Legacy/Soul on Seventh Street Festival proposal requesting funding in the amount of \$25,000 to each member.

Extensive discussion ensued among Trust member regarding the pros and cons of funding the event and the manner in which the Community Economic Development Action Committee (CEDAC) presented its proposal. Members of the Trust expressed concern with the CEDAC continuing the practice of requesting individual funding allotments for

each event it proposed rather than presenting a comprehensive strategic plan for the year in which one request for funds enabled MMAP's involvement in the program throughout the year without the need to request funds for each event. Trust members indicated confusion in determining whether the funding request was from the MLK Economic Development Corporation or the Soul on 7th Street Festival's Orange Blossom Classic parade as a separate entity.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Mr. Barnes that MMAP Trust approve an expenditure of \$12,500 minimum and \$25,000 maximum to establish an escrow account to sponsor the 2004 Orange Blossom Classic Parade and Festival in Liberty City. It was also moved by Mr. Barnes that staff be instructed to create a line item in the budget for this event. These motions were seconded by Ms. Stafford, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-2 (Trust members Mr. Crapp and Ms. Lovin-Meighan voted no; Trust members Ms. Freemon, Mr. Holland, Mr. Kuehne, Mr. Malone, Ms. Page, Dr. Pinkston, and Dr. Williams were absent).

Following approval of this item, Chairperson Jones emphasized the importance of the MMAP Trust being included at the initial events planning process to allow for timely preparation and appropriation of funds. He asked that the Economic Development Unit prepare a comprehensive plan with a projected budget request for the year and submit it to the CEDAC for review and forwarding to the full Trust for approval.

A. WKL & Associates, Inc. – Loan Moratorium

Mr. Brown stated that the foregoing proposed request by WKL & Associates, Inc. had been forwarded by the MMAP Trust Executive Committee with a favorable recommendation.

The Trust by motion duly made, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, approved the foregoing loan moratorium request.

B. FMC Contract Draft

Chairperson Jones advised that the foregoing proposed item had been forwarded by the Executive Committee with a favorable recommendation from the Economic Development Committee.

The Trust by motion duly made, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, approved the foregoing loan moratorium request.

C. City of Miami – 5220 Lien Forgiveness

Mr. Brown stated that the foregoing item was presented for informational purposes only.

D. MOA – MLK Academy Year Books

Chairperson Jones stated that the foregoing proposed MOA had been forwarded by the Executive Committee with a favorable recommendation that the funds be generated through the Education Action Committee’s budget.

A brief discussion ensued among Trust members regarding comments made at the Executive Committee meeting in connection with the funding for the MLK Academy Year Books.

Having concluded their discussion, the Trust by motion duly made, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, approved the foregoing MOA.

F. Overtown Revitalization RFP – Proposals Submitted

Staff member Mr. William Simmons provided a brief overview of the proposals received in response to the Overtown Revitalization RFP. He stated that a total of 11 proposals were received at the Clerk’s office, but only six met the deadline of 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12, 2004. Mr. Simmons stated that the Clerk’s Office had advised that the five proposals that were received after the deadline could be accepted at the Trust’s discretion, but that a possible Bid Protest could be filed in that case.

Discussion ensued among members of the Trust regarding whether or not to accept the five late proposals and whether there were other alternatives available. Trust members were divided between the choices of either accepting the six proposals that were on time or putting the RFP back out for a second time for a better response.

It was moved by Mr. Donaldson and seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Trust accept only the six proposals that had been received by deadline. By majority vote, the Trust approved the motion to accept the six proposals that were received by the deadline.

II. PRESIDENT ITEMS

A. MOA – Theodore R. Gibson Memorial Fund, Inc./Sponsorship Request

Chairperson Jones advised that the foregoing proposed MOA had been forwarded by the Executive Committee with a favorable recommendation.

It was moved by Dr. Smith that the Trust approve expenditure in the amount of \$600 from the MMAP Trust Charitable Contributions budget fund to purchase a table at the Theodore R. Gibson Memorial Fund, Inc. Annual Unity Dinner scheduled for October 17, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Trust members Ms. Freemon, Mr. Holland, Mr. Kuehne, Mr. Malone, Ms. Page, Dr. Pinkston, and Dr. Williams were absent).

B. MLK Academy – Retention of Tenth Grade

Mr. Brown advised members of the Board that the foregoing proposed item had been voted upon at the September 15th MMAP Trust meeting, and that at the Executive Committee meeting, Dr. Smith had requested reconsideration of the item in order that he might open a discussion.

Dr. Smith expressed confusion regarding the Trust’s decision to eliminate the tenth grade from the MLK Academy. He initiated discussion pertaining to no existing policy governing the level of students that were permitted to attend the MLK Academy and the benefits of allowing tenth grade at the Academy. Lengthy discussion commenced among Trust members regarding the pros and cons surrounding the issue of tenth grade at the MLK Academy. The discussion highlighted the following issues:

- The capacity of the Education Action Committee’s Budget to accommodate additional teachers;
- The option to establish new policy to limit the Academy to Middle School status;
- The ability to maintain the number of students required for funding; and
- The stability of the MLK Academy.

Following discussion, Dr. Smith concurred with the Trust’s recommendation to retain the tenth grade at the MLK Academy to the end of the school year and if a contingency issue developed in connection with the recommendation, it would be referred for the Oversight Committee’s recommendation.

Chairperson Jones deferred the action on the foregoing recommendation to the MMAP Trust meeting scheduled for November 17, 2004.

I. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT

B. Units/Sections/Divisions

5. Housing

b. HAP Down Payment Assistance Program – Forgivable Loan Options

Mr. Brown provided a brief overview of the foregoing proposed item and informed members of the Trust that the day’s agenda package contained options proposed by staff.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan stated the options available and asked the Trust to make the decision on which option to adopt.

By motion duly made, seconded, and carried by majority vote, the Trust accepted option No. 3 of the Proposed Alternatives to MMAP HAP Forgivable Deferred Loan.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Roy Hardemon, Vice-Chairman, Liberty City Office of Community and Economic Development, appeared before the Trust and asked for the Trust's guidance and directions on the proper procedures for obtaining approval of his request for funding for the Rollins Grocery.

Upon hearing Mr. Barnes' response that a business plan had not yet been provided, Chairperson Jones advised Mr. Hardemon that he should submit a business plan for the proposed organization and work with Mr. Barnes and the Economic Development Community through the approval process.

Having concluded consideration of the day's agenda, the MMAP Trust meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr.