



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 20, 2005
As Advertised

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Board of County Commissioners

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**METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST
MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2005**

The Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust convened at 12:31 p.m. on April 20, 2005, at the Office of the Metro-Miami Action Plan, 19 West Flagler Street, Mezzanine – Room 106, there being present First Vice Chairperson Arthur Barnes; Trust members: Mr. Tony E. Crapp, Jr., Ms. Velderin Freemon, Ms. Marie B. Hyppolite, Ms. Beverly Kovach, Mr. Omar Malone, Dr. Marty Pinkston and Dr. Marzell Smith; (The following Trust members were late: Ms. Greicy Lovin-Meighan and Ms. Ruth Page); (The following Trust members were excused absences: Mr. Robert Holland, Mr. Benedict P. Kuehne, Mr. Herbert Robinson, Ms. Cynthia Stafford and Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr.); (The following Trust members were absent: Mr. Thomas B. Donaldson, Mr. Daniel A. Wick, Jr. and Dr. Richard E. Williams).

In addition to the members of the Trust in attendance at today's meeting, the following staff members were present: MMAP Interim President/CEO Randall Carr; Staff members: Ms. Cindy Campbell, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Ms. Joann Hicks, Mr. Caesar Phillips, Ms. Traci Pollock, Ms. Natelege Powell, Mr. William Simmons, Ms. Gloria Taylor, Mr. Joey Walker and Mr. Jeffrey Watson; and Deputy Clerk Jovel Shaw.

ROLL CALL

First Vice Chairperson Barnes called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. and noted that quorum was not yet present. Therefore, only discussion would occur until a quorum was present.

Later in the meeting, a quorum was present upon the arrival of Ms. Lovin-Meighan.

Mr. Crapp requested that agenda item III-B (4) be added to the agenda regarding Trust meetings being held at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Office Building located at 2525 NW 62 Street.

Dr. Smith requested that agenda item III-B (5) be added to today's agenda regarding the status of the MMAP President/CEO appointment.

Ms. Taylor provided the absence report as received from members of the Trust.

I. MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS

A. Action Committees

1. Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee

Mr. Carr noted that the foregoing report was submitted for informational purposes. He noted that a Ms. Campbell distributed additional information regarding the scheduled

Black History Tour. Mr. Carr stated that action was needed by the Trust to approve the invoice for \$26,118.00.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding having adequate funding for the students to attend the tour and any Trust member who desired to attend the tour should be a separate issue for discussion.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes stated that Ms. Campbell should proceed with booking the tour for approximately 40 MLK Academy students.

Ms. Campbell provided an overview of the sponsorships being offered and parents offering to pay his or her student to attend the Black History Tour. She noted that cost for the trip was \$650.00 per student.

2. Education Action Committee

The foregoing report was not submitted. See Agenda Item I-B (2).

3. Community Economic Development Action Committee

4. International Trade Committee

The foregoing reports were not submitted.

5. Action Committee – Staff Liaison Assignments

Mr. Carr stated that the foregoing report was provided for informational purposes.

Ms. Kovach questioned whether the citizens who volunteer to serve on the various Trust committees could be listed accordingly.

In response to First Vice Chairperson Barnes' request that those individuals be listed, Mr. Carr noted that staff would follow-up with Mr. Barnes's request.

6. Legislative Action Committee

The foregoing report was not submitted. See Agenda Item I-B (3).

B. Units/Sections/Divisions

1. Fiscal Management

In response to Ms. Kovach's inquiry regarding the funding approved for the Florida Memorial Entrepreneurial Mobile Unit, Mr. Gonzalez stated that the expenditure for the Florida Memorial Entrepreneurial Mobile Unit would be reflected in the next Fiscal Management report under the economic development line item under Programs.

2. MLK Academy

Dr. Smith presented the foregoing report prepared by Ms. Madeline McIntosh, Director, and MLK Academy.

In response to the comments regarding the school zone speed limit signs, First Vice Chairperson Barnes asked that a status report be provided at the next Trust meeting pertaining to the speed zone issue.

3. Teen Court

Mr. Carr presented the foregoing report and noted the distribution of a memorandum from the Ms. Yolanda Cash Jackson, MMAP Trust lobbyist entitled “Legislative Update” regarding the Teen Court bills.

Mr. Malone noted and discussed the implementation of an initiative entitled, “Civil Citation Program” for Miami-Dade County students. He noted that there was an interest for Teen Court to be one of the feeder programs for the Civil Citation Program. He pointed out that this program would allow these students to be diverted from criminal justice system into the Teen Court program. Mr. Malone pointed out that this initiative would serve as a referral program for MMAP Teen Court program. He indicated this effort would increase the number of participants for Teen Court and ensure adequate funding for Teen Court.

Discussion ensued among members of the Trust regarding the potential increase in Teen Court participants from direct referrals by the Civil Citation Program.

4. Housing

Mr. Carr presented the foregoing report regarding the MMAP Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP).

In response to Mr. Crapp’s comments regarding the status of the New Hope Overtown Project, Mr. Carr informed the Trust that the underwriting for the project has not occurred yet.

Discussion ensued between members of the Trust, Ms. Maria Alfau-Reyes and staff regarding the New Hope Overtown Project.

Mr. Crapp requested monthly status reports on the New Hope Overtown Project until the project was completed.

Mr. Carr responded that monthly reports would be provided to the Trust regarding the New Hope Overtown Project.

Mr. Carr concurred with Mr. Crapp's comments pertaining to development of a tracking and monitoring system for MMAP Trust projects.

Dr. Pinkston made a correction to the foregoing item and requested that any reference to a public official should be made proper manner such as Senator Kendrick Meek should read Honorable Congressman Kendrick Meek.

Dr. Smith expressed concern with the number of African Americans who are being assisted through the MMAP HAP.

In response to Dr. Smith's comments, Ms. Hicks informed the Trust that efforts are being made for a promotional campaign for the MMAP HAP to target the black community. She noted that MMAP has collaborated with South Florida Board of Realtists to target the underserved communities. Ms. Hicks indicated that aggressive efforts were being made in the Overtown, Haitian community and in the South Dade areas of Miami-Dade County to recruit applicants for the HAP.

Discussion ensued in connection with an increase in black minorities' participation, the referral source via Miami-Dade Housing Agencies, promotional and advertising efforts for the MMAP HAP.

Ms. Hicks informed the Trust of the efforts by staff and the South Florida Board of Realtists to undertake some of the activities being offered by the Trust such as developing alliance with ministers to recruit participation by its members.

Mr. Crapp stressed the need for the Trust advocacy role in attending community, city and county events to disseminate information regarding the MMAP HAP.

During this discussion, Dr. Smith reminded the Trust of a previous allocation in the amount for \$1 million for the Overtown housing project.

Mr. Crapp discussed the action taken at last Trust's meeting regarding the suspension of the Affordable Housing Development in Overtown RFP No. MMAP AH 0904 in order to move forward with the New Hope Overtown Project.

Discussion ensued in connection with instructions and action by the Trust that required follow-up by MMAP staff.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes reminded staff of his request for a status report of outstanding projects as part of the Trust's monthly meeting agenda.

Ms. Freemon requested that those items appear as the first item on the meeting agenda.

Mr. Crapp expressed concern with the no progress toward completion of any project in the Overtown area.

Ms. Freemon expressed a concern with providing clear directions to staff.

Mr. Carr discussed the housing budget in the approximate amount of \$3 million and noted his concern with carry over of the budget to the next fiscal year.

Mr. Crapp suggested that staff should provide and present recommendations on how to expend the remaining housing budget funds.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes asked that staff recommendations include any areas of concern and identify a resolution to address these concerns and that these recommendations be presented at the next Trust Executive Committee.

5. Economic Development

First Vice Chairperson Barnes noted the issue with the separation of the church and state.

Ms. Kovach noted that the Commerce Bank may be willing to provide a portion of the funding being requested. She indicated that a letter should be sent to the bank seeking funding for the Mount Calvary National Church of God CDC.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan noted that the Trust has considered funding to other CDCs that were administered by a church. She requested that if that was an issue regarding the separation of the church and state the County Attorney should provide a legal opinion.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes noted that the funding requested would be used to repair the church.

II. PRESIDENT ITEMS

A. Sant La Haitian Fund Raising Dinner - Memorandum of Approval

The foregoing Memorandum of Approval entitled, "Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center Fundraising Dinner" was not presented.

B. Greater Miami Visitor's Bureau Golf Tournament

Mr. Carr presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval (MOA) entitled, "14th Annual H.O.T. Challenge." He noted that there was no staff recommendation on the foregoing MOA.

C. South Florida Board of Realtists – Contract – Memorandum of Approval

Ms. Hicks stated that the foregoing Memorandum of Approval was submitted for informational purposes.

D. Foundation Audit

Mr. Carr presented the foregoing the matter regarding the MMAP Foundation, Inc. audit. He noted that the one of the audit report recommendations stated the Miami-Dade County Commissioners ordinance no. 01-01 would have to be amended to prohibit MMAP depositing operating funds received from the County to the Foundation without prior approval by the Miami-Dade County Manager and the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan asked that staff provide alternatives to accomplish the recommendation noted in the audit report pertaining to the allocation of funds to the Foundation.

In response to Dr. Smith's inquiry regarding the Northside Joint Development Project between the Foundation and Altamira Associates, First Vice Chairperson Barnes informed Dr. Smith that the Trust must amend its governing ordinance to prohibit the Trust from allocating funds to the Foundation without prior approval by the County Manager and the Board of County Commissioners.

Following discussion in connection with the relationship between the Foundation and the Trust, Ms. Lovin-Meighan suggested that a workshop be scheduled to discuss how the Trust moves forward with its relationship with the Foundation.

E. Commerce Bank Proclamation

First Vice Chairperson Barnes asked that all Trust members be present for the Commerce Bank Proclamation scheduled for April 21, 2005, Miami-Dade County Commission Chambers at 8:00 a.m. located at the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 N.W. 1 Street, Second Floor.

F. Housing Retreat

Mr. Carr presented the foregoing item entitled, "Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust – Attainable Housing Retreat."

G. Little Haiti Housing Association – No Loan Closing – FYI

Ms. Hicks presented the foregoing item and noted the Little Haiti Housing Association (LHHA) was informing the Trust that it no longer would precede with the development of the 16 for-sale units at 6601 NE Miami Place. Therefore, the \$200,000 previous approved by the Trust for this project was no longer needed.

III. TRUST ITEMS

A. Trust Action Items

1. BCJ Development LLC Grant Approval

Mr. Simmon presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval entitled, "Approval of Grant Award of \$175,000 to BCJ Development LLC."

Ms. Lovin-Meighan requested that the County Attorney Legal Opinion referenced by Mr. Simmons be provided in writing.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes stated that no action was required by the Trust until the written County Attorney Legal Opinion was provided for the Trust review.

B. Trust Informational Items

1. Proposed and Current Committee Projects/Special Events

Mr. Walker presented the foregoing report was submitted for informational purposes.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan asked that staff delete the information regarding the Little Haiti Housing Association, Inc. due to the notification from the LHHA that they were no longer in need of the funding for the development of 16 condominium units in the West Little River area.

2. Entrepreneurial Institute Report

Ms. Kovach presented the foregoing report entitled, "Entrepreneurial Institute Report."

Discussion ensued among the members of the Trust regarding the Florida Memorial University Entrepreneurial Mobile Unit.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes commended Mr. Walker for all the work he has done in this effort.

3. Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Proposal

Mr. Bill Diggs, President/CEO, Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Trust, to present the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Proposal that was seeking funding support for \$75,000 for its "Access to Business Capital" Quarterly Forum. He invited the Trust to advertise on its upcoming weekly business news to be featured on WMBM beginning May 1st.

Dr. Pinkston noted that she would abstain from any discussion or voting on the foregoing proposal due to a conflict of interest.

First Vice Chairperson Barnes recommended that the foregoing proposal be referred to the Community and Economic Development Action Committee (CEDAC) for consideration.

In response to Mr. Crapp's request, First Vice Chairperson Barnes stated that the CEDAC would meet prior to the Trust Executive Committee meeting in order to provide a recommendation to the May Executive Committee.

Further discussion occurred in connection with the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Proposal.

4. MMAP Trust meetings

Mr. Crapp informed the Trust of a request by Mr. Frederick Morley, Chairman, Community Council No. 8 for the MMAP Trust to conduct its monthly at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Office Building located at 2525 NW 62 Street. He suggested that staff follow-up with this request by Mr. Morley and that the May or June Trust meeting be held at the facility.

Dr. Pinkston stated that staff should be directed to coordinate the scheduling of a Trust meeting at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Office Building.

5. Status of MMAP President/CEO Appointment

In response to Dr. Smith's and Ms. Lovin-Meighan inquiry regarding the status of the MMAP President/CEO appointment, Mr. Carr noted that staff has submitted the appropriate memorandum to the County Manager's Office for his review and approval regarding the position for the executive on loan.

Following discussion of the status of MMAP President/CEO appointment, First Vice Chairperson Barnes stated that he would inform the Trust Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr. to contact the County Manager's Office on the status of the appointment.

Dr. Smith noted his concern with the status of the appointment and for the nominating committee to move forward with the appointment process.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Mr. Carr informed the Trust that the Department Business Development presented a plague to MMAP agency for its contributions to the DBD Small Business program.
2. Ms. Page announced her resignation as a member of the MMAP Trust. She discussed her experience in serving the Miami-Dade County community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

First Vice Chairperson Arthur J. Barnes