



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

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

Meeting Date:

October 19, 2005
12:30 P.M.

Prepared by:

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Madry Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Reporter:

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**METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST
MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2005**

The Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust convened at 12:30 p.m. on October 19, 2005, 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. Robert Holland, Ms. Marie B. Hyppolite, Ms. Beverly Kovach, Mr. Benedict P. Kuehne, Ms. Greicy Lovin-Meighan, Mr. Herbert Robinson and Mr. Hannie Woodson; (The following Trust members were late: Mr. Tony E. Crapp, Jr. and Mr. Omar Malone); (The following Trust members were excused absences: First Vice Chairperson Arthur Barnes; Ms. Veldrin Freemon, Dr. Marty Pinkston, Dr. Marzell Smith and Mr. Daniel A. Wick, Jr.) and (The following Trust members were absent: Mr. Thomas B. Donaldson, Ms. Cynthia Stafford 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. Clairol Bastian, Ms. Cindy Campbell, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Ms. Joann Hicks, Mr. Caesar Phillips, Mr. William Simmons, Ms. Angela Vaughn, and Mr. Joey Walker; Assistant to Assistant County Manager Gary Hartfield; Assistant County Attorney Shannon Summerset; and Deputy Clerk Jovel Shaw.

Chairperson Jones called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and noted that a quorum was not yet present. Therefore, only discussion and the presentation would occur until a quorum was present.

Mr. Holland requested that agenda item I-A (7) be added to today’s agenda regarding the Public Relations/Conference Committee Budget.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan requested that agenda Item III-A (2) be added to today’s agenda regarding the Housing Assistance Committee.

Later in the meeting, a quorum was present upon the arrival of Mr. Malone.

I. MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS

A. Action Committees

1. Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee

Ms. Campbell presented the foregoing report entitled, “Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee, Budget Line Item Report for October 2005 thru October 2006 Activities.”

Mr. Malone provided an overview of an informational letter to students for their parents regarding the MMAP Trust 14th Annual Nonviolence Educational Tour to be held June 4 – 6, 2006.

Chairperson Jones recommended the Criminal Justice Sensitivity Action Committee (CJSAC) collaborate with the Public Relations/Conference Committee (PRC) to discuss public relations strategies for seeking donations. He also recommended the Trust's committee budgets be submitted to the Budget Oversight Committee (BOC) for its review and recommendation.

Mr. Kuehne asked the CJSAC to consider facilitating a community forum for employment opportunities in criminal justice. He stated that it would be helpful for the Trust in its advocacy role to encourage members of the community to choose criminal justice as a profession.

Chairperson Jones suggested that the Committee collaborate with Central High School who has a Criminal Justice Magnet Program.

Mr. Crapp stated that the BOC would review the Trust's committee budgets for recommendation to the Trust's Executive Committee.

Following discussion among the Trust members and staff regarding CJSAC budget report, Chairperson Jones referred the foregoing report to the BOC as recommended by Mr. Kuehne. He asked that all committees submit their budgets by October 28, 2005.

Ms. Lovin-Meighan reminded Trust members that budgeted line items from the committees regarding public relations should be directed to the PRC.

Following comments by Ms. Bastian, Chairperson Jones stated that Teen Court should be part of the CJSAC.

2. Education Action Committee

Mr. Phillips informed the Trust of a visit by Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu who presented his book entitled, "Black Students, Middle Class Teachers" to Myrtle Grove Elementary School students and teachers.

Mr. Kuehne asked that MMAP staff provide a written report to the Trust following all events attended or conducted by the Trust.

Responding to Mr. Kuehne's comments, Mr. Carr stated that a report was being prepared and would be submitted to the Dr. Smith, Chairperson, Education Action Committee.

3. Community Economic Development Action Committee

Mr. Crapp informed the Trust of the next Committee's quarterly community forum scheduled for November 3, 2005, at 1:00 p.m., in the Radisson Mart, which would be hosted by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

4. International Trade Committee

The foregoing report was not submitted.

5. Action Committee – Staff Liaison Assignments (Information)

The foregoing report was submitted for informational purposes.

6. Legislative Action Committee

Mr. Robinson informed the Trust that former Secretary of Transportation Deputy Assistant Rudy Fernandez has accepted a job at the White House. He stated Mr. Fernandez has indicated that he would continue to work with the Trust and schedule a meeting with his successor.

Mr. Robinson noted that a meeting was scheduled with Congressman Kendrick Meek to discuss potential funding for the MMAP Trust.

Chairperson Jones informed the Trust that he would be meeting with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to discuss potential funding for the MMAP Trust housing initiatives.

Mr. Robinson stated that emphasis should be placed on the Trust's public relation efforts in order to prepare publications to inform people of the MMAP Trust.

7. Public Relations/Conference Action Committee

Mr. Holland presented the Public Relations/Promotion Proposed FY Budget 2005-06. He provided an overview of the promotions objectives and strategies for next fiscal year.

Discussion ensued among Trust members regarding the MMAP Trust advocacy role.

B. Units/Sections/Divisions

1. Fiscal Management

2. MLK, Jr. Academy

The foregoing reports were submitted for informational purposes.

3. Teen Court

The foregoing report was not submitted.

4. Housing

5. Economic Development

The foregoing reports were submitted for informational purposes.

6. PRESIDENT ITEMS

A. President Information Items

- 1. MLK Issues Follow-up**
- 2. Theodore Gibson Appreciation Dinner Follow-up (verbal)**
- 3. Beacon Council Distribution of Tax Proceeds**
- 4. Miami-Dade County Public School Contract Modification**

The foregoing items were submitted for informational purposes.

B. President Action Items

7. TRUST ITEMS

A. Trust Informational Items

1. South Florida Board of Realtists Presentation (verbal)

Mr. Joe Ellis, representing the South Florida Board of Realist (SFBR), appeared before the Trust, and introduced Ms. Wilma Wilkes who made a presentation to the Trust regarding the SFBR Housing Assistance Program.

Ms. Wilkes presented to the Trust the work plan for the SFBR One Stop Shop that would promote the housing assistance program and its new initiative regarding housing financing.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members and the representatives from the SFBR regarding the availability of various funding sources to assist home buyers and other agencies who have partnered with SFBR for this initiative.

Mr. Kuehne asked that information be provided to the Trust regarding the SFBR strategic plan that would include measurable goals at the end of the year. In addition, he requested a monthly status report be submitted to the Trust to measure the succession of this initiative. Mr. Kuehne stated that the Trust should be informed of the agencies who may contact SFBR regarding the Housing Assistance Program.

Further discussion was held among Trust members and SFBR regarding the contract amount with SFBR, the recruiting efforts for first-time home buyers' participation, and the cost for marketing the program.

Mr. Holland emphasized the need for the County as a whole to address housing needs in this community and for the Trust to inform the Board that it was in support of housing.

Chairperson Jones stated that the SFBR should meet with the Public Relation/Conference Committee to address the marketing strategies for the Housing Assistance Program.

Mr. Holland asked the SFBR to provide the Trust with complimentary tables for annual events hosted by the SFBR.

Mr. Kuehne asked that Ms. Wilkes and Mr. Ellis provide quarterly status reports to the Trust regarding the SFBR progress with assistance for first time home buyers.

Mr. Ellis stated that quarterly statistic reports would include outlining the current housing market.

Chairperson Jones asked that the Trust involve the SFBR in its outreach efforts in assisting MMAP in its advocacy role in addressing housing.

Responding to Mr. Kuehne's comments regarding the HOPE IV and Overtown Developers, Ms. Hicks noted that a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the SFBR assistance with addressing housing needs.

B. Trust Action Items

1. Satisfaction of Mortgages (Nov. – Dec. 2005) – MOA

Mr. Kuehne asked that MMAP staff provide background information stating that all of the conditions to satisfy the mortgage were met.

Ms. Hicks presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval (MOA) entitled, "MMAP HAP Satisfaction Mortgages."

It was moved by Mr. Kuehne that the Trust grant authorization to satisfy the Metro-Miami Action Plan Housing Assistance Program mortgages for the time period of November 6, 2005 – December 28, 2005, subject to confirmation that all conditions were satisfied. This motion was seconded by Mr. Woodson, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0, (Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

2. Write-off of MMAP HAP Uncollectible Accounts – MOA

Mr. Kuehne asked that MMAP staff include the County Attorney's opinion as an attachment to this item.

It was moved by Mr. Kuehne that the Trust approve a resolution authorizing the write-off of certain uncollectible accounts for FY 1997 through 2002 in the amount of \$257,191.98 for customers with balances over \$500.00 in accordance with the County Administrative Order 3-9 and to include the County Attorney Office's legal opinion. This motion was seconded by Ms. Hyppolite, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0,

(Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

3. Retreat Follow-up November 16th (Trust Mtg. and Retreat) – MOA

Chairperson Jones presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval (MOA) entitled, “MMAP Trust Retreat.”

It was moved by Ms. Kovach that the Trust grant an expenditure up to \$5,000 to cover the cost of facilitating the MMAP Trust Retreat; and to grant approval for the Champions Services, Inc. to conduct a follow-up MMAP Trust Retreat planning session on November 16, 2005. This motion was seconded by Ms. Hyppolite, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0, (Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

4. Lunsford Act (Trust Costs) – MOA

Chairperson Jones presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval (MOA) entitled, “Jessica Lunsford Act.”

It was moved by Mr. Woodson that the Trust approve an expenditure in the amount of \$2,201.00 from the MMAP Trust Account for criminal background screenings required by the Jessica Lunsford for 21 MMAP Trust members, five employees of MLK Academy and five maintenance employees at MLK Academy. This motion was seconded by Ms. Kovach, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0, (Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

5. Ralph McCloud Compensation – MOA

Chairperson Jones presented the foregoing Memorandum of Approval (MOA) entitled, “Ralph McCloud’s Request for Compensation Re: Inter-local Agreement.”

Following discussion between Trust members, staff and Mr. McCloud, it was moved by Mr. Woodson that the Trust approve an expenditure in the amount of \$37,500 from the Teen Court Fund to Mr. Ralph McCloud for services rendered under the Interlocal Agreement established by and between Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust and the City of Miami. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kuehne, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-1, (Trust members Mr. Holland voted “No”) (Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Ms. Evelyn Pierre, Executive Director, Haitian Heritage Museum (HHM), appeared before the Trust to present and inform the Trust of the Haitian Heritage Museum Benefit Gala scheduled for February 25, 2006, at the Parrot Jungle. She was seeking support and requested sponsorship from the Trust for its 2nd Annual Benefit Gala.

Mr. Kuehne asked that HHM meet with the Trust's Community and Economic Development Action Committee to discuss MMAP advocacy role for art and cultural events.

Mr. Woodson concurred with Mr. Kuehne and asked that the foregoing matter be referred to the Public Relations/Conference Action Committee as well.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members and Ms. Pierre regarding the future partnership between the HHM and the Trust in correlation with the Trust mission.

Mr. Holland asked that the foregoing matter also be referred to the Education Action Committee/MLK Oversight Committee (EAC) to review how it could interface with the MLK Academy to promote education awareness for the Haitian heritage. He concluded by stating that the foregoing matter be referred to the PRC, EAC and the CEDAC.

Mr. Crapp, Jr. stressed the need for the establishment of a policy by the Trust regarding the use of CEDAC funds for these types of events.

Chairperson Jones recommended that the HHM representatives meet with the MLK Academy principal and the Trust EAC and PRC.

Mr. Crapp noted that the PRC should provide a recommendation and the EAC should meet with the HHM ongoing to discuss the education component of Haitian awareness to the students at MLK Academy.

2. Assistant County Attorney Shannon Summerset informed the Trust that the previous action taken by the Trust pertaining to a severance package for former MMAP President/CEO/Executive Director Vincent Brown was inappropriate. She advised the Trust of a settlement agreement that would accomplish the Trust's intent and it would be legally appropriate in this matter.

Responding to Mr. Kuehne's comments regarding consultation with the County Attorney's Office as it pertained to this matter, Assistant County Attorney Summerset informed the Trust that the CAO was initially consulted when the MMAP President/CEO was being considered as an executive on loan with the Carrie P. Meek Foundation.

Following extensive discussion on how to proceed with the former MMAP President/CEO, it was moved by Mr. Woodson that the Trust rescind the previous action taken by Trust regarding the approval of a severance financial compensation package for

Mr. Vincent Brown, former President/CEO for the Metro-Miami Action Plan Agency; and to approve a settlement agreement. This motion was seconded by Mr. Malone, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-1, (Trust member Mr. Holland voted “No”) (Trust members Mr. Barnes, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Freemon, Dr. Pinkston, Dr. Smith, Ms. Stafford, Mr. Wick and Dr. Williams were absent).

Mr. Crapp stressed the importance for staff to submit action items to the CAO for review prior to the Trust consideration and approval of those items.

Following further discussion on this issue, Assistant County Attorney Summerset stated that she would review and listen to the audio from the previous Trust meetings regarding the action taken by the Trust on this issue.

3. Mr. Crapp asked if Trust members have been scheduled for the required Ethics Training to be conducted by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust for all members of County Advisory Boards.

Chairperson Jones informed the Trust that the training should be completed by February 2006.

4. Chairperson Jones presented a letter from LEASA Industries Co., Inc. Chairman and CEO L. George Yap requesting the Trust assistance in obtaining a Working Capital Grant in the amount of \$300,000.

Mr. Holland recommended a deferral of LEASA loan payments during its financial crisis. He noted that the Trust could assist in that effort for deferral of loan payments.

Chairperson Jones stated that the foregoing matter should be referred to the Community and Economic Development Action Committee and to Miami-Dade County Office of Community and Economic Development for assistance.

5. Chairperson Jones stated that Trust members should attend the Board of County Commissioners’ (BCC) Community Empowerment and Economic Revitalization Committee (CEERC) on a regular basis. He asked that MMAP staff notify Trust members of the scheduled meeting dates for the BCC Regular and CEERC.

6. Chairperson Jones informed the Trust that the Dade Delegation had a desire to help those who are less fortunate and MMAP should assist with this effort.

Following Mr. Robinson’s comments, Chairperson Jones stated that meetings between Trust members and the Dade Delegation should be held prior to the next legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr.