



MEMORANDUM
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EDHS
Agenda Item No. 6(B)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Economic Development &
Human Services Committee

DATE: July 9, 2008

FROM: Kay M. Sullivan
Director, Clerk of the Board Division

SUBJECT: Approval of Commission
Committee Minutes

The Clerk of the Board's office is submitting the following Clerk's Summary of Minutes for approval by the Economic Development and Human Services Committee:

April 30, 2008 (Sunshine Meeting)

KMS/js
Attachment



Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF
Meeting Minutes
Economic Development and Human Services
Committee

Audrey M. Edmonson (3) Chair; Katy Sorenson (8) Vice Chair; Commissioners
Barbara J. Jordan (1), Dennis C. Moss (9), and Javier D. Souto (10)

SUNSHINE MEETING

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

2:00 PM

Rooms 18-3 and 18-4

Members Present: Audrey M. Edmonson, Barbara J. Jordan, Dennis C. Moss, Javier D. Souto.

Members Absent: Katy Sorenson.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Report: *Jovel Shaw, Commission Reporter, (305) 375-1289*

1A INVOCATION

1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1C ROLL CALL

Report: *The following staff members were present: Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry; Assistant County Attorneys Terrence Smith and Shannon Summerset; and Deputy Clerk Jovel Shaw.*

Chairwoman Edmonson called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

1D DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1D1

072467 Ordinance Economic Development and Human Services Committee

ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XLVII OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Amended

Report: *Commissioner Jordan noted at the conclusion of the October 3, 2007, Committee Sunshine meeting the Committee agreed to sponsor an item regarding the governing body of the Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust composition; appointment and tenure; and organization staff support.*

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's request for clarification on this proposed ordinance, Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised the Committee members the foregoing ordinance was the Committee sponsored ordinance.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's question regarding the current status of the MMAP Trust membership, MMAP Trust Chairperson John T. Jones, Jr. provided an overview of the MMAP Trust membership, which currently had seven (7) active members. He noted the Trust members were as follows: (1) Arthur Barnes, (2) Marie Hyppolite, (3) Veldrin Freemon, (4) Greicy Lovin, (5) Herbert Robinson, (6) Dr. Marzell Smith, and (7) John T. Jones, Jr.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry regarding the search for the MMAP Executive Director, Mr. Jones stated MMAP Trust had not begun to search for the MMAP Executive Director. He explained the Trust was addressing internal operational issues on accountability with the Interim MMAP Executive Director. He noted the Trust would begin its search for a new MMAP Executive Director by June 2008.

Commissioner Jordan questioned whether MMAP developed a corrective action plan to work towards removal of MMAP from Management Watch.

Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, noted Mr. John Dixon, Interim MMAP Executive Director, had been working with the Office of Strategic Business Management (OSBM)

to develop the corrective action plan.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's request on the status of the corrective action plan, Mr. John Dixon, Interim MMAP Executive Director, provided an overview of the status of the corrective action plan and the Management Watch.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry regarding the date for removal of MMAP from Management Watch, Ms. Curry stated no date had been set, and no issues existed with the correction action plan that may warrant MMAP to continue to be on Management Watch.

Following Ms. Curry's comments, Commissioner Jordan asked if the County Manager would issue a letter for the removal of MMAP from Management Watch.

Ms. Curry stated she would meet with Mr. Howard Piper, Special Assistant, Management and Performance Assessment, to discuss Commissioner Jordan's request regarding MMAP status on Management Watch.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding the financial status of the Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Leadership Academy (MLK Academy), Mr. Dixon informed Committee members the MLK Academy was operating at a deficit. He informed Committee members of the contributing factors for the deficit, such as conducting the full-time equivalent (FTE) count simultaneously for regular and alternative schools. He provided an overview of the current agreement with Miami-Dade County Public School Board (School Board) and the FTE count for the MLK Academy.

Ms. Curry informed Committee members the County administration had a concern during the past budget year with a \$42,000 deficit for the MLK Academy and with the School Board as well.

Mr. Dixon explained and noted as MMAP moved forward with the lack of students at the MLK Academy due to the FTE counts the Academy would operate at a deficit. Mr. Dixon stated another contributing factor was the low enrollment in the public school system in general. He noted MMAP made efforts to recruit students and found it challenging.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's

Economic Development and Human Services Committee

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

comments regarding the MMAP Trust discussing the MLK Academy, Mr. Jones noted the MMAP Trust recently held discussions with the School Board and had requested the County Attorney's opinion on the MLK Academy issues. He informed Committee members the School Board would close a number of schools and noted the possibility Carol City Middle School would close. Mr. Jones stated if Carol City Middle School closed, MMAP intended to procure that facility and use the facility as a MMAP Resource Center along with the MLK Academy.

Ms. Curry explained the MLK Academy issue was brought forth to inform Committee members that the current MMAP budget for fiscal year 2007-08 may reflect a deficit for the MLK Academy. She noted this funding issue may be a General Fund or School Board issue unless the MMAP staff or the Trust brought it under control.

Chairwoman Edmonson noted the School Board was cutting back its regional centers and alternative schools.

Mr. Jones stated the School Board was currently conducting budget workshops to address budget cutbacks and MMAP was working closely with the School Board District member representing North Dade to address the MMAP Resource Center. He pointed out the Trust was exploring other alternatives to meet the existing need for MLK Academy students.

A discussion ensued between Chairwoman Edmonson and Mr. Jones regarding the closure of the MLK Academy and the preparation for a MMAP Resource Center to receive those same students in another format, and the scheduling of a community forum in partnership with two radio stations to address this issue along with the School Board District member representing North Dade should be at the community forum to assist MMAP.

Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding who provided the \$42,000 supplement, Mr. Jones noted the County provided the funding for the deficit.

Ms. Curry asked MMAP not to ask the County to address a deficit for the MLK Academy in preparation for this upcoming FY 2008-09 budget. She stated the County administration felt the School Board should address any further deficit for the MLK Academy.

Commissioner Moss noted the School Board had changed the reporting method for the FTE count and changed the definition of a FTE student. He proceeded to discuss alternative education schools and the type of students who attended these schools.

Responding to Commissioner Moss' concerns regarding the MMAP Trust grant funding process, Mr. Jones noted last year the Trust initiated the South Dade Initiative, which was a grant funded initiative. He indicated those funds were in escrow most of fiscal year 2007-08; therefore, the Trust was unable to do this initiative. Mr. Jones noted the types of businesses that MMAP and its Trust had assisted with start-up costs, with business expansions, and with sustaining the businesses. He also noted discussions occurred with the City of Miami Gardens to provide assistance to businesses in the North Dade area.

Commissioner Moss stated the grant funding process should be a fair and open competitive process, and the only existing grant opportunities were in the economic development area.

Mr. Jones stated if the MLK Academy closed because of lack of funding by the County and the School Board, the MLK Academy students qualified for MMAP's Teen Court program. Mr. Jones noted the MMAP Trust requested the County Attorney's Office provide feedback on how MMAP and its Trust could keep within the current Teen Court legislation and serve the youth in MLK Academy.

Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding the cost to operate MMAP's Teen Court versus other Teen Court programs, Mr. Jones noted MMAP became involved in Teen Court due to the imbalance of African-American and Hispanic youth entering the criminal justice system. He stated MMAP envisioned the Teen Court as a model to prevent this segment of youth from having criminal records. Mr. Jones noted, upon MMAP's decision to expand the scope of Teen Court, the Trust entered into a collaborative agreement with Miami-Dade County Public School to prevent those youths from being a part of the criminal justice system. He noted the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Miami-Dade Police Department and other local municipalities were also involved in Teen

Court. Mr. Jones noted MMAP scheduled a presentation of Teen Court to the Miami-Dade Association of Chiefs of Police to recruit them as a partner.

In connection with Teen Court, Ms. Curry noted Mr. Piper's performance report indicated the cost of the MMAP Teen Court was significantly higher than the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC).

Mr. Jones provided an overview of the difference in cost for services offered between Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) the centralized processing, referral, and evaluation center for all juveniles arrested in Miami-Dade County and Miami-Dade County Teen Court (Teen Court) an alternative sanctioning program for first-time misdemeanor youthful offenders who agree to allow their peers instead of the juvenile justice system to determine their sentencing.

Commissioner Moss asked Mr. Jones to further review the operational cost for Teen Court to explain to the County Administration the findings in the performance report regarding Teen Court.

Ms. Curry informed Committee members MMAP's portion of the Occupational License Tax last budget cycle, pursuant to the Commission directive given to the County Administration, were placed in an escrow account. She pointed out MMAP was asked to provide a plan of action on how these funds would be used in response to issues raised by the Beacon Council that those funds were not being expended in compliance with Florida State Statutes. Ms. Curry stated a plan was developed by MMAP and the County Attorney indicated the action plan resubmitted by MMAP and the activities outlined in the plan complied with Florida Statutes. Subsequently, a meeting was held with Mr. Frank Nero, President and Chief Executive Officer, Beacon Council, and other Council representatives, and the Council had concerns with the action plan and whether in fact the activities in the plan were in compliance with Florida statutes. She indicated this issue was on the Agenda for the May 14, 2008, Committee meeting.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding the reason the Beacon Council felt the activities were not in compliance, Ms. Curry noted Beacon Council representatives were present at today's (4/30) meeting who could respond to Chairwoman Edmonson's question.

Ms. Camela Glean-Jones, Chief Financial Officer, Beacon Council, appeared before the Committee, and informed Committee members the Council was not prepared to discuss this issue. She noted the Council would come back before this Committee with a comprehensive outlining the role of the Council in the Miami-Dade County Strategic Plan, Economic Development Component.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry regarding MMAP's overall budget, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Fiscal Manager, provided an overview of MMAP's budget and noted approximately \$774,000 was General Fund, and the remaining funding sources for the budget was from the Documentary Surtax, the Occupational License Tax, the FTE funding from MDCPS for the MLK Leadership Academy, and the Teen Court funds, which was a surcharge generated on moving traffic violations.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern with the comments made by Mr. Jones regarding the possible closure of the MLK Leadership Academy. She questioned why MMAP has not pursued program development grant funding.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's concern, Mr. Jones stated MMAP had pursued Federal grants in the past, but the last three years MMAP had not pursued any grants. He noted MMAP staff did not have a grant writer to assist the Trust pursue Federal and/or State grant funding. Mr. Jones noted recent discussions with United States Congressman Kendrick Meek to access Federal grants for crime and violence prevention projects in North Dade.

Commissioner Jordan noted MMAP needed to make efforts to explore grant funding. She stated several years ago Commissioner Moss requested for the County Manager to establish the Revenue Maximization and Grant Coordination Unit under the Office of Strategic Business Management. Commissioner Jordan pointed out this unit would work with community-based organizations (CBOs) as well as County departments; therefore, the resources for grant funding were within the County government.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern with MMAP being in the position to possibly close the MLK Academy after being in operation for over 20

years. She stated the Children's Trust funding was available and the MMAP Trust should have applied for funding for the Teen Court and the MLK Academy as an alternative school program. She urged MMAP to apply for funding from the Children's Trust in the future.

Chairwoman Edmonson stated the MMAP Trust needed to take a more active role in the MMAP Agency organization. In addition, she noted the County Commission also needed to take a more active role and support staff's recommendation for more reporting by MMAP.

Commissioner Moss stated the MMAP Trust had aggressively pursued State funding in the past.

Following Commissioner Moss' comments, Mr. Jones stressed the need for new Trust members in order to continue to move the MMAP organization forward.

Commissioner Jordan emphasized to Mr. Jones and staff that they should not lose sight of the available resources within the County government to assist with writing grants. She noted as a member of the Children's Trust she had not reviewed an application from MMAP for funding. She urged MMAP to apply for funding from various sources including the Children's Trust.

Commissioner Jordan offered the following amendments to this proposed ordinance:

- To add the Chair of the Board of County Commissioner's (BCC) Economic and Development Committee to the MMAP Trust Nominating Council;
- To add the County Manager would designate a liaison to coordinate the Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust Nominating Council process;
- To add the MMAP Trust shall submit to the BCC an annual report card on the plight of the black community within Miami-Dade County, and in addition to the report card, an analysis and an oral presentation to the BCC;
- To add that the quarterly reports to the BCC and the Trust shall be subject to periodic reviews as deemed necessary by the County Mayor or his designee, the Audit and Management Services, the Office of Strategic Business Management, or the BCC;
- To add if the reviews revealed management problems, then the County Mayor or his designee, only after BCC approval, may place MMAP on

*Management Watch; and
-To add if MMAP was placed on Management Watch the County Mayor or his designee shall submit a corrective action plan to the BCC with timelines and milestones for removal from Management Watch; and the BCC may also, remove MMAP from Management Watch.*

Commissioner Moss offered an amendment to add language to this proposed ordinance to grandfather six (6) of the 7 active members of the MMAP Trust to serve a 3-year term and reapply or be nominated for reappointment after the 3-year term expired. In addition, the appointment of the nine (9) new MMAP Trust members shall serve one to two year staggered terms.

An extensive discussion ensued among the Committee members, Ms. Curry, Mr. Jones and Assistant County Attorneys Terrence Smith and Shannon Summerset regarding the amendments offered by Committee members on this proposed ordinance.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's comments regarding the BCC's authority to remove the entire MMAP Trust by a two-thirds vote, Commissioner Moss and Chairwoman Edmonson stated they would not support any recommendation to remove the entire MMAP Trust.

Commissioner Moss stated if MMAP and the Trust fail to take corrective action to address issues, then a recommendation for removal of the entire MMAP Trust could be made at that time.

Commissioner Moss asked Chairwoman Edmonson to allow the Committee to consider and to address the state of economics in Miami-Dade County from a global perspective with the Social and Economic Development Council.

Chairwoman Edmonson stated she would follow-up with Commissioner Moss' request to have an item prepared for the Committee's consideration at a future Committee meeting.

Commissioner Souto invited everyone present to the first International Agricultural and Cattle Show scheduled for May 15-18, at the Ronald Reagan Equestrian Center located at Tropical Park. In addition, he noted this Show contributed to economic development and attracted international businesses to Miami-Dade County.

Responding to Ms. Curry's inquiry on how staff should proceed with this proposed ordinance with the committee amendments, Chairwoman Edmonson advised this proposed ordinance be forwarded to the County Commission with committee amendments for consideration.

Mr. Jones expressed appreciation to the County Attorney's Office for working very closely with MMAP and the Trust on this review of the MMAP ordinance. He also announced on June 6, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., the Trust would host its first forum on the "Plight of the Black Community," at the Joseph Caleb Center.

Reverend Abraham Thomas expressed appreciation to Committee members and urged MMAP and the Committee to utilize a book entitled, "Skeeter" as part of its Teen Court program for first-time offenders.

1D1 SUPPL.

072650 Report

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT TO ORDINANCE
AMENDING ARTICLE XLVII OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-
DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO METRO-
MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST

Report Received

1D2

072910 Report

RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFF

Report Received

Report: *Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, advised the Committee convened on October 3, 2007, to consider a proposed ordinance amending Article XLVII of the County Code relating to Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust. At that meeting, she noted staff recommended the Committee consider incorporating additional amendments into the proposed Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust ordinance as follows:*

(1) to add the following language to Section 2-505(b), entitled, "Organization; staff support, Employees" to state "under the administrative oversight of the County Mayor and shall comply with all Miami-Dade County personnel policies and practices..." She noted the MMAP Trust did not support this proposal. Ms. Curry noted in the discussion with MMAP, staff clarified MMAP employees were County employees;

(2) to add the following language to Section 2-505(b) to state "The County Mayor may remove the Executive Director for cause." She noted the MMAP Trust did not support this recommendation. Subsequently, staff provided as an alternative recommendation to state "the removal of the Executive Director by the Mayor, which removal could be overridden by a 2/3 vote of the MMAP Trust...", which the MMAP Trust did not support;

(3) to add to the original proposed recommendation for Section 2-505(e) the following language: "to include a quarterly report outlining all procurement activities to the Commission Auditor and the County Manager..." She noted the MMAP Trust supported this recommendation;

(4) to add the following language to Section 2-505(e): "The Trust shall be subject to periodic reviews as deemed necessary by the County Manager, the Department of Audit and Management Services and the Office of Strategic Business Management..." She noted the MMAP Trust supported this proposed amendment; and

(5) to amend Section 2-506(d), entitled, "Powers and Duties of the Trust" to indicate if the MMAP

Trust was placed on Management Watch, MMAP would be treated as a regular County Department during that time frame; otherwise, MMAP would function as it currently operates; MMAP did not support this alternative.

Commissioner Moss stated he supported close scrutiny of MMAP, and that all members of the County Administration needed to be more vigilant in terms of the MMAP activities. He noted the MMAP Trust needed to focus on providing oversight to the MMAP Agency. He indicated he would support any changes that needed to be made, and he asked that sufficient safeguards be in place to strengthen the oversight of MMAP Agency.

1D3

072954 Discussion Item

RECOMMENDATION FROM MMAP

Report Received

Report: *See Reports under Agenda Item 1D1, Legislative File No. 072467 and Agenda Item 1D2, Legislative File No. 072910.*

082120 Report

NON-AGENDA REPORT ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 30, 2008, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE (EDHSC)

Presented

Report: *1. Chairwoman Edmonson announced the State of Florida Department of Health and Human Services, as part of its 3-year Federal Review of the County's Head Start Program, would conduct interviews with all County Commission members on Thursday, May 14, 2008, at 12:00 p.m. She suggested the Committee schedule a Head Start Training and Technical Assistance Workshop for Thursday, May 8, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., immediately following the County Commission carryover agenda.*

Ms. Mercedes Rodriguez, Policy Analyst, Office of the County Mayor, appeared before the Committee to inform Committee members of the intent of the Head Start Training and Technical Assistance Workshop. Ms. Rodriguez also inform the Committee of a meeting scheduled at 4:00 p.m. today (4/30) with the County Manager's Office and the Community Action Agency (CAA) Advisory Board to address CAA Advisory Board membership.

Commissioner Jordan stated that the BCC was recognized as the grantee of the County's Head Start/Early Head Programs, and the BCC need to adopt an ordinance that clearly defined the role and governance of the CAA Advisory Board and the BCC for the Federal review of the Head Start/Early Head Start Program.

2. Commissioner Jordan announced she had a meeting today (4/30) with United States Attorney R. Alexander Acosta to discuss crime in Miami-Dade County. She would invite all Board of County Commission members to a future joint meeting with the United States Attorneys Office to discuss and to develop a plan to address crime, especially youth gangs, in Miami-Dade County.

2 ADJOURNMENT**Report:**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.