

**RICHMOND HEIGHTS AREA CHARRETTE
MEETING SUMMARY**

Coral Reef Branch Library

9211 Coral Reef Drive

Miami, Florida 33157

May 6, 2009 - 6:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present

Deloris Lowe, Ed Hanna, Rev. John A. Ferguson, Calvin Gordon, James Marshall, Martin Memorial AME Representative – Anthony Brown, James Brown, Clinton Hines

Community Members Present

Antionette Brooks, Perley Richardson, Barbara Nickerson, Patrick Merit, Helen McCray, Theresa Holton, Teresa Brown, Valerie Staten, Emily Staten, Alanzo Fraser, Ulysses Harris, Ned Roberson, Amos Jordan, Edward Carter, Hermeine Gibson, Wylmerle Marshall, Almarita Mackins, Marilyn Whitehead, Vaughn Marshall, Shirley Berry, Gloria Johnson, Alberta Ray-Cutler

Miami Herald: Xavier Martinez

County Staff Present

Department of Planning and Zoning: Subrata Basu, Eric Silva, Manual Armada, Thomas Spehar, Bob Schwarzeich, Amina Newsome, Jess Linn, Catherine Prince

Office of the Chair, District 9: Dallas Manuel

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Eric Silva, Chief of Community Planning, began the meeting with introductions, a brief description of the charrette process, review of the meeting agenda and handouts.

Bob Schwarzriech, Section Supervisor for Planning Research, presented a summary of the Richmond Heights Demographic Profile (handout).

The study area boundary was discussed by the steering committee and community members present. The general boundaries for the study area are SW 117 Avenue and the Florida Turnpike to the west, SW 152 Street to the south and Lincoln Boulevard to the north and east. Following the discussion, steering committee member, Ed Hanna moved that the boundary should be as presented. The motion was seconded by steering committee member Anthony Brown and the committee unanimously approved the boundary for the study area. Mr. Hanna requested an additional charrette to address the area outside of the Downtown Core.

The steering committee discussed electing the Chair and Vice Chair, although it had been scheduled for the June meeting. Collectively it was decided to hold the elections to move the process forward. Mr. Hanna and James Brown were nominated for Chair. The vote was 6-2 in favor of Mr. Hanna. Mr. Anthony Brown was the only nominee for Vice Chair and was elected unanimously. Chairman Hanna stated there was need for a parliamentarian to keep order in the meetings and appointed Mr. James Brown to the position.

Chairman Hanna requested the charrette be a “Green Communities” charrette.

The steering committee and community residents discussed community Issues and positive community features.

- Parks – up keep

- Traffic – circulation & calming
- Youth – education, development & center
- Cultural arts
- Public transportation
- Maintenance of public landscaping
- Senior citizen programs
- Business development & job creation
- Community center
- Improving recreational activities for all ages
- Food court
- Police presence
- Developing a green community plan
- Business zone designation
- Grocery store
- Business center
- Charter school
- Multi-purpose bldg
- No duplication of goods & services
- Elimination of homelessness
- Outpatient medical center/24-hour health care facility
- Neighborhood beautification and maintenance with cultural reference
- Florida state services
- Traffic violations
- Post office
- Information center
- Unique architectural guidelines
- Dental services
- Library – community learning center, archives
- Landmark – flag pole
- Village shops

Positive community features discussed included:

- Housing- architecture
- Street names – former presidents
- Originally developed for veteran's
- Planned community like Coral Gables
- Community where people help one another

In an effort to get the youth involved, there were two suggestions:

- Essay contest
- Involvement in the design

Following the discussion on community issues, the chair stated for future meetings he would like to have everyone signed by 6:25 PM in order for the meeting to start on time. He also stated that the meetings would last 90 minutes, the meeting was then adjourned.

**Next committee meeting:
Wednesday, June 3, 6:30 P.M.
Sgt. Joseph Delancy Park
14450 Boggs Drive**