RICHMOND HEIGHTS AREA CHARRETTE MEETING SUMMARY

Sgt. Joseph Delancy Park

14450 Boggs Drive Miami, Florida 33176 August 5, 2009 - 6:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present

Calvin Gordon, Rev. John A. Ferguson, Ed Hanna, Barbara Nickerson, James Brown

Community Members Present

Wylamerle Marshall, Kenneth Hall, Leronardo Stringer, Thomas Whitehead, Chester Fair, Ornetha Cail, Geneva Jackson, Ron Malone, Theron Sheffield-Malone, Otis Hardemon, J. Aranha Chillis, Hattie Sandifer, Walter Blackmon, Amos Jordan, Cynthia Fonseca, Teresa Brown, Alberta Ray-Cutler, E. Teresa Miller, Linda Taylor, Mary Beasley, Audrey Appleby, Dr. Freddie Young

County Staff Present

Department of Planning and Zoning (DP&Z): Subrata Basu, Eric Silva, Amina Newsome, Jess Linn, Catherine Prince, Gilbert Blanco, Tom Spehar, Bob Schwarzreich, Bianca Paz (Volunteer)

Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning: Gil Hernandez-Arranz

Office of the Chair, District 9: Helena Sumpter

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Eric Silva, DP&Z briefly reviewed the meeting agenda and charrette boundaries.

Catherine Prince, DP&Z presented information on green communities. Ms. Prince stated that Richmond Heights has the basic framework for being a green community and provided examples of ways to improve.

Gilbert Blanco, DP&Z presented County green initiatives that are available to residents. He discussed low flow showers, high efficiency toilets, the expedited building permit process for LEED buildings, curbside recycling, landscape irrigation evaluation and other opportunities to make homes more efficient.

Bob Schwarzreich, DP&Z presented a Market Study prepared by the Research Section of DP&Z. He highlighted what the types of businesses the Richmond Heights market could sustain, for example, neighborhood retail or a doctor's satellite office. Also discussed were the demographics of the area, the close proximity of Richmond Heights to other business areas and the scale of potential businesses in the area.

Following the market study discussion attendees expressed concern with crime in the area and the lack of entertainment options for adults.

Chairman Moss discussed the County owned property and the plans for the development of a building at the site. The building will be 2-stories with first floor retail space for start-up businesses and the second floor will offer space for social services. Chairman Moss described the building as the catalyst for development in the area.

Jess Linn, DP&Z provided a brief review of the proposed developments presented at the July steering committee meeting.

Next committee meeting: Wednesday, September 2, 6:30 P.M. Sgt. Joseph Delancy Park 14450 Boggs Drive