



MINUTES

Special Commission Meeting

Ed Burke Recreation Center - 11400 NE 9th Court

Biscayne Park, FL 33161

Saturday, August 16, 2014 at 9:30am

1 Call to Order

Mayor David Coviello called the meeting to order at 9:48am.

2 Roll Call

Mayor David Coviello - present

Vice Mayor Roxanna Ross - present

Commissioner Bob Anderson - present

Commissioner Fred Jonas - present

Commissioner Barbara Watts - absent (*arrived at 9:55am*)

Present from staff were:

Village Manager Heidi Shafran

Village Clerk Maria C. Camara

Police Chief Cornelius McKenna

Public Services Manager Krishan Manners

Assistant Public Works Director Cesar Hernandez

3 Pledge of Allegiance

4 Village Commission Discussion

4.a Village Hall Restoration and New Annex

- ◆ Design of annex building
- ◆ Budget for log cabin restoration

Manager Shafran provided information on the plans that were done in 2006 for the Community Learning Center, looking for consensus to proceed with these plans for the exterior design, then with modifications for the interior based on current needs. Utilizing the work already done on this plan would be a time savings. If going with a new firm and new design, there would be significant costs and time delays. Deadline for this project is June 2015.

Manager Shafran explained that we have \$1,000,000 from the State appropriation plus an additional \$100,000 from the matching grant. Based on the presentation from RJ Heisenbottle, the cost for the log cabin rehabilitation would be approximately \$500,000. How much we put into the rehabilitation will determine how much we have left for the annex building.

◆ Location of Police Department

Manager Shafran explained that the current plan was to move the Police Department to the Public Works building. Keeping the Police with the Administration would require a larger space plan.

Chief McKenna explained that from a public safety perspective, better to keep Police where it is with the Administration staff.

5 Public Comments and Feedback

Chuck Ross: As a practical matter, need to have Police move to Public Works. Likes the idea of command staff at Village Hall if it could be done. Residents that live near Public Works are OK with the police moving there. As an idea, close the patio area on the east side of the PW building. Not a good idea to have a holding cell at Village Hall. Could also consider Code Compliance and Building move to Public Works if you absolutely want Police at Village Hall.

Harvey Bilt: All should be together. Do not want split police staff. Consider just to build a shell and walls. As we get money, then build complete. Can the log cabin restoration be reduced to \$250,000?

Kiersten Brown-Garcia: Looking forward to this project. Agrees with previous speaker.

Barbara Kuhl: Police should stay at Village Hall. Take advantage of current plans. We have given the Commission the authority to borrow money. The \$270/sq ft cost that is being used is very high. Do it right the first time. If we have to borrow money, then do it. This is a once in a lifetime chance

Dan Keys: Inclined to have Police and Administration together. If we grow we may need to increase Public Work staff. The \$270/sq ft cost is the maximum. Don't see having to spend more than a residential sq ft cost. Do not skip on this building or on the size. Make some minor modifications. CAD drawings not that much. Utilize the breezeway. Do not waste the space. Put all excess police cars at Public Works. \$500,000 for Village Hall rehab is a lot, but do all to keep it going another 80-90 years. Discuss further whether to remove add ons to the log cabin. You need to enhance area for Police if current plans used, such as for showers. Borrowing money does not bother me. Do not skip on doing it right. Need to also be attractive as well as functional. Use triangle area for parking if needed. Put no prohibitions for the future.

Jeanne Bergeron: Totally opposed to taking a loan and long term financial obligation. Consider a pre-fab log cabin. Concerned that staff will not fit in new space. Is there a kitchen? Do what you can with the balance after the log cabin is completed.

Vicki Smith-Bilt: Support Dan Keys and Barbara Kuhl comments. Need to do it right for restoration and do new building right one time. Agree with Manager that the interior walls are not needed. Work space designs have changed. Agree with Chief to not split the team. In favor of borrowing money.

Gage Hartung: For keeping Police with Village Hall. The concern is let's get going and stop talking this to death. RFP should be out already. Design is good. Could tweak as we go along. Public Works building would probably be cramped. Do it right.

Rosemary Weis: Is there enough room in the plan design for the Police Department needs? Likes the design and in favor of the Police force at Village Hall. First duty is to restore Village Hall log cabin and balance for the new building.

Cheryl Carter: From Administration perspective, keep entire Police Department in one location. Do not split Chief and staff. Even just building a shell, still need ADA compliance. In favor of getting funding.

Ed Chisholm: Confirms that the State appropriation is for both the Village Hall restoration and new annex.

Janey Anderson: On the original Computer Learning Center design, there was an issue with a large fire hydrant expenditure. Need to confirm that.

Manager Shafran asks that meeting is concluded with the Commission providing clear direction. Important to stay on target with the timeframe. Agreement with architect in September; RFP draft in October; breaking ground in December.

Mayor Coviello asks for a pier review of RJ Heisenbottle's report.

Consensus from the Commission for the Manager to proceed with current plans and to continue to move forward.

6 Announcements

Saturday, August 16th - Back to School / Children's Safety Day at 2:30pm
Wednesday, August 20th - 2nd Budget Workshop FY 2014-15 at 6:30pm

Our next regular Commission meeting is Tuesday, September 9, 2014, at 7:00pm.

7 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Commission approved on September 9, 2014.

Attest:



David Coviello, Mayor



Maria Camara, Village Clerk