

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**SARASOTA CITY HALL
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
1565 FIRST STREET
SARASOTA, FLORIDA**

3:00 p.m.

**JOINT MEETING
WITH SARASOTA CITY COMMISSION**

David R. Mills, Chair, District 2
Nora Patterson, Vice Chair, District 4
Paul H. Mercier, District 1
Shannon Staub, District 3
Jon Thaxton, District 5

Mayor Mary Anne Servian, District 2
Vice Mayor Fredd Atkins, District 1
Commissioner Lou Ann Palmer, At Large
Commissioner Ken Shelin, At Large

Also present were:

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James Ley, County Administrator
Stephen DeMarsh, County Attorney
Tricia Granger, Deputy Clerk

Michael McNees, City Manager
Robert Fournier, City Attorney
Billy Robinson, City Clerk
Spring Dickson, Commission Recorder

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. MUNICIPALITIES

Mayor Servian noted the absence of City Commr. Bilyeu.

1. STATE AGENCIES

Following comments, Mayor Servian noted the presentation by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Representatives would be deferred pending their arrival. (See Item later this meeting.)

5. ORGANIZATIONS

Mayor Servian noted receipt of a request to withdraw the Sarasota Kennel Club Poker (card room) issue from the Agenda and advised that the item would not be considered this date, without objection. Commr. Staub acknowledged receipt of correspondence on the issue.

2. COMMUNITY SERVICES

City Manager Michael McNees and County Administrator James Ley commented on the proposed North County Athletic and Community Facilities Plan and combined efforts of Staff to date.

Deputy City Manager Peter Schneider and City Sports Facility Manager Patrick Calhoun presented an overview of Legislation to address options for the Ed Smith Stadium/Spring Training facility funding and reviewed opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing while creating multi-use community recreational facilities and providing increased emergency shelter capacity. Deputy City Manager Schneider and Mr. Calhoun gave a video presentation and reviewed conceptual facility improvements.

Discussions were held with County Administrator Ley and City Manager McNees on the consideration for relocation of the Fair Grounds as identified in the conceptual plan and a financial plan with partnership options.

2. COMMUNITY SERVICES - Continued

Following individual comments, Chair Mills acknowledged the attendance of Fair Board President Rory Martin.

Commr. Mercier moved to authorize County Staff to proceed with planning efforts towards a joint venture with the City of Sarasota relating to the Community Facilities Plan. The motion was seconded by Commr. Staub. Following individual comments, Commr. Thaxton requested that a financial plan/model be provided at the next presentation, without objection. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Commr. Palmer moved to authorize City Staff to proceed with planning efforts towards a joint venture with the County relating to the Community Facilities Plan and to include the process for a Community Charrette. The motion, seconded by Commr. Shelin, carried by a 4-0 vote.

Subsequent to discussion on a Community Charrette process, Deputy City Manager Schneider commended Staff's efforts and Mr. Calhoun noted the attendance of Cincinnati Reds Representatives.

Commr. Patterson requested a presentation of the proposal to the Tourist Development Council (TDC) in April, without objection.

(4:15:04)

1. STATE AGENCIES - Continued

Following comments by FDOT District One Secretary Stanley Cann, FDOT Project Manager Brian Blair and FDOT Intermodal Systems Development Manager Ben Walker presented an overview of the U.S. 301 Project funding and construction phases. Discussions were held throughout the presentation on the following topics/issues:

- roadway segment phases
- impact of increased costs on Projects
- efforts to obtain increased funding for the U.S. 301 Project
- construction alternatives for available funding
- size of stormwater management/retention area required/stormwater vault costs
- capacity increase versus roadway improvement costs
- alternative areas on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way/options to utilize other properties for stormwater retention
- anticipated traffic impacts from the proposed Wal-Mart operations.

(4:37:06)

City Traffic Engineering Manager Osama Freija commented on the review of the Wal-Mart Project and traffic concurrency requirements for the development. Discussions continued with Mr. Walker, Secretary Cann, and Sarasota City Engineer Alexandria Davis-Shaw on the U.S. 301 funding options/Project parameters, capacity improvements, requirement for Developer contributions, and options to include capacity improvements at the U.S. 301 and Fruitville Road intersection.

Individual comments followed commending Secretary Cann and Mr. Walker on their efforts within the District.

(4:47:51)

3. MUNICIPALITIES

Following comments by City Manager Michael McNees, City Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall Executive Director John Wilkes provided an overview on the future of the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall. Discussions were held with City Manager McNees and Mr. Wilkes on the following topics/issues:

- City's contribution to the Cultural District Master Plan
- proposed design of a Cultural District
- determination of user demographics/future uses and demographic planning options
- Scope of Study countywide/geographic location options of a future performing arts center
- options for "polling" the community relating to need for a new center
- Scope of Work/Facility Recommendations (page 10).

Mayor Servian noted the County's position and advised that the final determination will be made by the City Commission.

(5:19:14)

Commr. Mercier moved to authorize the County's participation in the amount of \$35,000.00 to evaluate the needs/demand for a new regional performing arts hall, including consideration of community interest in the proposal. The motion was seconded by Commr. Thaxton.

Following individual comments, Commr. Staub moved an amendment to the motion to require that the Scope of Work include, as a first activity, performing a survey of the general public to ascertain public support for a new hall. The motion was seconded by Commr. Thaxton. Subsequent to discussion and clarification on the intent to provide funding for the study, the motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Subsequent to inquiry by Commr. Palmer on the action taken by the County, individual comments followed on funding participation of the study.

(5:29:29)

4. PUBLIC PROPERTY

City Manager Michael McNees and Deputy City Manager Peter Schneider commented on previous Board direction relating to the City Police Station/Judicial Center Expansion and Staff's on-going review of available sites for relocation of the Police Station and options for co-location of a Fire Station. Discussions were held with Deputy City Manager Schneider and City Manager McNees on the following topics/issues:

- option for acquisition of parcel of land (concrete/cement plant)/site requirements/ time frame for relocation of business operations
- review of existing Police Station site/options for a parking garage.

Commr. Patterson moved to authorize County Staff to pursue a relocation site for the cement plant operations. The motion was seconded by Commr. Mercier. Following comments, the motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Commr. Staub requested that additional options, as presented by City Staff, be reviewed, without objection. Individual comments followed.

(5:42:56)

6. OTHER BUSINESS - Continued

B. ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Servian commended the efforts and working relationship between the City and County Staff members.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:43 p.m.