

Community Engagement Subcommittee Meeting

May 5, 2015

The Community Engagement Subcommittee Ad Hoc Task Force was held on May 5, 2015 in the MILRA offices at 1794 Walker Avenue SW, Atlanta, GA 30310.

ATTENDEES:

Subcommittee Members

Councilmember Joyce Sheperd – Committee Chair
Glenda Knight, MACC
James Harris, CV
Gamba Stewart, Sylvan Hills
Michael Hopkins, NPU-X
Allean Brown, NPU-S
Roslyn Baughn, CANO
Tamie Cook, Colonial Hills
Monica Callier, Villages of East Point
John Hathaway, Pamona Park
Shirley, Gomez, Venetian Hills
Ricardo Jacobs, NPU-R

ALTERNATES

Robbie Hunter, NPU-S

EX-OFFICIO

N/A

MILRA BOARD

Ken De Leon

STAFF

Brian Hooker, MILRA
Sandra Tennyson, MILRA
James McCormick, MILRA
Michael Lusk, MILRA
Darlene Hawksley, MILRA
Jocelyn Bivins – Councilmember Sheperd's office

GUESTS:

16 GUESTS

Joyce Sheperd, Councilmember for District 12 and Chair of the Community Engagement Subcommittee, welcomed the members and guests to the May 5, 2015 MILRA CES meeting which began at 5:40P. CM Sheperd stated that this meeting keeps the community engaged/updated and provides dialogue on the property conveyance, ongoing negotiations with the Tyler Perry Studios, and MILRA CES Ad Hoc Taskforce for the Tyler Perry Studios presentation.

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A quorum consisting of 12 CES members and one alternate were in attendance. Dianese Howard, Venetian Hills, participated briefly via phone. The agenda was approved unanimously. After a motion and second by Gamba Stewart and Ricardo Jacobs, the February 11, 2015 minutes were approved. With the correction of Brian Hooker's name and James Harris as "Co-Chair", the April 1, 2015 minutes were approved with a motion and seconded by Allean Brown and Gamba Stewart.

UPDATES:

MILRA PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

Brian Hooker stated that the DOD will deliver the MILRA documents to the Secretary of Defense this week and an approval is anticipated within 30 days of the review. The base closing could be as early as 30 days after the review.

AD HOC TASK FORCE COMMITTEE UPDATE ON TYLER PERRY STUDIOS PRESENTATION

Councilmember Sheperd began by congratulating the members of the Ad Hoc Task Force for their presentation with Mr. Tyler Perry. She noted that the presentation was very effective and the meeting represents the beginning of the conversation and engagement with Mr. Perry. She further acknowledged her appreciation for their flexibility over the weekend with the notice of a meeting with Mr. Perry on Monday. The meeting participants and CES presenters: Gamba Stewart, Glenda Knight, James Harris, Robbie Hunter, Tom Weyandt-MILRA, Brian Hooker-MILRA, Meredith Lily-MILRA, Peter Andrews-Mayor's Office, Jocelyn Bivins-Council Staff, and Perry's team (Larry Dingle, Scott Samples and two other staff members).

James Harris, Co-Chair of Ad Hoc Task Force, provided comments regarding the process and the challenges they encountered. He thanked the members for rearranging their schedules to accommodate the meeting. Additionally, he applauded Councilmember Sheperd for keeping her word realizing she was caught between the community, MILRA and TPS. James continued the discussion by reviewing several pages of the abbreviated presentation handout which did not include a transfer fee.

Each presenter shared comments regarding the meeting, Mr. Perry's response and his commitment to the community. Several presenters were pleasingly surprised at Mr. Perry's grasp of the community, and his genuine and receptive demeanor. Mr. Perry was asked to continue the conversation by appointing one of his staff members to attend the CES meetings. Mr. Perry committed to the "ask" and stated that he "wants to assign the right person" and would advise the selection in a few weeks.

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Mr. Hooker acknowledged that the process produced a good product and that he is expecting good things from the community, MILRS CES and MILRA partnership.

CM Sheperd advised that the next step focus on closing the deal first and a follow-up on the Perry appointment or at least a status will be included. The group discussed dissolving the Ad Hoc Task Force and the consideration of a non-profit or CID. The function of the Ad Hoc Task Force should not continue as a separate entity but revert to the CES group as a whole.

Motion: James Harris made a motion to use the next six meetings to explore and be educated via tours, guest speakers, etc. on options such as a CID, non-profit or other mechanism.

Allean Brown seconded and the group approved unanimously.

Mr. Hooker stated that he was confident that philanthropic interest would be stimulated and a non-profit vehicle will be created. He is willing to “ask” the Board to support this effort in order to make it successful.

Old Business: None identified

New Business: None identified

Public Comments:

The comments/statements/questions below are excerpts versus a verbatim record:

- **How is the 2010 Westview Neighborhood Master Plan incorporated in the Perry proposal?** *Responses (Sheperd and Hooker): 2010 Master Plan shopped to potential parties...the Board has seen the Perry plan but due to litigations and the deal not being closed, ...cannot make public at this time*
- **Will historic properties be respected and adhere to the state preservation plans...?** *Responses: TPS recognizes the value of historic edifices...historic pieces will not be touched or destroyed... There is a united front with MILRA leading the negotiations and facilitating any legal concerns about not dismantling historic properties...*
- **How is non-profit going to keep the CES together and impact on CES?** *Responses: The CES and non-profit are two separate entities... they will co-exist. MILRA will exist for a minimum of 10 years after closure of the deal with DOD...during this time the non-profit role will increase when the balance of the property sold the Board's role will be more administrative.*
- **Some businesses are concerned about small business programs and how businesses are selected.**

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- **Community asked for a meeting before the deal is closed with the CES Committee**

MEETING ADJOURNED APPROXIMATELY AT 7:20P.

**THE NEXT MILRA BOARD MEETING IS MONDAY, MAY 11TH AT 1P AT FT. MCPHERSON.
THE CES MEETING WILL BE DETERMINED AT AND NOTICES WILL BE EMAILED.**