

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

Lincolnvile Community Redevelopment Area Steering Committee January 6, 2025

The Lincolnvile Community Redevelopment Area Steering Committee met for its regularly scheduled meeting at 5:00 P.M., Monday, January 6, 2025, in the Alcazar Room, City Hall Building. The meeting was called to order by James St. George, Chairperson. The following Steering Committee members were present:

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| 1. ROLL CALL | James St. George, Chairperson
Mari Hayes, Vice-Chairperson
Ken McClain
Madeline Wise |
| Absent | Dolanja Duncan, excused |
| Staff Present: | Jaime D. Perkins, Neighborhood Services & CRA Manager
April Owen, Assistant City Attorney
Jill Collins, Neighborhood Services & CRA Administrative Coordinator |

2.a) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ken McClain MOVED to APPROVE the meeting minutes from October 21, 2024. The motion was SECONDED by Mari Hayes, and meeting minutes were APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

3 Minutes per Individual

Tira Kindler commented on the Eddie Vickers Dog Park project and requested a key fob entry system, a requirement for dogs to be vetted for current shots, and a dog wash area to be included at the dog park.

4. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND UPDATES

a) Vicker/Hayling Park Improvements Update

Jaime Perkins, Neighborhood Services and CRA Manager, presented updates to Dr. Robert B. Hayling and Eddie Vickers Park Masterplan and current projects within the

parks that were currently in progress.

James St. George asked if there were modifications made to the original basketball courts lighting.

Ms. Perkins explained the lighting was the same, but there were bulbs burnt out and St. Johns County was working to resolve the issue.

Mr. St. George asked if there would be an opportunity for kayakers to store their kayaks near the launch and if there was a way to curtail the odor from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Ms. Perkins replied that there were plans for a storage rack at the kayak launch and there could be a possibility for City/CRA-owned kayaks as well. She added that the Wastewater Treatment Plant attempted to reduce the odor as much as possible, but hoped that once kayakers were in the water, they would be kayaking away from any odors.

Mari Hayes asked if "bad" dogs at the proposed dog park would be handled by the Police Department.

April Owens, Assistant City Attorney, answered

that regulations and policies would have to be established and posted, and if there was an issue such as a dog bite, it would be a police issue.

Ms. Hayes asked about the ideas/issues that could arise during development and implementation of the masterplan design and at what point does the input end.

Ms. Perkins explained that until construction started there would be time to receive input since each project was being implemented separately; however, design changes could increase the overall budget.

Madeline Wise asked if the plans depict that cars would be able to enter through the neighborhood entrance off Cerro Street to drive to the kayak launch.

Ms. Perkins answered that it was a conceptual rendering and there weren't any driving pathways that far into the park in the design. She added that kayakers would enter through the main entrance only.

Mr. St. George asked if there was water currently available at the site where the dog park would be located to accommodate a dog wash area.

Ms. Perkins said that the implementation of the dog park would mimic the City's other dog park at Pomar Park where water was available. She added that rules and policies would be posted consistent with what was posted at other City dog parks.

Ms. Wise asked if the parks, including the dog park, were under the County.

Ms. Perkins explained that they were City owned parks, but the County would maintain portions of the park through an interlocal agreement, because the City was small and did not have a Parks and Rec division, however, the dog park would be maintained by the City. She added the basketball courts and baseball field would continue to be maintained

by the County as it states in the Interlocal Agreement.

Ken McClain commented regarding the dog park, that the County had Animal Control enforcement and if there were issues with dogs, they could contact the County's Animal Control offices.

Mr. St. George asked if there was enough subsoil to allow for the planting of trees at Hayling and Vickers Parks.

Ms. Perkins answered there was not; however, there were plans to build the grade up to plant trees.

b) LCRA Projects Update

Jaime D. Perkins, Neighborhood Services and CRA Manager, presented an overview of the current projects in the LCRA that were not previously covered in the last presentation.

Mr. St. George asked what the plans were to mitigate structure flooding at the Elks Lodge Institutional Rehabilitation project.

Ms. Perkins replied that there would be door dams installed, and water-resistant paint would be applied up six feet from the ground up. She said the State was a funding source which limited flood mitigation efforts.

Mr. St. George asked if the bell tower at Trinity Independent Methodist Church would be removed brick by brick and then re-built with the same bricks.

Ms. Perkins said that for Institutional Rehabilitation projects, the intent was to preserve the historic nature of the structure and if any bricks were lost, they would be matched as best as possible.

Mr. McClain asked if the allocated \$463K was for the demolition and completion of the bell tower.

Ms. Perkins stated that the total cost of the project had yet to be determined, but part of the \$463K would go toward architectural design. She added that once those were complete, the project would be solicited for construction, and then additional money would be allocated.

Ms. Wise asked if the Trinity project was being funded solely by the CRA.

Ms. Perkins replied in the affirmative. She said it was similar to the St. Paul Institutional Rehabilitation project and the First Baptist Church Institutional Rehabilitation project; funds would be allocated each year from the CRA without state grant money.

Mr. St. George asked if there was a cap on the number of times an institution could apply.

Ms. Perkins answered that there isn't anything written in the original policy plan that limits the number of times an applicant applied.

Mr. St. George asked about the Martin Luther King (MLK) Streetscape project and given the unknown project costs, how does Ms. Perkins write that into the grant application.

Ms. Perkins said she thought the current Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant, allowed for an "up to" dollar amount. She added that the City had been awarded grant money through RAISE for previous streetscape projects and was confident the funding would be approved.

Ms. Hayes asked about the entryway features of the MLK Streetscape project and if there was an alternative plan if one of the homeowners decided not to participate.

Ms. Perkins answered there was not an alternative because there was only one

entryway into Lincolnville. She added that the right-of-way was very limited, but if only one homeowner agreed, it could be possible to add entryway features only to that one space and felt there was time to work through those issues.

Mr. St. George asked about the actual usable right-of-way area in the intersection and inquired about the homeowner's concern.

Ms. Perkins said adding a beautifying entryway feature without buy-in from the homeowner could eliminate or reduce walking space, which was not feasible or safe. She said she was unsure of the concerns as she had not had the opportunity to speak with them.

Ms. Wise recommended improvements to Twine Park should begin with the CRA.

Ms. Perkins answered she would begin the process for Twine Park improvements.

Mr. St. George opened the floor to public discussion; however, there was none.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE ITEMS/DISCUSSION

Ms. Wise wanted to clarify from the last meeting when the board was informed that St. Mary's Church was not in Lincolnville anymore, how that was discovered and where the boundaries were located.

Ms. Perkins clarified that St. Mary's was in Lincolnville neighborhood; however, not in the Lincolnville CRA. She added that the Lincolnville neighborhood boundaries were larger than the Lincolnville CRA boundaries, and St. Mary's was located within the Historic Area CRA (HACRA) boundaries. She added that the HACRA was established in 2000 long before she was employed with the City and through her efforts in writing the grant for St. Mary's, she discovered it was in the HACRA and not the LCRA.

8. CITY STAFF ITEM
(None)

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, April 7, 2025, 5:00pm.

10. ADJORNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson,
James St. George at 6:17 PM.

Minutes Transcribed by: Jill Collins