

A meeting of the Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at City Hall, 400 South Orange Avenue, Second Floor, Veterans Conference Room, Orlando, Florida. Vice Chair Monica McCown called the meeting to order at 3:19 p.m. noting a quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monica McCown, Vice Chair
Eugene Jones
Kimberly Stewart
Doug Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jamie Barati, Chair
Rachel Moalli
Commissioner Emily Bonilla

STAFF PRESENT: Sherry Gutch, Director of Placemaking
David Barilla, Acting Executive Director
Thomas C. Chatmon Jr., Acting Director of Urban Development (Virtual)
Christel Brooks, Fiscal Coordinator
Stacey Adams, Assistant City Attorney
Felix Roman, Board Secretary
Liz Nigro, Senior Administrative Assistant
Kelly Allen, Marketing and Communications Manager
Kate Harris, Interactive Media Coordinator
Michael Whiteman, Economic Development Coordinator III
Carlos Zamora, Economic Development Coordinator
Mary-Stewart Droege, Project Manager
Gerhard van der Snel, Downtown Facilities Supervisor
Tiffany Stephens, Division Fiscal Manager
Maxwell Spann, Project Manager
Christina Hyson, Project Manager
Tamyia Paul, Board Coordinator
Hareton Tejada, Safety Ambassador Manager

Approval of Minutes

- a. A motion was made by Doug Taylor and seconded by Eugene Jones to approve the February 22, 2023 CRA Advisory Board meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

New Business:

- a. **MEBA: Flamingo's Coffee Shop, Michael Whiteman, Economic Development Coordinator**

The Minority/Women Business Assistance (MEBA) Program was approved by the CRA on August 28, 2006 and assists with small business retention and creation in the MEBA target area as defined within the Downtown Orlando Community Redevelopment Area. The MEBA Program provides financial assistance of up to \$40,000.00 to qualified new and existing retail and service businesses for retention/relocation expenses, purchase of capital equipment, marketing services, and business start-up expenses.

Flamingo's Coffee Shop's owner, Irena Simikc, has applied for MEBA Program funding in the amount of \$39,823 for interior remodeling and capital equipment. The business, which was founded in 2007, offers a variety of food and beverage options to the area's workforce and residents, as well as visitors to the area attending events at the Amway Arena and Exploria

Stadium. Located at 595 West Church Street, Suite D, at the base of the Parramore neighborhood's City View building, Flamingo's Coffee Shop is run by owner Irena Simikc, along with family members that have extensive expertise in hotel and restaurant management. The MEBA Advisory Board recommended approval of funding in the amount of \$39,805 for use towards interior remodeling and capital equipment, including a POS system, at its meeting on March 13th, 2023.

Staff requested that the CRA Advisory Board recommend approval of the MEBA Funding Agreement, Continuing Guaranty, and Security Agreement between the CRA and Flamingo's Coffee Shop and authorization for the Chairman and Executive Director of the CRA to execute the Agreement, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney's Office.

A motion was made by Doug Taylor and seconded by Kimberly Stewart to approve the MEBA Funding Agreement, Continuing Guaranty, and Security Agreement between the CRA and Flamingo's Coffee Shop and authorization for the Chairman and Executive Director of the CRA to execute the Agreement, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney's Office. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board is Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in Veterans Conference Room.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board, Vice Chair Monica McCown adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.



David Barilla
Acting Executive Director



Felix Roman
Board Secretary