

Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2014

President, Carl Schrader called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Members present, per sign-in sheet on file.

Guest Speakers

Chris Cochran, AICP, Senior Planner, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority

Mr. Cochran, provided information on Greenlight Pinellas. Language on ballot will describe the plan. The proposal would remove PSTA from property tax and increase the sales tax by 1% to 8%. It would garner more income via sales tax from 5.5 million tourists which is anticipated to be 33% of the sales tax revenue. This tax rate is only on the first \$5K of any sale. The tax on the remainder drops to 6%. An alternatives analysis was done to establish a corridor for light rail: Clearwater to Largo across East Bay, to the Gateway and then to downtown St. Petersburg. Eminent domain will only come into play on East Bay in Largo where tracks would be placed in the center of the road. It is anticipated that implementation of this project will increase development and commerce in the area of the rail service. The first impact will be an increase in the frequency and hours of bus service and then light rail in 2020 – 2021.

Secretary's Report

Shelley Kuroghlian presented the minutes from the September 3rd meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Motion by JoAnna Siskin, 2nd by Howard Warshauer to accept minutes as presented. Approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Doug Williams presented the CNC financial information as of September 30, 2014. Clearwater Gas contributed \$1500 as our sponsor. Motion made by Howard Warshauer to accept the report as written, 2nd by JoAnna Siskin. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

Meeting Location – we are very pleased to announce that the CNC will meet each month at St. Pails Lutheran Church on Gulf to Bay Blvd. Motion by Shelley Kuroghlian, 2nd by Karen Cunningham to keep St. Paul's as our permanent location. Passed unanimously.

New Business

Urban Land Institute – Advisory Services Panel Report – Carl asked if anyone is interested in representing the CNC in a stakeholders group for Pinellas County. Doug Williams volunteered.

Holiday Party – Group agreed to hold the party at Greektown Grille.

Karen Cunningham suggested that we also have a recruitment meeting at which we serve refreshments to try to increase membership.

Officers for 2015 – Carl asked the members to provide suggestions for officers and also consider serving. We need to have a slate of Officers to vote on in the December meeting.

Motion by Howard, 2nd by Joanna to allocate \$200 for decorations for “Benefit Event” dinner.

Bill Jonson reminded the group about the City of Clearwater Centennial Celebration. Doug Williams is our representative.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Williams at 8:40 pm. It was seconded by Howard Warshauer, Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Kuroghlian
Secretary, Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition