

Leadership Group Meeting  
Thursday, September 24, 2015

Chair Mastroserio opened the meeting at 11:38am in attendance were the following:

Members: Paulo Mastroserio, Grant McMahon, Clark Yandle, Edward Plaster, Summer Gill, Narvella Haynes, Ira Holmes, Ruth Reed, Ken Ausley, and Steven Albright.

City Staff in attendance: Michael Daniels, Peter Lee, Tye Chighizola, Corey Taylor, Melanie Gaboardi, Chip Rich and Jennifer Normoyle.

Mr. Daniels reminded the group of a previous discussion involving the performance of an evaluation of the progress and strategies of the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan, since it has been five years since the plans adoption. The plan will be evaluated prior to the next meeting and brought back to the leadership group for feedback to discuss a presentation to city council.

It was discussed, in response to concerns regarding Trinity Lane, that information be compiled about the vision, the pros and cons of the development. Also discussed was the idea of adding new members and getting new insight on the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan as well as reaching out to community groups to discuss the 2035 Vision Plan.

The group supported evaluating the plan and felt that it is important to educate city board members regarding the Ocala 2035 Vision plan. Concerns were expressed that the community does not have information about the plan. It was generally felt that misinformation is what caused backlash for the Trinity Lane Development. It was reiterated that the group would like a five year update to be presented to city council and would support the invitation of council members to the monthly leadership group meetings. It was discussed that an Return on Investment should be done on every development to ensure that improvements will have lasting value and return for the city. It was suggested that the group have opportunity to review incoming plans for development and give endorsement/feedback before it gets to Planning Commission. It was discussed that neighborhood meetings and more input needs to take place to inform the public about proposed development and how it is or is not consistent with the 2035 Vision.

Mr. Lee provided information on the vision of transitioning the weekend farmer's market to a public market that is open several days. He explained the visiting consultant will review the viability of the transition and the city is preparing the shed lot as a permanent space for the farmers market. It was advised that the market consultant would be willing to meet with the leadership group to discuss the project at the CEP and that he would be visiting for several days in the upcoming week (October 6-10). There was also some related discussion as to the aesthetics and design of the farmer market and nearby water tank. Mr. Chighizola provided images of the design to the group.

Mr. Rich discussed changes in property maintenance ordinances made to ensure that vacant properties are still maintained which inspired staff to review other issues regarding property maintenance. It was discussed that a hotel located on SR 40/Silver Springs Boulevard at the west side of the I-75 gateway, which subsequently generated interest in future development of the property.

Mr. Daniels discussed the request from a private company for a pre-treatment facility receiving septage from drained septic tanks and treating waste in several secure tanks so that it may eventually end up in the city's sewer system. Some concerns were raised from the public regarding odor and Mr. Daniels explained that they had visited another facility and are in the process of evaluating whether the use would be compatible with the surrounding area. The facility requires a special exception and a public hearing for the case which shall be held on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Gaboardi explained that members of the National Resource Network would be visiting Ocala. The National Resource Network provides technical assistance and evaluates projects in the city. Members were encouraged to attend these meetings, which would take place on Wednesday, September 30 and Thursday, September 31.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02pm.