

CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA
DELTONA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, July 11, 2011
Regular Meeting Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Deltona Economic Development Advisory Board was held on Monday, July 11, 2011, at Deltona City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, located at 2345 Providence Boulevard, Deltona, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Mayes at 6:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Nick Conte	Chairman	Present
Robert Desmond	Vice Chairman	Present
Karl Brown	Voting member	Present
Joseph Cerrato	Voting Member	Present
Manuel Chavez	Voting Member	Present
Franklin Welch	Voting Member	Present
Harry Wilkins	Voting Member	Present
John Augustin	Voting Member	Resigned
Fernando Bonilla	Voting Member	Resigned

City Staff:

Jerry Mayes, Business Development Administrator

3. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Chairman Conte said a quorum has been established.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Cerrato made a motion to approve the May 9, 2011, meeting minutes. Member Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mayes explained the by-laws regarding absences and that DEDAB is an advisory board only. Chairman Conte explained that DEDAB is a think tank and that lobbying by an individual member is not permitted. Discussion ensued regarding chain of command.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of new DEDAB Members

New members Manuel Chavez and Franklin Welch were welcomed. Members introduced themselves and briefly spoke about their backgrounds.

B. Sub-Committee Reports to DEDAB

Chair Conte spoke about Mission Statement I, attracting businesses to Deltona. Member Wilkins addressed bringing in an adult living facilities, nursing home and apartments in one complex to Deltona. Mr. Mayes spoke about six businesses that will be coming to Deltona. Discussion ensued about bringing a lunch crowd to Deltona. Member Chavez said he would be willing to help with this sub-committee.

Chairman Conte said Mission Statement II addresses infrastructure deficiencies. Chair Desmond said he wanted to arrange a tour of Deltona's Water and Sewer Facilities to get to know the operations. Mr. Mayes said he will ask for volunteers, who are engineers or former engineers, coming on board to be members of the sub-committee. Member Chavez volunteered to help with the sub-committee.

Member Cerrato spoke about the manufacturing sub-committee and its members. The sub-committee is looking at trying to determine best process, parameters, and location for a flex-type industrial park; this could entail anything from distribution, packing, manufacturing, etc. Member Cerrato said he spoke with Cheryl Atkins, Deltona's Grants Coordinator, regarding obtaining grants to assist with development. He said Pedro Leon, Volusia County (VC) Economic Development Department, attended a meeting. Once the sub-committee comes up with a plan Mr. Leon said VC could assist with marketing and its different aspects. Member Cerrato said he contacted Bob Turk, Economic Development, DeLand, and Frank DeMarsh who owns land in the SR 472 area. They talked about setting aside a portion of that land. Member Cerrato said he will put together a written proposal to DEDAB as far as definite plans are concerned.

Member Brown said the people he spoke with were not interested in joining the sub-committee to determine available lots and parcels of commercial property (e-book). He has been doing the research himself. Mr. Mayes encourages other members who have realtor contacts, especially commercial realtors, to call Member Brown.

There was discussion regarding planning the next Deltona Business Forum. Mr. Mayes said he would like to hold another forum within the next 90 to 120 days. There is a Fact Sheet of things to do.

Member Brown made a motion to direct staff to provide a list of the Deltona Forum “Questions & Issues,” and the progress made on those questions and issues. The motion was seconded by Member Desmond. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

There was discussion about asking Lee Lopez, Deltona’s Public Information Officer, to take a picture of the DEDAB Board.

C. Reassignments of DEDAB Sub-Committee Chairpersons

There was no discussion on this item.

D. Begin updating the City of Deltona’s 5-year Business Plan

Chair Conte said there was an issue with a Commissioner commenting negatively about the Board updating the 5-year Business Plan. He said this initiative should come from the City Commission, not the Board leading that initiative, therefore, this item has been shelved. Mr. Mayes explained DEDAB’s advisory position regarding presenting reports/items to the City Commission.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Anne Plock, member of West Volusia Regional Chamber, commented on the medical industry coming to Deltona and bringing economic growth with it.

8. MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Cerrato welcomed the new members.

Member Desmond spoke about the “red zone” commercial map. He said currently residents are motivated to sell their properties; businesses could purchase properties at a reduced price.

Mr. Mayes cautioned members about the Florida Sunshine Law when e-mailing other members and discussions with each other after meetings, etc.

Member Desmond advised the Board that the Governor approved commuter rail. Member Desmond made a motion for staff to bring a report about Deltona’s involvement with commuter rail to the Board. Member Cerrato seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

Member Brown welcomed the new members and said he would continue to work on his sub-committee.

Member Wilkins welcomed the new members. He said he would like to see more positive public relations for the City, especially relating to economic development. Not much was mentioned in Deltona's newsletter. Member Cerrato made a motion for the Chairman to obtain economic development space in the Deltona newsletter. Member Chavez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

Chairman Conte said he would like to add educational opportunity, University of Puerto Rico, charter schools, etc., to Mission Statement I after ALFs. Member Desmond motioned to add the wording to Mission Statement I. The motion was seconded by Member Chavez. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Member Cerrato motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Brown. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Approved this 8th day of August, 2011.

ATTEST:

Jerry Mayes, RECORDING SECRETARY

Nick Conte, Jr., CHAIRMAN