



**TOWN OF NORTH REDINGTON BEACH, FLORIDA
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/PLANNING & ZONING BOARD
PINELLAS PLANNING DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
FEBRUARY 2, 2004**

The special meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. at the Town Hall building, 190 - 173rd Avenue, North Redington Beach.

Present: Mayor Radcliffe, Vice Mayor Bennett, Commissioner Jagielski, Commissioner Knight, Joe Baldanza, Curtis Blocker, Henry Browning, Marilyn Hall, Frank Novak, Bill Queen, Brian Smith – Pinellas County Planning Director and Gordon Beardsley, - Head of General Planning at Pinellas County
Others in attendance were Jim Baldanza and David Yost. Commissioner Curtis was unable to attend.

Commissioner Knight welcomed those in attendance. He explained to Mr. Smith and Mr. Beardsley the N.R.B. people present would be involved with the updating process and the Town wanted to be sure everyone involved understood the procedure by which the Comprehensive Plan would be amended. He felt a smaller “task force” would be formed to do most of the work with the understanding the Local Planning Agency must formally formulate and recommend adoption of the plan. The committee would consist of some mixture of Planning and Zoning Board members and Board of Commission members, along with the Town Clerk and Public Works Director.

Mr. Smith informed the group that Chapter 163 of the Florida Statutes states how a comprehensive plan should be done, what should be included and the procedures to follow to get it approved. The Department of Community Affairs acts as custodian of the various plans throughout the State. He reinforced the fact the Local Planning Agency is authorized to develop and recommend amendments to the Local Comprehensive Plan which is the Town’s policy document and is intended to assist the local government in making better decisions as well as support the decisions made. It should include projects to pursue and must be specific enough to give guidance.

After some discussion, it was agreed that doing an Evaluation and Appraisal Report on an up-to-date plan would be easier and more productive than attempting to report about a fifteen-year-old plan. State law requires every community to do an EAR, but since North Redington Beach has until February 1, 2007 to complete this report, there is time to effectively update the Comp. Plan first—then think about the EAR.

Mr. Smith suggested the first step would be to have the Planning and Zoning Board (the LPA) adopt a public participation procedure and consistently follow that procedure while updating the Plan. The planning process should not be a “technical process” but a citizen input process. The Planning Department will get a copy of Pinellas County’s procedure for public input to the Task Force to use as a starting point. He felt meeting on a monthly basis with the task force, the citizens and the LPA would work.

The Town’s assignment for the next meeting is to determine membership on the Task Force. The Planning Department will begin to review the 1989 document, update data that is available from other sources and highlight areas that appear in need of updating. That review will take at least two months to complete.

Several questions were fielded by the Planning Department representatives who gave examples of public forums they have conducted on various issues, but pointed out the Town must decide how they wish to include public input into the Plan.

Mayor Radcliffe suggested 2 or 3 Planning & Zoning Board members on the Task Force along with not more than 2 Commissioners (probably Jerry Knight and Bill Queen) and a representative from each of 4 groups within the community –the rental unit community, the businesses, someone from the Gulf Boulevard area and someone from the residential section. Mr. Smith cautioned to make sure special interest groups are not overly represented and that citizen members realize the longevity of the process so they can stay until the job is complete. The Mayor hoped to name and appoint members of the Task Force at the Board of Commission meeting on February 12th.

The next meeting of the group meeting today will be set during the third week in March—after the election. North Redington Beach people should write down suggestion for the citizen input procedure to be set. Pinellas Planning Dept. will give a preliminary draft to work with. They will also send a draft of the agreement with N.R.B. to help with the Plan.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon V. Proehl, CMC
Town Clerk*