



## August 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

The August Board (VIRTUAL) meeting was held on Monday, August 2, 2021, at 4:30 PM via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm and was presided over by Melinda Bowker - President. Melinda reviewed the agenda.

### 2. Roll Call

Six attendees were online at the beginning of the Virtual meeting. The roll was called by Sonia Jones. The following 2021 Board Members were present: Melinda Bowker, Nicole Marsala, Sonia Jones, Debra Picker, Linda Davis, and Michele Rhule. 2021 Board Members not present were Ian Lubetkin and Lianne Rubbo. A quorum was met since 6 of 8 Board members were present.

### 3. Admin

Minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday, June 7, 2021, via Zoom, were emailed by Sonia to the 2021 board members for review prior to today's meeting.

A motion was made by Nicole and seconded by Debra to approve the minutes of the Board Meetings held on June 7, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Updates Board Members/Committees-work/concerns/updates from last months (June-July)**

Melinda opened the floor to any board or committee member with an update of information or report from the past months June and July.

#### Officer Reports

- a. President Report – Melinda updated the board on conversations held with Commissioner Ben Sorensen, regarding 7/16 and 7/30 meetings. Specifically, Melinda discussed the frustration of board members, membership of DFLCA and downtown Fort Lauderdale residents having had their input, initially well received and included in the plans, completely disregarded on several issues where community input was requested.
- b. Committee Reports:
  - i. Issues and Strategies – None
  - ii. Communications and Marketing – None
  - iii. Membership – Debra reported that as of this date there are 105 members/family units.  
**Action:** Debra to send an email with suggestions for increasing the membership of DFLCA to the board members. Melinda to call a meeting to discuss the suggestions and implementation.
  - iv. Event and Social – None

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### New Business

#### 4. LauderTrail

##### **Guest: Jay Shechtman: Tarpon River Civic Association President, LauderTrail Concept Developer and Working Group Member**

Mr. Shechtman discussed the limited Bike/Ped path improvements which have been initiated and presented renderings of Phase I and II of the LauderTrail Master Plan. The goal of LauderTrail is to create a separate path, protected from cars to be used by walkers, skaters, and casual cyclists and to connect to existing parks and venues in Fort Lauderdale. The LauderTrail system is not meant for the use of the high-speed street cyclist. Currently Path Foundation is working on Phase I and II with an estimated budget of \$6,000,000. Since 1991, the PATH Foundation has been transforming the landscape of the greater metropolitan Atlanta area by connecting available spaces. The board members asked several questions regarding:

- Lighting
- Safety features
- Emergency contact posts
- Marketing of the pathways

Mr. Shechtman did not have information on the above topics currently available. Mr. Shechtman then discussed the upcoming LauderTrail Master Plan Public Meeting to be held Monday, 8/23 from 5-6:30pm at City Hall.

**Action:** Melinda to inform the membership of the upcoming public meeting - LauderTrail Master Plan Public Meeting is on Monday, 8/23 from 5-6:30pm at City Hall and share the LauderTrail flyer.

#### 5. One River District: 629 SE 5th Ave update and information

Melinda discussed the original site plan, DRC Case No. R19002, which was approved on April 11, 2019. The plan is for a 34-story building, 251 units with 327 parking spaces and will include retail space. The building is not age restricted and the units will initially be rental properties. Groundbreaking is expected to start in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022.

Melinda discussed the 30 days call up period which ends 8/29/21. Once 30-day call up period ends, the City Commission may request a review period. Subsequent to approval, the applicant submitted an Administrative Review Application, Case No. UDP-A20003, requesting modifications to the original site plan. Since this project was approved without objection in 2019, the DFLCA board has no opinion on this project at this time.

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**Action:** Melinda to inform the membership of the upcoming City Commission meeting which will include this project, possibly August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### 6. New River Crossing Meeting on July 7, 2021—tunnel for train under New River

Melinda discussed the New River Crossing meeting held on July 7<sup>th</sup> and the disappointment in that DFLCA was not invited to the meeting and discussions. Melinda communicated to the mayor's office, regarding DFLCA being excluded, and the response by the mayor's office was that initially there was a small working group selected on this project.

### 7. Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Improvements and Pedestrian Plaza Project-work starts on Sept 7, 2021

Melinda discussed several upcoming meetings regarding the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel and Pedestrian Plaza Project. These meetings were called to discuss the projected construction and impact on the surrounding communities. Below are meetings planned for August:

- Potential meeting to answer questions from our Neighborhood on this: Wednesday, August 11 or Thurs, August 12
- In-Person Construction Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, August 18, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Stranahan House Museum
- Virtual Public Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please use the following link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/HEKTunnel> or (914) 614-3221, Access Code: 649-446-068 to join the meeting (your line will be muted). A brief presentation followed by questions and comments will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and again from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Action:** Melinda to inform the membership of the upcoming meeting dates and additional information communicated as it becomes available.

### 8. Bahia Mar: Draft District 4 Presidents Letter

Melinda discussed the draft letter written to the City Commission regarding the extension of the lease to the developer who is planning to build luxury condominiums on the Bahia Mar property. The letter was composed by and will be signed by the presidents of various organizations. The letter details the importance of keeping the Bahia Mar property for public use and especially for use during the annual boat show.

A motion was made by Sonia that the board approve that Melinda as DFLCA President, join the other organization Presidents in the signing of this important letter to the City Commission with the support of the DFLCA board members. The motion was seconded by Nicole. A vote was taken, and the motion passed with 5 votes. Michele was not available for this vote.

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### 9. Items anticipated on the August 17, 2021, Commission Agenda

Melinda discussed two important items going before the City Commission on August 17, 2021.

- First Ordinance Reading: Minimum Residential Parking Requirements in Downtown RACC – This request was made by DFLCA as a change to the Master Plan. The change to the Master Plan—passed the Planning and Zoning Board—now will be considered at 2 readings by Commission. Developers still have an opportunity to request a variance, for reduction of spaces, through the normal variance process.
- Sound/Noise Ordinance and Enforcement: This is a “hot topic” on the Downtown northside where several restaurants have been the subject of excessive noise complaints by residents in recent months. Residents are advocating that, at the minimum, the city diligently enforce the existing noise ordinances.

### Old Business/Informational

### 10. Update re: Outreach to our Neighborhood from Flagler Village President Leann Barber regarding One Stop Shop City Land and Park

Melinda discussed the letter sent to City Manager Chris Lagerbloom regarding the use of the One Stop Shop City Land and Park. The residents are in favor of the land remaining a greenspace/park as originally promised by the city. This issue may be discussed at the August 17, 2021, City Commission meeting.

**Action:** Melinda to reach out to Leann Barber on how best DFLCA can support the residents of Flagler Village regarding the issue of land use in their neighborhood. Once more information is available, Melinda will email the DFLCA Board with how we can support Flagler Village.

### 11. Ann Murray Greenway (Tarpon River):

Melinda discussed the issue at the Ann Murray Greenway gardens, located in the Tarpon River neighborhood, where the new owner of the adjacent property has decided to assert their right to part of the Ann Murray Greenway gardens which is within their property rights. There may be an opportunity for DFLCA to support the Tarpon River Civic Association regarding this issue in the future.

### 12. Any Other Business:

Melinda asked if there was any other business and there was none.

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### 13. Adjourn

A motion was made by Debra to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Nicole. All were in favor of adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by Melinda Bowker at 5:45 pm.

Minutes prepared by:        Sonia Jones    2021 Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by:       Board at the Board Meeting held on September 13, 2021

Recording Secretary Approval:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonia Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'S' and 'J'.

Date: September 13 , 2021