

CRA CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
OFFICIAL AGENDA  
March 17, 2016  
3:30 p.m.

Municipal Administration Building  
City Manager's Conference Room  
201 W. Central Avenue  
Lake Wales, FL 33853

1. AGENDA ITEM

1.I. Roll Call

1.II. Approval Of Minutes: February 18, 2016 Meeting

Documents: [2016-02-18CCAC.PDF](#)

2. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Public participation is encouraged. If you are addressing the Commission, step to the podium and state your name and if city or county resident for the record. Please limit your discussions to five (5) minutes.

Note: The full staff memo will be incorporated into the official record if there is a memo.

Minutes of the CRA Citizen Advisory Committee can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office. The minutes are recorded, but are not transcribed verbatim. Persons requiring a verbatim transcript may make arrangements with the City Clerk to duplicate the recording, or arrange to have a court reporter present at the meeting. The cost of duplication and/or court reporter will be the expense of the requesting party.

Persons who wish to appeal any decision made by the CRA Citizens Advisory Committee with respect to any matter considered during this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the office of the City Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting.

**CRA Citizen Advisory Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 18, 2016  
3:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robin Gibson; Narvell Peterson; Mark Bennett, chairman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** James Slaton, Public/Support Services Director; Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk

Chairman Mark Bennett called the meeting to order at approximately 3:32 p.m.

**Agenda Item 1.           ROLL CALL**

**Agenda Item 2.           Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2016**

Narvell Peterson made a motion to approve the January 21, 2016 meeting minutes as presented, Robin Gibson seconded the motion, and the Committee unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item 3.           Creating Objectives and Listing Priorities for FY'2016-2017**

During discussion the Committee listed the following for FY'2016-2017:

**Philosophical Statement**

1. Community "Redevelopment" Agency: Emphasis on redevelopment
2. Redevelopment of built infrastructure
3. Built infrastructure that is blighted (multiple ownership and vacancies)
4. Economic scheme expense to increase tax base
5. Emphasis on Code Enforcement
6. CRA funding should be focused on redevelopment (as opposed to infrastructure)
7. Fund projects that get more money (increase tax base)
  - Enhance tax base to create CRA increment
8. Use CRA funds for infrastructure redevelopment and no maintenance
9. Other funds should first be used for infrastructure
  - Gas tax for roads
  - Utility funds for utilities
10. CRA could be used for infrastructure but as a last option

**Priorities**

1. Demolition program
2. Code Enforcement program (City portion)
3. Amend CRA plan if needed to remove what has been done and include future goals & priorities
4. Downtown redevelopment
5. Grand hotel
6. Beautify Scenic Highway entrance to City (specifically north entrance)
7. Continued focus on northwest area

**Issues**

1. Code Enforcement officer – CRA vs. General Fund
2. Need quarterly update on accomplishments

3. CRA Audit – Needed “Yes or No”
4. Grand Hotel - Should CRA do something to improve the area?
5. How to improve fertilizer property as part of CRA plan
6. CRA – 2 tax increments – County money will stay when CRA money goes away

**Requests**

1. Quarterly report from Code Enforcement Officer
2. Periodic CRA Audit - specific

**OTHER COMMENTS**

Chairman Bennett reviewed a handout he provided to each of the Committee members, “Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board Training” and asked them to consider attending one of the six training classes offered in 2016 at various locations.

The Committee scheduled its next meeting for Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

There being no more business to discuss, Chairman Bennett adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:47 p.m.

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Chairman/Vice-Chairman

ATTEST

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City Clerk Clara VanBlargan, MMC