

Duval Street Committee Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2008
3:00 p.m.

Present: Jimmy Weekley, Chairman
Perry Johnston, Co- Chairman
Roger McVeigh
Christine Russell
Joan George
Gloria Sellers
Vivian Perez, Administrative Assistant Mayor and City Commission

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Chairman Jimmy Weekley asked for motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2008. The Chairman asked if anyone has any objections if not the minutes are approved.

Vivian Perez gave an update to the Committee on behalf of Commissioner Barry Gibson regarding Florida Main Street; Commissioner Gibson made contact with Florida Main Street and will present some information to the Committee at the next meeting.

Christine Russell mentioned to the Committee that the City of Key West used the services of Texas A & M students for the hurricane summit that Mayor Morgan McPherson had in 2007 and suggested maybe contacting them to see if they could provide a similar service but catered to Duval Street. Christina Russell volunteered to contact Ms. Nodari to see if the group would be interested.

Perry Johnston suggested trying to contact Carolann Sharkey and see if she can get the gentleman that was with her at the Duval Street Summit and come to one of the Committees meeting. Chairman Jimmy Weekley asked Mr. Johnston to contact Carolann Sharkey and relay the Committee's interest in speaking with her contact.

Chairman Jimmy Weekley thanked Cynthia Domenech-Coogle for coming to the meeting and asked for an update on the how the tree planting is progressing and the tree grates.

Cynthia Domenech-Coogle mentioned the City of Key West just opened bids for the tree grates; there were two bids. One came in at \$75,000.00 and the other one came in at \$95,000.00. Mrs. Domenech-Coogle stated that the materials in both bids are the same product and that at this point the bids need to be compared. Mrs. Domenech-Coogle mentioned that the City had budgeted \$178,000.00 for trees and grates.

Cynthia Domenech-Coogle reported that the Landscape Department has planted all the trees with the exception of three squares.

Chairman Jimmy Weekley mentioned the possibility of placing benches and asking the community to donate benches with plaques dedicated to a loved one or in memory of a loved one. Mrs. Domenech-Coogle mentioned doing some research with the late Commissioner Merili McCoy and using granite material that the City has on hand. Mrs.

Domenech-Coogle stated that this particular granite material is not the most comfortable material to sit or lay on for a long period of time. Mrs. Domenech-Coogle mentioned that this material makes a beautiful bench.

It was suggested partnering with the Art Department at the College and turn it into an assignment with the City of Key West providing the material.

Mrs. Domenech-Coogle will be sending information via email on the materials and how the bench would look like.

It was suggested that Duval Street Committee and the Ambassadors to join forces to help educate and enforce the vandalism of the trees.

Chairman Jimmy Weekley asked that Committee if they saw the editorial in the Citizen regarding the T-shirts and the drug paraphernalia. There was a discussion about looking at the Ordinances to see if they can recommend some amendments.

Chairman Jimmy Weekley asked Vivian Perez to invite the City of Key West PIO Alyson Crean to attend the next Duval Street Committee meeting along with someone from the City Attorney in order to discuss some of the current Ordinances.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at 525 Angela Street in the ADA Conference Room.

The meeting ended at 3:45 p.m.

(Recordings of the meetings are maintained with the Executive Aide to the Mayor and Commissioners)