

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL
February 13, 2013

The Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) met in regular session in the County Commission Assembly Room, Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida, at 3:10 P.M. with the following members present:

Jim Kennedy, Chairman, City of St. Petersburg Councilmember
David O. Archie, Vice-Chairman, City of Tarpon Springs Mayor
John Morroni, Treasurer, County Commissioner
Harriet K. Crozier, City of Largo Commissioner
Doreen Hock-DiPolito, City of Clearwater Councilmember
Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy, City of Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner
Jerry Mullins, City of Pinellas Park Councilmember
Peggy O'Shea, Pinellas County School Board Member
Jim Ronecker, City of Oldsmar Mayor
Marvin Shavlan, City of St. Pete Beach Vice-Mayor

Not Present:

Samuel Henderson, Secretary, City of Gulfport Vice-Mayor
Joe Ayoub, City of Safety Harbor Mayor
Dave Eggers, City of Dunedin Mayor

Also Present:

Michael C. Crawford, Interim Executive Director, PPC
Michael Schoderbock, PPC Staff
Carolyn Shoemaker, PPC Staff
Jewel White, Managing Assistant County Attorney
Other interested individuals
Tammy L. Burgess, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - A. Invocation and Pledge
 - B. Identification of Members Present
 - C. Introduction of and Welcome to New Member

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of December 12, 2012 and January 9, 2013 Meetings
- B. Financial Statement for January 2013
- C. CPA Actions for January 15 and February 12, 2013
- D. Annexation Report – January 2013
- E. Preliminary March 2013 Agenda
- F. Correspondence

III. PUBLIC HEARING – To begin at 3:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as agenda permits

- A. Public Hearing Format Announcement and Oath
- B. Amendments to the Countywide Future Land Use Plan
 - Subthreshold Amendments – None
 - Regular Amendments – None

IV. REPORTS/OTHER ACTION

- A. Countywide Plan Update
- B. Truth in Annexation Online Worksheet – Update for 2012-13 Fiscal Year

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

- A. PPC/MPO Unification Update
- B. Renewal of Agreement for Professional Planning Services – Tindale Oliver & Associates
- C. Verbal Reports

VI. OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

- A. Chairman/Member Items

VII. ADJOURNMENT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. and welcomed those in attendance.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The Invocation was given by Mayor Archie, following which he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

IDENTIFICATION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

A roll call was taken in which the members introduced themselves.

INTRODUCTION OF AND WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Chairman Kennedy welcomed City of Largo Commissioner Harriet K. Crozier and provided an overview of her professional background.

CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED

Chairman Kennedy presented the Consent Agenda items, as follows:

- A. Minutes of December 12, 2012 and January 9, 2013 Meetings
- B. Financial Statement for January 2013
- C. CPA Actions – January 15 and February 12, 2013
- D. Annexation Report – January 2013
- E. Preliminary March 2013 Agenda
- F. Correspondence

Vice-Mayor Shavlan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morroni and carried, that Consent Agenda Items A through F be approved (Vote 10–0).

In response to Commissioner Morroni’s request, Mr. Crawford indicated that he had forwarded the annexation information to Commissioner Norm Roche and will send it to the other Commissioners and the County Administrator.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

REPORTS AND OTHER ACTION

- A. Countywide Plan Update – Received

Mr. Crawford indicated that today’s presentation will include a review of background information and past activities for the benefit of the new Council members. He related that Phase I of the update has been completed and included identifying areas of growth and areas of stability in the County; that Phase II is well underway, which is the conversion of the current 37-category map into a simpler approximately 11-category map and involves a large amount of category development; and that staff will bring the Activity Center, Corridor, and Target Employment categories before the Council at a later date. He indicated that Associated Planning Criteria is being developed to replace the older Special Area Plan requirements; that the

majority of the criteria was presented to the Transportation and Land Use Working Group last Friday; and that another iteration will be presented to the Working Group in March, noting that several communities currently have Special Area Plans they will modify so they will be more useful with this process.

Mr. Crawford indicated that staff met with all of the local governments involved in the Work Group on an individual basis to review their respective maps and determine what issues may need to be addressed; that staff is working on drafting the Countywide Rules and the tiered review process; and that one level of the process being considered would have the Council as the almost final decision regarding the outcome of a land use amendment with an appeal process to the Countywide Planning Authority.

Mr. Crawford stated that Phase III is the adoption process, which had been within the target timeline, but will now likely be completed after October, noting that staff is waiting for the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority to come out with its community bus plan; and that staff will likely bring forward a revised timeline.

B. Truth in Annexation Online Worksheet – Update for 2012/2013 Fiscal Year - Reviewed/Discussed/Authorized Utilization

Mr. Crawford noted that a new name for the worksheet is being considered and will be presented to the Council at a future date; that the worksheet outlines fiscal considerations for jurisdictions that stem from the annexation process in the now defunct Ordinance 00-63 and involves only communities with the ability to annex.

Mr. Schoderbock related that, in 2000, an Excel annexation worksheet was developed to show the cost differences, such as millage rates, franchise fees, utility taxes, trash pickup, etc, of living in specific municipalities as compared to the unincorporated county; that the program was placed on the PPC website in 2006 in response to a request by the Council, and that as of this year, only the online worksheet will be available; whereupon, he provided an interactive demonstration of the online worksheet.

Mr. Crawford indicated that the online worksheet was originally intended for use by staff, but is now being used by citizens and property owners for comparison when deciding whether to annex into a municipality, pointing out that the Council website also contains contact information and links to the local governments.

Thereupon, Commissioner Crozier moved, seconded by Councilmember Mullins and carried, that authorization to use the online worksheet be granted (Vote 10-0).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

A. PPC/MPO Unification Update – Received/Discussed

Mr. Crawford provided background information and an overview of past activities regarding unifying the PPC and the MPO boards for the benefit of the new Council members, indicating that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) recertification process began on January 11, 2013, which considers the need for more regionalized transportation planning based on the United States Census; that the MPO's response to the current recertification is required by July 1, 2013; and that the MPO certification needs to be completed before the new Special Act is put into place, which may result in a revised unification timeline; whereupon, he introduced MPO Interim Executive Director Sarah Ward.

In response to query by Vice-Mayor Shavlan, Ms. Ward indicated that if a regional MPO is formed, it would consist of Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties. She provided background information about the test that the County would need to pass to remain a single MPO, noting that the County did not meet that test after the 2000 Census, although the Governor allowed it to remain separate, with certain conditions; that the letter the MPO received from the Florida Department of Transportation in January relating to the recent Census is very similar to the one received 10 years ago, and a similar appeal might be made again, although other avenues are being discussed, including a model that would allow a presence at the county level, but have a regional entity and perhaps some split funding, taking into consideration that a regional MPO would be more competitive in obtaining Federal funds. Ms. Ward indicated that the MPO staff has not taken a position as yet, as she has been waiting for input and guidance from her board; that the three MPO boards involved will come together to respond to the Governor's letter; and that she will keep the PPC staff updated. She indicated that the transit issue will be critical, and noted that re-designation can also occur outside the 10-year Census process, if so desired.

Chairman Kennedy pointed out that the MPO comes under Federal legislation and the PPC under the State and, therefore, each will continue to exist independently, but have the same members on both boards; whereupon, Ms. Ward cautioned that if the Pinellas County MPO ceased to exist, the unification could not go forward, and Mr. Crawford provided input regarding the Special Act.

B. Renewal of Agreement with Tindale-Oliver and Associates for Professional Planning Services – Approved

Mr. Crawford recommended that the contract with Tindale-Oliver & Associates be renewed for a 12-month period ending February 13, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$28,000, which is budgeted; whereupon, Mayor Ronecker moved, seconded by Councilmember Mullins and carried, that the renewal of the agreement with Tindale-Oliver & Associates be approved (Vote 10–0).

VERBAL REPORTS

A. Advisory Committee on Pinellas Transportation

Mr. Crawford provided background information about the Advisory Committee on Pinellas Transportation, relating that PPC members Chairman Kennedy, Councilmember Hock-DiPolito, and Commissioner Crozier serve on the committee. He indicated that the committee was originally intended to be an advisory board that would make recommendations and comments to other entities; that the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) voted at its January meeting to give the advisory committee more responsibility and have it act as a clearing house to coordinate a variety of plans into the 2014 transit referendum, including, in some part, the update of the Countywide Plan; that the PSTA voted to ask the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) (1) to consider putting a transit surtax referendum on the ballot in November 2014 and (2) to allow the advisory committee to make recommendations directly to the BCC. Mr. Crawford related that at its February 12, 2013 meeting, the BCC agreed to allow the advisory committee to report directly to it and approved putting a resolution on its February 26, 2013 agenda that would hold open the November 2014 ballot date. During discussion, Mr. Crawford indicated that the PPC staff plan to become more involved with making the transportation and land use connection, and Chairman Kennedy, Commissioner Crozier, and Commissioner Hock-DiPolito provided input.

Commissioner Morroni discussed the importance of keeping the public informed, stating that, at this time, the citizens do not have all the facts about what is being planned. Councilmember Mullins stated that the decision must be made and the citizens informed whether there will be an additional one-cent tax or a tradeoff of the property tax; that the property owners are going to be the ones voting and will not support double taxation; and that the one-cent referendum tax would bring in about six times more money than the current property tax, and Commissioner Morroni agreed, noting that if the tax is not presented to the public properly, the next Penny for Pinellas could be put in jeopardy. In response to query by School Board Member

O'Shea, Commissioner Crozier indicated that the penny public transportation tax would not have a term limit, but would be forever. Chairman Kennedy stated that one of the important things is to assure both North and South County that it is in everybody's best interest; and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy pointed out that small business owners need to be informed of the positive ways they will be affected.

B. PPC Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2012, Planning for the Pinellas Community – Ready for Distribution

C. Pinellas by Design Update

Mr. Crawford reported that staff would present an update on *Pinellas by Design* to the BCC, and Commissioner Morroni provided input.

D. Audit Contract Renewal

Mr. Crawford indicated that renewal of the audit contract is being deferred due to the delay in unification of the PPC and the MPO; that the new contract will require coordination with the MPO; and that he will work with Ms. Ward and bring the item back to the Council at a later date.

E. PPC Budget

Mr. Crawford indicated that a meeting is scheduled with the Office of Management and Budget on March 15; that there is a separate component this year, which is the potential under unification to provide some funding for the MPO, noting that there is a required 10-percent local match along with some other matches and in-kind services; that there is an ongoing discussion about separating the MPO from the County and drawing it more into the PPC, which would have financial implications and might require a variety of agreements; and that the initial overall budget discussion will be on the PPC March agenda.

February 13, 2013

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Chairman