

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
STUART COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
HELD ON NOVEMBER 23, 2009
AT 5:00 PM IN THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 S.W. FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

Chairperson James Christie
Vice Chairperson Michael Mortell (ABSENT)
Board Member Carol S. Waxler
Board Member Mary L. Hutchinson
Board Member Jeffrey Krauskopf
Board Member Gene C. Rifkin
Board Member Samia Ferraro

Also in attendance were:
City Manager Dan Hudson
City Attorney Paul J. Nicoletti
City Clerk Cheryl White

STAFF COMMENTS

Teresa Lamar Sarno invited the Boards to the Coffee with the City Manager coming up on December 2, 2009.

GENERAL COMMENTS

1. Request to approve the minutes of the Community Redevelopment Agency of October 26 , 2009

MOTION: MARY HUTCHINSON : MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 26, 2009.

**SECOND: CAROL WAXLER
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Discussion & Deliberation Martin County RFP for Purchase of Office Space

City Manager Hudson gave a brief overview regarding the City's position on the Counties office space. He said this is an "overture" to Martin County for the City to become a "civic partner" to be able to work with the County on a "bi-lateral level" to review responses to the RFP as they come in and with future identification of types of incentives the City could offer – i.e. sharing funding and use of a parking garage if needed, and possible City use of some of the office space. The City could also provide assistance with land use and zoning waivers as well as property management. He suggested a joint meeting with the County at some point in time.

CRA Board agreed with Hudson's recommendation to send a cover letter to the County on behalf of the City Commission and CRA.

Gene Rifkin asked if the County expressed an interest in a partnership with the City.

City Manager Hudson said there has been some positive comments from the Martin County's, Commissioner Smith

Samia Ferraro asked if the City has an interlocal with the County.

City Manager Hudson said they do not but would need one if funding were involved.

Commissioner Hutchinson suggested the minutes of an earlier joint meeting be reviewed to verify that the County had expressed an interest in bringing the Constitutional Officers back to the City.

Commissioner Krauskopf asked if the ICE element would assist in this type of situation.

City Manager Hudson said the Comprehensive Plan could be used, yes.

Mayor Christie said this is a unique opportunity and could enhance other redevelopment efforts. Amtrak, parking garage, transit center

Gene Rifkin could see a lot of advantages but expressed concern over the cost to the City.

City Hudson said it would be difficult to address specific financial elements at this time but, it would eventually involve an "investment of resources."

Commissioner Waxler complemented staff for creativity and positive efforts.

Samia Ferraro asked if there was a downside to this at all.

City Manager Hudson said there would be several resources needed but we need to think of this as an investment of the downtown.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the only downside to this is if we miss the opportunity.

MOTION: CAROL WAXLER: MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAYOR SENDING A LETTER TO MARTIN COUNTY ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COMMISSION AND CRA REGARDING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN INVOLVEMENT TO BRING THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE BACK TO THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

SECOND: SAMIA FERRARO

ROLL CALL:
CHAIRPERSON CHRISTIE **YES** **MARY HUTCHINSON** **YES**
JEFFREY KRAUSKOPF **YES** **CAROL WAXLER** **YES**
SAMIA FERRARO **YES**
GENE RIFKIN **YES**

Commissioner Waxler accepted the challenge of approaching District 2 Commissioner Valliere.

ADJOURNMENT 5:16 pm

ATTEST:

Cheryl White, Board Secretary

, Chairperson

**Minutes approved at the Regular CRA
Meeting This 21th Day of December 2009**