

**MINUTES
EAST STUART HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JULY 2, 2024
AT 3:00 PM
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

BOARD MEMBERS

**Chair - Faye James
Vice Chair - Charlene Thompson
Board Member - Albert Brinkley
Board Member - Betty Brinkley
Board Member - Joseph Cooper
Board Member - Kimberly McHardy Grant
Board Member - Philip Harvey**

ADMINISTRATIVE

**CRA Executive Director - Pinal Gandhi-Savdas
Board Secretary - Susej T. Meleqi**

CALL TO ORDER

3:00 PM

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair James, Board Member A Brinkley, Board Member B Brinkley, Board Member Cooper, Board Member McHardy Grant, Board Member Harvey (arrived late)

ABSENT: Vice Chair Thompson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy City Clerk, Susej Meleqi, swore in Betty Brinkley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**3:03 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Joseph Cooper
SECONDED BY: Albert Brinkley
Motion approved unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. APPROVAL OF 06/13/2024 TOWN HALL / ESHAC MINUTES

**3:03 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Joseph Cooper
SECONDED BY: Albert Brinkley
Motion approved unanimously.**

1. APPROVAL OF 04/02/2024 ESHAC MINUTES

**3:04 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Joseph Cooper
SECONDED BY: Albert Brinkley
Motion approved unanimously.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Non-Agenda Related) (3 Minutes Max.)

3:25 PM Board Member Harvey arrived.

COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS (Non-Agenda Items)

Board Member Albert Brinkley is concerned about the history of East Stuart being lost and stated he feels that they have been left in the dark. He feels as though East Stuart is going through gentrification due to the Green Mills Housing project and others.

Board Member Cooper stated that as Board Members they need to engage with the community and bring the needs and wants of the community back to the City.

Board Member Betty Brinkley stated different communities have stayed the same but, unfortunately, the same is not happening with East Stuart. Stated there are a lot of zoning changes happening within East Stuart, and it's not recognizable.

Board Member McHardy Grant stated she believes that the integrity of East Stuart is being lost and wants more transparency with the community.

Chair James thanked the Board Members for sharing their concerns and read the responsibilities of the Board. She believes the Board should stay active through all the phases coming in the future to East Stuart.

ACTION ITEMS

3. HEIRS' PROPERTY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 09-2024 CRA; A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, APPROVING IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTERING OF THE HEIRS' PROPERTY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, CRA Executive Director, presented the Heir's Property Assistance program and asked for feedback from the Board Members.

Board Member Albert Brinkley asked if this was a grant or loan. Ms. Gandhi-Savdas responded that this is both a grant and a loan and further explained the process of the CRA once a property contacts the City.

Board Member Harvey stated it had been a long time coming since the City came up with a plan to work with the heirs of East Stuart properties.

Board Member Cooper questioned the budgeted amount. Ms. Gandhi-Savdas responded that it was assumed that there are fifteen (15) property owners of interest and the City could make a budget amendment if there is more interest.

Board Member Betty Brinkley asked if there was another program for the community that isn't specifically in this situation.

Ms. Gandhi-Savdas suggested that if any Board Members have a program they are interested in, for their community to email or call with the request, and she will do the appropriate research.

Vice Chair James requested the list of the names of the property owners for the heir properties.

**3:50 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Joseph Cooper
SECONDED BY: Philip Harvey
Motion approved unanimously.**

STAFF UPDATE

4. PRESENTATION OF LINCOLN PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT WEBSITE PAGE

Jordan Pinkston, CRA Project Manager, went through the Lincoln Park Historic District Website Page with the Board members.

Board Member Albert Brinkley stated he has a picture of Cheerleaders from the Stuart Training School.

Chair James asked the Board Members do some homework and come back to their October meeting with some personal pictures and historical artifacts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Georgen Charnes - Port St. Lucie; Commented she works for Martin County Library System and is spearheading a project called Martin Digital History and welcomes any historical materials, photos, reports, etc. to add to their website, martindigitalhistory.org.

ADJOURNMENT

4:04 PM

Susej T. Meleqi, Board Secretary

Faye James, Chair

**Minutes to be approved at the ESHC
Meeting this 1st day of October, 2024.**