

County Watch

AGENDA

March 5, 2011

Salute to our Flag

Introductions of members and guests

Chairman's report.

Secretary's report

Treasurer's report

Report from our Democratic Representative/ Republican Representative

Report from Membership committee.

Report from Semoran committee.

Further discussion / possible Committee Assignments

Orange County charter review. First meeting this past Tuesday.

Redistricting; not formed at this time.

Does anyone wish to investigate and report on any of the following for an upcoming meeting:

- Expressway committee planning

- Status of Sun Rail and Lynx funding

- Venues and their financing

- How do we stay current with the County Budget plans.

Old Business

New Business

Our next meeting will feature a presentation from Metro Plan.

Adjourn

CountyWatch

MINUTES

February 5, 2011 Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER at 8:05 AM by Chairman RAE CAPEN. There were 19 members and 1 guest present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Harris. Introductions of all present was made.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman Capen welcomed all to the meeting and thanked the Co-Chairs for their work in inviting members of the Executive Committees to attend.

MINUTES of January 8, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

TREASURERS REPORT was not made in Treasurer's absence. Motion was made by Chairman Rae Capen to appoint John Harris as Assistant Treasurer. Motion was seconded by Doug Head. Motion passed.

GUEST SPEAKER was County Commissioner, District 3, LUI DAMIANI. He spoke about needed improvements in the district and what is planned. He urged members to apply for positions on the county's advisory boards.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Doug Head reported on our current membership. He thanked Chairman Capen for updating our e-mail list and reminded that dues of \$20 are due now and can be given to the new Assistant Treasurer.

ETHICS COMMITTEE: John Harris stated he would like an update on the County Ethics program. He moved that Chairman Capen send a letter to Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs, with copies to all County Commissioners, requesting such an update and requesting a meeting with her on the Ethics and Campaign Reform Project. Motion was seconded by Doug Head. Motion passed.

VENUES: Michael Walzak reported that the Arts Center has already spent \$46 million on the Center. The City does not have the funds to give the project \$30 million needed right now. Operating expenses are expected to be at least \$6 million a year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Capen urged participation and attendance at government committee meetings. She asked members to consider how we can stay current on the County Budget Plans.

Ken Dyer announced that the next meeting of the Economic Development Center is April 14, 2011.

The Semoran Business Partnership, Inc. is having a rummage sale on Saturday, February 26th, 10 AM to 1 PM at A-AAA Mini Key Storage to raise funds for Clean-Up Semoran.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Prepared and Submitted by Dolores Ciaponi, Secretary Pro Tem

MARCH 03, 2011

New Senate bill proposes ethics reform

<http://www.tampabay.com/blogs/the-buzz-florida-politics/content/new-senate-bill-proposes-ethics-reform>

State Senator Mike Fasano (R-New Port Richey) filed legislation this week that would make broad changes to the state's ethics laws, including giving greater authority to the Florida Ethics Commission.

Senate Bill 1484 would put into law many of the recommendations of the statewide grand jury that had been convened at the request of former governor Charlie Crist after several high-profile public corruption cases.

The legislation would:

- Give greater incentive for the governor and Cabinet-level officials to put their assets into a blind trust
- Expand the list of officeholders subject to prohibitions on hiring relatives and disclosures about conflicts of interests
- Allow a supermajority of the members of the Florida Ethics Commission to decide whether to pursue an investigation into potential ethics violations. Currently, the commission must first wait until someone files a complaint.
- Increases the maximum civil penalties for public officials who violate ethics laws from \$10,000 to \$100,000
- Adds a new \$5,000 penalty for lobbyists who fail to properly report and file specified disclosure documents.

Fasano said the bill was not aimed at any specific case but was more of an attempt to incorporate the recommendations of the grand jury's report.

"Public officials need to be held to a high standard," he said. "If people are not able to hold themselves to that high standard then the legislature must enact laws to force them to do so."

**Dr. Phillips
Performing Arts Center (DPAC)
TDT Funding**

Year	Actual Tourism Development Tax (TDT) minus 6th cent (million \$)	Reserved for Convention Center (million \$)	TDT Funds Available for DPAC (million \$)
2008	140.1	130.5	9.6
2009	118.5	133.1	(14.6)
2010	123.1	135.8	(12.7)
2011	#N/A	138.5	#N/A
2012	#N/A	141.3	#N/A

(a)

(b)

(a) - (b)

grows by 2% per year

SOURCE: adapted from Richard Bilbao's article in 2/18/2011 Orlando Business Journal, p. 1 & 33 which is based on data from Orange County Comptroller's Office

NOTE1: 6th cent finances Amway Center

NOTE2: Even if the amount reserved for the Convention Center was set back to 2008 levels there still would not be enough TDT in 2010 for DPAC: 130.5-123.1=(7.4).

ORLANDO EVENTS CENTER BLOCK 1 72/52 BLOCK 1

Parcel ID: 26-22-29-6305-01-000

2011 Taxable Value and Estimate of Proposed Taxes

Taxing Authority	Assessed Value	Exempt Amount	Taxable Value	Millage Rate	Ad Valorem Taxes
PUBLIC SCHOOLS: BY STATE LAW (RLE)	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	5.3960	\$958,159.71
PUBLIC SCHOOLS: BY LOCAL BOARD	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	2.4980	\$443,566.15
ORANGE COUNTY (GENERAL)	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	4.4347	\$787,463.10
CITY OF ORLANDO	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	5.6500	\$1,003,262.12
LIBRARY - OPERATING BUDGET	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	0.3748	\$66,552.68
ST JOHNS WATER MANAGEMENT	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	0.4158	\$73,832.99
DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT	\$177,568,516	\$0	\$177,568,516	1.0000	\$177,568.52
Total Ad Valorem Taxes				19.7693	\$3,510,405.26

Assumes Orlando Events Center is privatized;

("Exempt Value" has been reset to zero)

otherwise City owned property is 100% exempt

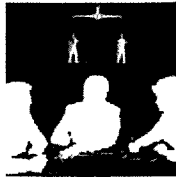
(when 100% exempt "Exempt Amount" = "Assessed Value").

Only includes 27 parking places; does not include parking garage.

SOURCE: Orange County, Florida Property Appraisers website

<http://www.ocpafi.org>

<http://www.ocpafi.org/searches/ParcelSearch.aspx?pid=292226630501000#%23>



Small Business Alliance

Underwritten by the All Business OutReach Committee of OCREC

Business Mixer & Seminar

Speaker Russ Brown, of Labor Relation Institute, Inc.

What the New Federal Labor Regulations are
What your business can do.

Subject National Labor Relations Board rulemaking new
proposed penalties and how they could impact businesses
1099 associate in the businesses

Mix & Meet

Your fellow Brothers and Sisters in commerce for Networking, Fun, Fellowship and to Assist Us Build a
New Vision for the State of Florida and America

Marks Street Center 99 E. Marks St.

Orlando, FL 32803

March 29, 2011 Tue. – 6:00PM to 7:30PM

The Small Business Alliance

No dues No meetings

Info, Kenneth J. Dwyer, II E-Mail
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Web site Allbusinessoutreach.com