

**CENTRAL BEACH ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 – 7:00 pm**  
**B OCEAN HOTEL - FORT LAUDERDALE**

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** John reintroduced the Board to the membership and gave thanks to the folks that were going to speak at this meeting and to the B Ocean for hosting and sponsorship of evening's meeting.

Directors in attendance: Debra Hiers, Wayne Robbins, Karen Turner, John Weaver, & Lester Zalewski.

Directors not in attendance: Cindy Galiette and Monty Lalwani.

Liasons in attendance: Alton Baird, Sadler James, & Shirley Smith.

Membership total in attendance: 9 buildings and 26 individuals = 116

Additional in attendance: 5 businesses, 7 guests, & at least 6 city officials

2. **Beach Update by Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom:** Charlotte introduced Lee Feldman and discussed a number of things she is involved in, is going on, and things she is supporting. This was followed by Q&A focus on the ISHOF RFP by 4 CBA members expressing the membership's concerns of the current RFP to the Comissioner.
3. **Introduction of Lee Feldman, the New City Manager:** Lee expressed his plans and approach on all the cities issues on his plate. Stating he wants the focus to be "best service for our neighbor" and "common sense". He mentioned there are 42 civic organizations in Fort Lauderdale and that he wants a one stop shop called "Office of Neighbor Support". To create a single department called "Transportation Mobility" that deals with all transportation. Lee said he wanted to transform 15 departments into 9 to make things more efficient. He stated that we are 79<sup>th</sup> of 100 cities in efficiency. His goal is to be within the top 20 in 3 months by operating "smarter and cheaper". There was a Q&A that followed. One member gave kudos to Lee for his good work in helping noise issues and another member (board) discussed concern that there isn't clear guidelines, rules, and enforcement when it comes to addressing noise problems. Lee described his new department called "Sustainable Development" would address this.
4. **Citywide Visioning Committee Presentation:** Former city commissioner Tim Smith, and Gary Sieger, spoke on behalf of the committee and its plans to determine Fort Lauderdale's vision plans to address the next 25, 50, and 100 years. The committee members are made up of 11 citizens. Tim stated that they "have a good plan to figure out how to figure out what the vision should be". He stated that in 1987 there were 150,000 folks in this city and now there is 165,000, the beach is 1-2 square miles and the city has about 35 square miles. Also indicated that they have hired a Miami consultant who will have four open houses to invite the community in to make their concerns heard. Q&As followed. One member mentioned that he knew that 2 of the 11 committee members are developers. Another member asked how the vision plans would relate to the Sasaki Plan. Tim answered that the vision plan will look at all plans that exist, including the Sasaki plan.

5. **Arrival and Discussion by Fort Lauderdale's Mayor Jack Seiler:** Jack spoke kind words about the new city manager. He also spoke about some financials, stating they left the mileage rate low (4.11) and that we are the second lowest rate of the 20 largest cities in the state. Jack also spoke of some job cuts and other operational efficiencies. He stated that we have the lowest tourism tax in the nation, were Chicago has the highest. Jack said "there are 3 main industries that built this city" and they are (1) Tourism- where there has been 22 months of growth, (2) Marine- which surpassed the tourism business a couple years ago and has a greater economic impact than the Super Bowl, and (3) Real Estate Development. Q&A followed. Two members gave good suggestions on items Jack previously discussed.
6. **North Beach Development Update by Courtney Crush:** Courtney gave a slide presentation of the "The Pillars" a boutique hotel in the Central Beach Area. She discussed its history as a Bed & Breakfast, as well as the current restriction that no dining facilities can be held in hotels of less than 50 units. Courtney petitioned on behalf of the Owner to the membership for their support, that the Pillars should be given a variance to allow dining to their guests. Q&A followed. One member asked if the dining would be open to the public and the answer was no, just guests. Another member asked why isn't the dining grand-fathered in since it had been occurring since the beginning of it's history. The answer was that there was no official written record that stated there were outdoor dining facilities. Sadler James motioned to give the CBA approval, John seconded, and the membership voted unanimously in favor (116 of 116).
7. **Membership open discussion/workshop:** These discussion/workshop items include Walgreens on Las Olas, Marine industry dredging north of Las Olas, Noise in and out of the entertainment district, and Beach parking. Lester stated that this is the membership's meeting and that their input and their thoughts on meeting formats were encouraged. John indicated that he would be sending out a survey on noise. One members suggested that we should make sure the members have the info prior to our meetings. Another mention his serious concerns that the ISHOF RFP was not going out for rebidding and suggested voting again. John and other members indicated the CBA has already voted and made clear to the commissioner that wishes for it to go out for rebidding. Wayne stated that all members have the right to make a motion if they wish and followed with a motion to not approve any plans regarding the removal of island land (and current public parking) for purposes of building a new city marina. A CBA member, who is also a member of the MAB (Marine Advisory Board), suggested a presentation be made to the CBA on the issue before voting. Wayne then rescinded his motion.
8. **Adjournment:** A motion to table further discussions until the next meeting was made, seconded, and unanimously voted in favor (116 of 116).

Next membership meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2011; location TBA