

Sustainability Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2020

I. Welcome

A. Roll Call

Present: Marcus Austin, Ryan Goldman, Brandon Guity (HS Student), Bradette Jepsen, Jennifer Ketterlin, N. Skye McCloud, and Derric Tay.

Absence Excused: Laila Kitchen, Emolyn Shaw and Lawrence Szeliga. **Staff:** Carrie Kashar (Sustainability Officer).

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the month of February meeting was approved by the Board.

Events and Announcements

1. Water Matters Day will be held on March 14, 2020, at Tree Tops Park. The Sustainability Officer relayed to the Board that the City was the recipient of an Emerald Award for Sportsplex Park, and the Bird Garden installed by the Sierra Club in Markham Park also won an Emerald Award. The City will be recognized as a Broward Water Partner of the Year which will be presented at the event as well.
2. The Arbor Day Proclamation will be presented at the City Commission meeting on March 24, 2020.
3. The City's Earth Day event will be held on March 28, 2020.
4. The Board had scheduled an Adopt-A-Street cleanup event on April 18, 2020, and had agreed to meet at Oak Hammock Park, but will see if further directive will be given from the City Commission about Board meetings.

II. Public Open Discussion

There were two (2) people who were in attendance for the meeting. They were Marco Bohorquez, who is a member of the Small Business Advisory Board, who came to see what he could learn from the Sustainability Advisory Board, and Peggy Rue Krege who was visiting different boards to learn more of what they represented.

Board member Marcus related he had attended the RLA Program wherein he learned that the City offered workshops once a month on Thursdays to the residents, in order to educate them on how to start a small business.

Board member Skye indicated she has visited the Economic Development Advisory Board in the past, and relayed that the members did not know about the Sustainability Action Plan, or what the Sustainability Advisory Board was doing within the community. Suggestions were made to review the minutes from the different boards they were interested in engaging with, prior to attending a meeting, in order to have some current knowledge about that particular board.

III. Presentation - The presentation by Alan Gavazzi was cancelled, and will be presented to the group at an upcoming Board meeting.

IV. Current Issues

A. Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

The Chair explained to the Board due to the Coronavirus there would be no penalties to the members for absences. The current policy stated three (3) unexcused absences would allow any member to be forcibly removed from the Board. The Board decided to continue meeting in April until the City instructed them to suspend their meetings due to the virus. They decided to have two (2) meetings in April which would involve a regular meeting on a Wednesday evening, and their group Adopt-A-Street cleanup on April 18, 2020.

Discussion also ensued that Baptist Health has a Telehealth System, and the CDC has constructed a website about the Coronavirus. The Sustainability Officer will send out an email with links pertaining to both sets of information.

V. Old Business

A. Earth Day Festival update and logistics

There was no discussion about the logistics for Earth Day Festival, as there was a possibility that it would be cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

B. Adopt-A-Street Cleanup report for February by Board member Larry Szeliga

It was discussed that Larry had not completed his Adopt-A-Street cleanup, and there are still sections within the City which are up for adoption. The board was asked if they knew of any organization which would be interested in helping.

C. Discuss Action Items for the 2020 Sustainability Priorities

There was a recap of what was discussed in the previous meeting, and the different aspects of the priorities which the board members had indicated they would work on.

Support Sunrise Staff in increasing Tree Canopy in each zone as outlined in Canopy Study

The Sustainability Officer discussed the Residential Landscape Beautification Program which the City would be implementing within the City. Board member Jenny volunteered to look at the approved plant list for invasive species, and plan to have it completed by the end of March in order to discuss it at the April meeting.

Meet with Other Advisory Boards to Get Feedback on Vulnerabilities

Discussion ensued as to the different boards they selected to do their research on. They were informed to review previous minutes of the boards, and then a discussion would ensue at a later date.

Research if opportunities exist for restaurant waste oil collection

Board member Marcus informed the board as to the information he researched about this matter. He noted his research has resulted in the owner of an alternative fuel processing plant which was now processing algae-based fuel. It was also discussed that more research should be done to see if it would be feasible for the City. The Sustainability Officer will speak with the Fleet Manager from the City.

Review what other cities are doing and come up with a set of sustainable development standards for Sunrise

Discussion ensued about what cities were doing, and to review and research their sustainable development checklists. Board members Jenny will contact the City of Boynton Beach, and Bradette will contact the City of Pompano Beach. They will both research the matter, and report back to the board.

Reach out to City of Plantation for information on their City Mulch program

Discussion ensued about this matter, and Chairman Ryan noted he has contacted the City of Plantation twice, but has not received any response from them about his inquiries. Board member Marcus gave the Chair the contact information for the Public Works Director, as this program has been in effect for a long time.

VI. New Business

A. State Law HB 1159

There was discussion about the new State Law HB 1159, passed in July 2019, which stated an individual had to get approval from a certified arborist that the tree being removed presented danger to persons or property. A board member noted her area had problems with some of the trees which were poorly planted originally, but there are too many trees being removed, and she was trying to find solutions to counteract this problem and reassess their landscaping issues.

It was mentioned that the City has code statutes with verbiage to protect historical, endangered, and native trees, wherein they will be directing people to plant as many trees as they can, rather than to cut them down.

B. Census 2020

Board members discussed the importance of completing the Census 2020, as it was important for future funding for the City.

C. Development of the Sawgrass Area

Discussion ensued about land use areas in the Sawgrass area being constructed in developments such as Metropica wherein they are in the process of developing a shopping mall area, and the financial future of the BB&T Arena.

D. Conservation Pays Flyer

The Sustainability Officer informed the Board about the new Conservation Pays Flyer activity campaign known as “Water Whiz Challenge”, which is the new conservation campaign Broward was now promoting. Individuals can gain points to win a chance to be made into an animated character.

E. Article or Spotlight Information for the Sustainability Newsletter

The Sustainability Officer requested help from the Board developing content for the Good and Green newsletter. She explained a spotlight was a brief way to showcase what they or someone (resident, business, employee, City department, etc.) was doing, or has done to support sustainability or conservation in Sunrise. This should be no more than 150 words in description. She also explained a feature article could have longer content of approximately 500 words, include a mixture of visuals, links to resources, and the content should be educational on sustainability-related topics.

VII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. Discussion about reviewing the minutes of the other Boards, and the information which will be needed from them.

VIII. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed without opposition.

Minutes were prepared by: Donna Moore

Respectfully Submitted by: Carrie Kashar