

Sustainability Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
July 14, 2021

**I. Welcome**

A. Roll Call

**Present:** Marcus Austin, Bradette Jepsen, Laila Kitchen, N. Skye McCloud, Lawrence Szeliga, and Derric Tay. **Absence Excused:** Ramon Colon and Ryan Goldman. **Staff:** Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer; and Donna Moore, Administrative Assistant.

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the month of June 9, 2021 meeting was approved by the Board.

C. Updates and Announcements

- 1) The Sustainability Officer told the Board that she needed sustainability content for the Good and Green Newsletter, and that she would like to receive something from them for the August issue.
- 2) The Horizon Magazine was suspended due to the pandemic, but the publication has since been reinstated. Each Board member received a copy of the new publication.
- 3) The New Accelerating Climate Action in Cities Report was done by the Bloomberg Research, and has been released. This was a nationwide survey, and will be shared via email with the Board.
- 4) The Local Sustainability Implementation: Summary of Survey Results was done through Kansas City University. This was also a nationwide survey, and will be shared via email with the Board.
- 5) There will be a Moth Night at Long Key Nature Center on July 17, 2021 from 7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
- 6) There was a Bill passed by the legislature for the Wildlife Highways with a funding of \$5 million.
- 7) Collier County recently voted to allow a development to be built in their panther wildlife area.

**II. Public Open Discussion**

There was no one in attendance from the public at the meeting.

**III. Open Discussion**

There was a discussion among the Board members about bulk and trash pickup. They commented on issues they were having with neighbors putting out bulk waste late, which caused the trash to make a mess, as it was sitting out all week. They discussed the following suggestions:

- a) Bulk and Trash Pickup Flyers with information mailed out in different languages.
- b) Post signs in medians to notify neighbors of Bulk Waste Collection Day.

- c) They inquired if it was possible for the trash carts to have new stickers, as the decals and stickers fade over time and are no longer readable.
- d) There should be a note which can be created and left on bulk waste piles or carts that are overflowing with proper trash days, which can help residents to keep the City clean and beautiful.
- e) The Board suggested the Clean Team may be able to help with this suggestion when they are out in the neighborhood, as they could post notes where the residents were not following the rules. It would be better as a reminder versus issuing a citation.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- A. Review 2020 Priority Actions and Discuss 2021 Strategies for Moving Forward Sustainability Items – Carrie Kashar

The Sustainability Officer reviewed with the Board the 2021 Strategies for the remainder of the year, and these were the strategies which were discussed:

- a) LED Bulb Swap – It was discussed this would be a priority strategy which would be implemented, as it was pending a grant approval. The goal would be to distribute 5 bulbs per household for approximately 500 Sunrise households by October 2021.
- b) Solar Workshop – The deadline was missed for this strategy because there was a delay in the coordination of this workshop, as the launch date would have been July 14, 2021. This strategy will be reviewed in 2022.
- c) Mulch Program – This strategy will be reviewed in 2022.
- d) Climate Ambassadors – This strategy was about educating the public about their vulnerability regarding climate change, but it will be reviewed in 2022.
- e) BioBlitz Event – This initiative is in conjunction with the National Park Service and National Geographic using the iNaturalist application. It involves how a City can designate certain areas or develop the whole City into a citizen science project to identify the plant and animal species. It was noted that Markham Park would be holding a BioBlitz event in September 2021, and Derric was assigned to reach out to them about the Board's participation in their event.
- f) Remove Invasives from the plant list
- g) Drainage Markers – This strategy will be reviewed in 2022.
- h) Tree and Plant Giveaway – This strategy will be done during the Cultural Festival in November 2021.
- i) Increase Tree Canopy – This strategy will be reviewed in 2022.
- j) Tree Walk – This strategy would be in the form of a tree education and be implemented at Flamingo Park during Arbor Day in 2022.
- k) Tree Donation Fund – This strategy will be reviewed in 2022, as further discussions and approvals will have to be completed.
- l) Decrease Pesticides Use – This strategy will be reviewed in 2022.

- m) Restaurant Waste Oil Program – There are certain aspects of this strategy which will be reviewed in 2021.
- n) Development Standards – This strategy will be reviewed later in the year.

After this discussion the Board voted and the following strategies will be coordinated for the remainder of 2021:

- a) BioBlitz Event was proposed to be held in Flamingo Park with an event on September 18, 2021
- b) LED Bulb Swap (pending grant approval funding)
- c) Remove Invasive Species from the approved Plant List – Board members volunteered to review the plant lists before the next meeting in August
- d) Pilot a Tree Walk for Arbor Day

#### **V. Upcoming Programs**

The Sustainability Officer related to the Board the following upcoming programs:

- a) The New ILA for Conservation Pays Toilet Rebate Program is in progress to be presented as an agenda item at an upcoming City Commission meeting.
- b) A Letter Agreement is being worked on for the Fleet EV Charging Stations, which will be to complete charging stations at multiple City facilities.
- c) Quotes are being requested for solar thermal installations on two Utilities buildings with showering facilities.

#### **VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 11, 2021**

- A. BioBlitz Event
- B. LED Bulb Swap
- C. Remove Invasive Species from the approved Plant List
- D. Pilot a Tree Walk for Arbor Day

#### **VII. 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