

Sustainability Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2021

I. Welcome

A. Roll Call

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

B. Introduction of New Member Natasha Inniss

The Chair introduced Natasha Inniss, newest member of the Board, who explained her interest in being a part of the Board, as she wanted to be more active in the community and in environmental issues.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the month of July 14, 2021 meeting was approved by the Board.

D. Updates and Announcements

There were no updates or announcements during the meeting.

II. Public Open Discussion

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

III. New Business

A. BioBlitz Event

The Sustainability Officer introduced Shauna Damon, Recreation Programmer for Leisure Services, to the Board who will be assisting the Sustainability Officer with the BioBlitz Event targeted for all ages. The event is scheduled for September 18, 2021, from 9 a.m. – 12 noon at the Flamingo Park, which was chosen as the location by the Board. The Board members were encouraged to participate in the event with their family members, and encouraged to download the iNaturalist application on their phones to practice the application and learn how to use it prior to the event. In practicing, they would be able to assist the residents on the day of the event. The Sustainability Officer will be forwarding a link about the iNaturalist application to the Board which as a video on how to use the application.

B. Approved Plant List Review

There was discussion by the Board as members Larry, Bradette and Derric reported on their research in which they reviewed the plant listing the City had compiled to see which plants may have been invasive or non-invasive based on their categories, and whether there were any native or non-native plants on the listing.

Based on the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's (FLEPPC) listing the Board found that only about three plants were considered to be invasive in Category I that were found on the City's listing which were the Asparagus fern (*Asparagus aethiopicus*), Asian

sword fern (*Nephrolepis brownii*), Sword fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*), and the Sapodilla (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*).

After their discussion the Board agreed the City's approved plant listing was about 98% acceptable to them, and it would be feasible for homeowners to use as well. The Board decided they would have more discussion about the listing at a future meeting. Larry volunteered to contact the FLEPPC to find out more information about invasive and non-invasive plants. There was also an inquiry about the tree canopy study that the City was doing, and it was related to the Board that Kimley-Horn was currently working on the study.

There was an inquiry as to whether there was a way to work with Broward County about areas, specifically along the Hiatus Greenway, that may need more trees to be planted or installed due to the lack of foliage in the area. The Chair noted that Broward County has a tree trust fund which was developed if someone was penalized for cutting down a tree, if someone did not want to plant a tree, or did not have room to plant a tree. This fund was used as a mitigation and the individual would be able to pay to have a tree planted. The City could petition Broward County to receive money from the fund so as to plant the trees they would require for a specified area.

IV. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 8, 2021

A. Discussion about the BioBlitz Event

V. 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