

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 6:00 pm

Location/Address: Flamingo Park – Meeting Room (12855 NW 8th Street, Sunrise 33323)

Board Secretary: Donna Moore

Board Liaison: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer

- I. A. Welcome – Chair, Ryan Goldman, called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
 - a. Roll Call
Present: Marcus Austin, Stephen Baughan, Ryan Goldman, Bradette Jepsen, Natasha Inniss, N. Skye McCloud, Lawrence Szeliga, and Derric Tay. Absence Excused: Laila Kitchen, and Raven Osborne (High School Student).
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2021, Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting was made by Board member, N. Skye McCloud, and it was seconded by Board member, Natasha Inniss. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- III. Updates and Announcements
 - a. The Sustainability Officer noted the Earth Day Festival was scheduled for April 2, 2022, and would be held at the Sunrise Sportsplex.

Welcome New Member, Stephen Baughan

- a. Stephen Baughan was introduced to the Board by Chair, Ryan Goldman. He indicated that he was a retired resident who worked in construction for most of his life.
- II. Public Open Discussion
 - a. There was no one in attendance from the public at the meeting.
 - III. Presentations – Arbor Day Foundation Programs Overview, William Liner, Cooperative Forestry Assistance Supervisor, Florida Forest Service. He noted he was a Board-Certified Master Arborist, and reported the following information:
 - a. There are 6 programs which are under the umbrella of the Arbor Day Foundation Program and they are as follows:
 - i. Tree City USA – This program was the oldest program and was established about 45 or 46 years ago. This program has 4 Core Standards which are:
 - Tree Care Ordinance
 - Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at least \$2 per capita
 - Tree Board or Department
 - Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation
 - ii. Tree Campus Higher Education - It focused on higher education facilities, and there were about 15 locations within Florida.
 - iii. Tree Line USA - This program was for Utility Companies and was the only program that required an application fee.
 - iv. Tree Cities of the World – It was established within the last 3 years, and was mainly for international communities such as Canada, Mexico, and Europe. There were communities in Florida

who participated in both Tree City USA and Tree Cities of the World.

- v. Tree Campus K-12 – It focused on educating school aged children about the benefits of trees, and how to plant and maintain trees on their campuses.
 - vi. Tree Campus Healthcare – This program was for medical facilities for doctor’s offices, medical plazas and hospitals. It focused on educating healthcare providers on the human health benefits of trees.
- b. He noted the City of Sunrise has been a member of the Tree City USA program for the past 33 years, and during the past week he recently approved the 34th year application he received from the City of Sunrise. The application has been submitted to the Arbor Day Foundation for its final approval process.
 - c. He explained the Tree Canopy Assessment was an aerial imagery which was done to assess and clarify the overall tree canopy coverage of an area, potential tree planting sites, and what was needed for the future. On the other hand, the Tree Inventory was a 3,000 ft view which covered everything including public and private spaces, and an arborist or someone else would be physically looking at the tree and marking it on a GPS point. It also would allow you to get information such as the size of the tress, the species of the trees, and the health impact of the trees.
 - d. The VibrantCitiesLab.com was developed by the USDA Forest Service and some national partners which provides information on how to manage community trees. The first section of the Lab would allow you to find research, case studies, and any information about trees and their benefits. The second section would allow you to access the Urban Forestry Toolkit which provided information on how to manage the community trees.
 - e. The TreeEquityScore.org is a website which was recently developed to view the canopy data, census blocks from across the country, and some associated metrics from the census. The combination of this data would allow this application to create a tree equity score. When the score was completed, the color green would be closer to 100 which was the best equity score, and the color orange would be closer to zero which was the lowest equity score. The tree equity score would allow you to see where you had to increase the tree canopy.
 - f. There are grant programs to help with community tree canopy which are available from the following websites:
 - i. [FDACS.gov/forestrygrants](https://fdacs.gov/forestrygrants) – funding of up to \$30,000 yearly
 - ii. [Arborday.org/programs/TDGreenSpaceGrants](https://arborday.org/programs/TDGreenSpaceGrants) – tree planting grant
 - iii. [Arborday.org/programs/BankofAmericaGrant](https://arborday.org/programs/BankofAmericaGrant)- tree planting grant

The presentation concluded with the Board discussing and asking different questions about grants, and a suggestion was made for a grant for education for trees.

IV. New Business

- a. Overview of Community Foundation Annual Grant Opportunity - Ryan Goldman, Chair – He spoke about Community Foundation of Broward (CFO) who offered

grant funding for environmental issues up to \$50,000 annually for each environmental issue. He noted the deadline to apply was scheduled for January 28, 2022, but has been extended to February 22, 2022. The Sustainability Officer will investigate if the City has already applied for a grant with CFO, as the Board discussed they would like to brainstorm ideas, and apply for grant funding with the CFO later in the year, as the organization allows grant funding for numerous issues.

- b. Year of Increasing Tree Canopy Discussion – There was discussion about different ways in which they would be able to accomplish completing the Tree Inventory, as the Canopy Assessment has already been completed.
 - c. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – The Board unanimously re-elected Ryan Goldman as the Chair, and Derric Tay as the Vice Chair.
 - d. The Sustainability Officer related to the Board that she would like to re-establish the Gardening for Wildlife Workshops during 2022, but will provide additional information at a later date.
 - e. There was discussion about the feasibility of different selections of plants/trees for the plant give-away at the Earth Day Festival in April, and the location of the plants/trees at the Sportsplex.
- V. Old Business
- a. Marcus reminded the Board that the next Adopt-A-Street cleanup was scheduled for February 12, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Old Hammock Park.
- VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 9, 2022.
- a. Presentation from Rose Bechard-Butman of Broward County
 - b. Discussion of the logistics for the Earth Day Festival
 - c. Discussion of events and locations for the remainder of the year within the City
- VII. Adjourn
- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chair, Ryan Goldman, and it was seconded by Board member, N. Skye McCloud. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Transcribed by: Donna Moore, Board Secretary

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. F.S.S. 286.0105.