

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 6:00 pm

Location/Address: Flamingo Park – Meeting Room (12855 NW 8th Street, Sunrise, FL 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, Natasha Inniss, Bradette Jepsen, Laila Kitchen, N. Skye McCloud, Lawrence Szeliga, and Derric Tay. Staff: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer, Donna Moore, Administrative Assistant, and Lexi Smith (Intern). Absence Excused: Raven Osborne (High School Student).
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2022, Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting was made by Board member, N. Skye McCloud, and it was seconded by Board member, Bradette Jepsen. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- C. Updates and Announcements
 - a. Board member, N. Skye McCloud, related to the Board that a webinar about Plastics via zoom would be hosted by the Sierra Club on March 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. She added the Sustainability Officer would be sending the link out to the Board members so that they would be able to connect to it.
 - b. The Earth Day Festival would be held on April 2, 2022, at the Sunrise Sportsplex, and the International Earth Day was scheduled for April 22, 2022.
- II. Public Open Discussion
 - a. There was no one in attendance from the public at the meeting.
- III. New Business
 - A. Earth Day Survey and Volunteers – The Sustainability Officer passed around a sign in sheet and requested the Board to volunteer to help on the Earth Day event. Lexi explained the concept for the questions selected for the Earth Day Survey, and that when the residents received a plant they would be given instructions on how to care for the plant. There were different Board members who responded with feedback to Lexi about the survey.
 - B. Preventing Littering Article – This article was provided by Board Member, N. Skye McCloud. A discussion ensued amongst the Board members about the article “The Futility of Picking Up the Trash”, and many of the members voiced their concerns in agreement with the article. It was noted the best way to tackle this issue of futility was through education. There was an inquiry about the street cleanup the Board did on a monthly basis, and Board member, Marcus Austin, explained the procedures and policies he followed when he did the Adopt-A-Street cleanups.

Board Member, N. Skye McCloud, reported to the Board that based on the article the United Nations has signed an agreement with 200 nations to come up with a Plastic Treaty, and the deadline to do so would be at the end of 2023. The article

also mentioned that the amount of plastic that was generated now would be triple the amount which was generated back in 2014. It was noted that Mobil Exxon was the #1 manufacturer of the pollutants, while Dow Chemical was the #2 manufacturer. The #3 manufacturer of the pollutants was located in China. It was suggested to start the process for recommendations be made to the City Commissioners, which would then be elevated to both the County and State levels.

There was an inquiry as to the status of the Solid Waste Working Group with Broward County. The Sustainability Officer responded she did not have the most current update, as that matter was at the elected official level. However, she noted that there were Cities which have supported funding for a year-long study to figure out the options that would be best.

The Sustainability Officer responded to a question about the recycling fees which were being paid monthly, and noted these fees were being placed into the Recycling Fee Fund which pays for the Solid Waste Contract. Currently the solid waste is being collected by Republic Services.

- C. The City of Plantation – The Chair informed the Board that the City of Plantation contacted the Sustainability Officer because they would like to create a Sustainability Advisory Board. He noted he would be presenting at their first Board meeting on March 14, 2022, so as to help them form their first Sustainability Board.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board members as the Plantation Board wanted to know updates as to what the Sunrise Board was most proud of, the successes of the Board, and how long the Sunrise Board was implemented. It was noted by the Board that the Sunrise’s Sustainability Officer, Carrie Kashar, was an integral part who was experienced, and knew how to interact with different entities within the local and State levels.

IV. Old Business

- A. The Adopt-A-Street cleanup report from February 12, 2022, was presented by Board member, Marcus Austin. The next cleanup was scheduled for April 23, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Oak Hammock Park.
- B. Tree Planting Location Discussion – The Sustainability Officer reported to the Board that the Tree Planting event would occur on April 8, 2022, in collaboration with Broward County, and would be considered as a Corporate Volunteer Day. The trees would be planted at Fire Station #92 from 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and she was seeking volunteers to help with this project.

The Sustainability Officer provided three maps for the Board to review during the meeting which included a Zoning District Map, Residential Access to Greenspace Map, and the Roadway and Waterway Delineation Map. The Board’s previous assignment was to investigate different locations to see which areas were more

feasible for planting trees within the City. Discussion ensued amongst the Board and they indicated their suggestions and concerns for locations on the map during the meeting. Board member, Marcus Austin, suggested there should be about 25% more trees planted in the parks within the City; a Tree Memorial should be created for residents who have lost a loved one; a Tree Walk should be created within the City; there should be a collaboration with Sawgrass Corporate Park so as to plant trees near the canal; and that the current tree codes should be updated through the Community Development department, so as to increase the tree canopy within the City. There was additional discussion amongst the Board members about applying for grant funding to expand the Residents Landscape Beautification Program in order to add more trees within the City.

V. Other Business

- a. Board member, Marcus Austin, voiced there were concerns by residents via social media about the completion of the parks which were still under construction within the City of Sunrise. He requested to speak with someone in reference to the matter at a Board meeting, as these were pertinent concerns. He also noted there was a study which indicated that residents should be able to walk to a park within 10 minutes of their home, but noted the ratio was only about 42% of the population in Sunrise were able to do so. The Sustainability Officer interjected and noted the Sunrise GIS Department was preparing a map showing 68.9% of residential areas within a 1/2-mile radius distance from a park. Discussion ensued amongst the Board about their concerns for the parks within the City, and it was requested to have this matter placed on the agenda for the meeting in April.

VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – April 13, 2022.

- a. Presentation from Ashley Resta from the Sunrise Utilities – Public Works Department.
- b. Discussion about the availability and construction of parks within walking distances for the residents.

VII. Adjourn

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by N. Skye McCloud, and it was seconded by Board member, Derric Tay. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 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.