

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 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 6:05 p.m.
 - a. Roll Call
Present: Marcus Austin, Brianna Concepcion (High School Student), Ryan Goldman, Laila Kitchen, N. Skye McCloud, Lawrence Szeliga, and Derric Tay.
Staff: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer, Jennifer Guarrant, Special Events Coordinator, and Lexi Smith, Sustainability Intern. Absence Excused: Natasha Inniss, and Bradette Jepsen.
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2022, Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting was made by Board member, N. Skye McCloud, and it was seconded by Board members, Laila Kitchen and Derric Tay. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- C. Events and Announcements
 - a. The National Wildlife Federation approved the City's Annual Recertification for 2022 for the fourth year in a row.
 - b. There was a relaunch of the Pass-Up Plastics Pledge at the Cultural Festival which was held on November 5, 2022. There was a new format which was developed for the participants wherein they had to scan a bar code and upload the new form which was downloaded onto their phones, and complete the pledges. However, there were printed forms available for individuals who had issues downloading the forms onto their phones. This event resulted in a total of 49 people who signed up for the pledges. The Sustainability Officer encouraged all the Board members to retake the Pass-Up Plastics Pledge via the Good and Green website, as there was a new tracking method and the previous information from the previous launch has been erased. She added she would send them the new link to the form.
 - c. The Sustainability Officer reported that in collaboration with Community Greening the City was able to give away 225 fruit and native trees to the attendees at the Cultural Festival which occurred on November 5, 2022.
 - d. The Sustainability Officer reported to the Board she was starting a Sustainability Series with the Senior Center. The first series which was scheduled with Project Perch had to be cancelled due to the hurricane we had experienced at that time. However, her Gardening for Wildlife session was scheduled for November 17, 2022.
- II. Public Open Discussion
 - a. There was no one in attendance from the public at the meeting.
- III. A. Presentation – *Planning for Sunrise Earth Day Festival 2023*, Jennifer Guarrant, Special Events Coordinator, Leisure Services Department. She presented the following information to the Board:
 - a. Feedback from 2022 Earth Day Festival:

- i. There was discussion about the band being too loud and individuals were shouting so as to be heard by each other, and whether it would possibly make a difference having a DJ instead at the Earth Day event.
 - ii. Vendors such as Project Perch were not being visible to the attendees, and suggestions as to how to make them more visible were discussed.
 - iii. The field was spacious and beautiful for the event, and whether to change the location back to the Sawgrass Sanctuary Park.
 - iv. The photoshoots and the mascots were well received by the attendees including the children.
 - v. The logistics of the booths.
 - vi. The passports which were handed out to the participants and the confusion which ensued during the event.
- b. The Sustainability Officer passed around giveaway samples which were being considered for the 2023 Earth Day, and requested feedback as to which one they felt would be a more feasible gift. The Board voted and based on the majority votes they chose the flower box as the giveaway gift.
 - c. Earth Day was scheduled for March 25, 2023.
 - d. The International theme for Earth Day for 2023 was “Invest in our Planet”, and the six core initiatives were:
 - i. Climate Literacy
 - ii. End Plastics
 - iii. Plant Trees
 - iv. Vote Earth
 - v. Global Cleanup
 - vi. Sustainable Fashion
 - e. There was discussion amongst the Board members as to whether to include all the initiatives into the Earth Day celebration or to select one core initiative.
 - f. There was a suggestion to collaborate with Community Greening and allow them to do the tree giveaway at the Earth Day Festival. The Sustainability Officer was awaiting their response with their proposal, and if they agreed to do the tree giveaway it would be about 300 trees with half being native, and the other half being fruit trees. The Board voted and selected Paradise Tree as the tree they would like planted in recognition of Arbor Day at the Earth Day Festival.
 - g. The Sustainability Officer indicated that a Water Monster was purchased for Earth Day. This was a big water tank which has a couple of spouts and allowed individuals to continuously refill their water bottle at any event.
 - h. There were additional discussions about logistics which included location, the passport, parking, a cooling station, the Kid Zone area, and the food trucks.
 - i. Jennifer conveyed to the Board the remaining events which would be taking place within the month of December.
- IV. Board Reports
- A. Member reports and updates: members reported on any Good and Green Stewardship activity in the past month in Sunrise:
 - Board Chair, Ryan, recognized the participation of Co-Chair, Derric, for all the hard work he has done in volunteering for Good and Green Events.

- Board member, Marcus, reported on the Adopt-A-Street clean up he did with volunteers the previous weekend. They picked up approximately 32 pounds of trash from the street.
- The Sustainability Officer reported that American Express communicated an interest in adopting Hiatus Street from Oakland Park Blvd. to 44th Street.
- The Sustainability Officer noted that Board members, Larry, Skye, and Derric all attended the WE-LAB Workshop which was held in October.

B. LEED for Cities Certified City Research Findings

- Board member, Larry, reported on the City of Pinecrest and some of the information he found included the following:
 - They have a Green Action Plan which has stated that individuals who cleaned the City's properties had to have earth friendly products.
 - Their action plan noted that within new buildings you had to have a hybrid water heater, and they were against solid concrete surfaces and preferred pervious pavers.
 - The Pinecrest Community Center was recognized as a LEED building, and the City was promoting Green homes.
- Board member, Skye, reported on the City of Miami Beach and some of the information she found included the following:
 - They achieved the Gold LEED status on July 29, 2021, and have been interested in Sustainability since 2009
 - They have a Sustainability Climate Action Plan, and are part of a pilot program which was supposed to be about economic development.
 - They have stated they would like to be the urban community model, so as to establish and maintain long term economic and the quality of life needs.
- Board Co-Chair, Derric, reported on the City of Palm Bay and some of the information he found included the following:
 - They do not have a LEED for Cities rating or score, but was rather star rated as Level 3 in 2015.
 - They wrote up a Sustainability Master Plan in 2010, and the Sustainability Advisory Board was established in 2018, but due to some issues the Board was not fully established until 2019.
 - They developed a Sustainability Action Plan in 2021
- Board Chair, Ryan, reported on the City of Atlantic Beach and some of the information he found included the following:
 - They are a Silver Certified City
 - They have a Sustainability Action Plan
 - They have banned the use of Roundup for municipal use, and have a public education citizens outreach group who educates their citizens about Roundup.
- Board member, Marcus, reported on the City of Tampa Bay and some of the information he found included the following:
 - They are a Gold Certified City

- They scored high for their transportation due to having different forms of transportation for residents to get around within the City
- They were graded with full points for emissions and energy performances
- Board member, Laila, reported on the City of Coral Gables and some of the information she found included the following:
 - They are a Gold Certified City
 - They have a Sustainability Management Plan
 - They have 65 Electrical Vehicles and 36 charging stations on City properties. In the future, they plan to install 246 additional charging stations.

Additional discussion ensued amongst the Board about the information they researched and found about LEED Certifications.

V. Board Discussion

- A. Annual Potluck – The Board discussed the menu they would like to bring for the next meeting’s potluck.
- B. Board Chair, Ryan, presented an idea to the Board about having an awards program which would not only educate but encourage residents to plant trees. The resident(s) who had the largest tree would be recognized with an award. The Sustainability Officer noted the City currently had a new Stunning Yards Program.

VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – December 14, 2022

- a. Discussion about Selection of Topics for 2023

VII. Adjourn

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry Szeliga, and it was seconded by 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.