

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Location/Address: Flamingo Park – Meeting Hall (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 6:03 p.m.
 - a. Roll Call
Present: Ryan Goldman, Brianna Concepcion (High School Student), Natasha Inniss, Bradette Jepsen, Laila Kitchen, Arun Raghbir, Lawrence Szeliga, and Derric Tay. Staff: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer, Donna Moore, Administrative Assistant, and Lexi Smith, Sustainability Intern. Absence Excused: Marcus Austin and N. Skye McCloud.
- II. Welcome New Board Member, Arun Raghbir
 - a. Arun Raghbir mentioned his background, and relayed his interest in sustainability.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2022, Sustainability Advisory Board meeting was made by Board member, Laila Kitchen, and it was seconded by Board member, Natasha Inniss. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- IV. Events and Announcements
 - a. Chair, Ryan Goldman, noted to the Board that Lexi Smith, Sustainability Intern, would be ending her internship prior to the next Board meeting. He thanked her for her time and effort during her tenure as an intern with the Sustainability Division and with the Board.
 - b. The Sustainability Officer related to the Board that the Residential Leadership Academy (RLA) Winter Cohort 5 was full. Cohort 6 will be planned for Summer 2023, and she encouraged members to participate.
 - c. There would be a composting workshop at the Senior Center on January 19, 2023.
 - d. The Senior Center would be having a Walk in the Park event which will be held on January 25, 2023 at the Sunrise Athletic Complex in the morning.
 - e. The NHL would be having an All-Star Game at the FLA Live Arena, and the Panthers would be having a Community Hockey Festival on January 31, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Flamingo Park. The Sustainability Division will have a booth at the event, and there was an anticipation that approximately 2,000 people were expected to attend the event. There would be no parking allowed on-site as individuals would have to park at the arena and then take the shuttle to the park for the event.
 - f. Woofstock was scheduled for February 11, 2023 at Pawgrass at Welleby Park from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Sustainability Division would be having a booth at this event.

- g. The Earth Day Festival was scheduled for March 25, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Sawgrass Sanctuary Park. The Sustainability Officer would be bringing the volunteer sign-up sheets at the next meeting in February.
 - h. The Pass-Up Plastic Campaign will be rolled out at the Tune and Trucks event scheduled for April 14, 2023.
 - i. The Sustainability Officer would be planning and scheduling the Gardening for Wildlife Events which would take place in June 2023.
- II. Public Open Discussion
 - a. There was no one in attendance from the public at the meeting.
- III. New Business
 - a. Board member, Bradette, nominated Ryan as the Chair and Derric as the Co-Chair, and Board member, Laila, seconded the nomination. The Board unanimously re-elected Ryan Goldman as the Chair, and Derric Tay as the Co-Chair for the next year.
- IV. Board Reports
 - a. Brianna reported that her school conducted a beach cleanup at the Ft. Lauderdale Beach and about 15 – 20 people showed up for the cleanup. They were there for about two hours, and they would normally do the cleanup about once or twice per month.
 - b. Arun reported that his non-profit organization known as Jyotirmaya Yoga Kendra donated clothing to families in need, and also does food drives as well. He added that on January 28, 2023 they would be having a street cleanup on NW 44th Street near Piper High School. The cleanup was usually on Saturdays at about 9:30 a.m., and they would be providing light snacks and drinks for the participants.
- V. Board Discussion
 - A. P3 Eco-Challenge

The Sustainability Officer noted that she had sent out the information about the P3 Eco-Challenge previously via email to the Board. The Sustainability Officer would like the Board to review the information and prepare to discuss it again at the next Board meeting in February.
 - B. Paperless and Carbon Neutral Meetings

The Board agreed to the meetings being paperless, and the Sustainability Officer suggested she would be refraining from printing any agenda or materials etc. for a couple of Board meetings, so as to test and see the outcome of the paperless experiment. Chair, Ryan Goldman, volunteered to calculate and see how much it would cost to offset the Board meetings for 2023.
 - C. Opportunities to Increase Tree Canopy

The Sustainability Officer reported to the Board that she received a correspondence from American Forests which was a national non-profit company. They were offering a free interactive virtual workshop series to provide technical support and expertise to help cities advance their tree equity goal. Board members Ryan and Bradette volunteered to take part in the workshops so as to represent the Board.

There was additional discussion amongst the Board members about different ideas to as to how to increase the City's tree canopy.

Strong Recommendations:

1st Motion: Chair, Ryan Goldman, made a motion that based on the performance of the 2022 Plant It Forward Program they would like the City to double the budget to accommodate trees for residents. This motion was seconded by Board member, Larry Szeliga. The Board unanimously agreed to the motion.

2nd Motion: Board member, Laila Kitchen, made a second motion for the City to expand the Plant It Forward program to west of Pine Island Road. This motion was seconded by Board member, Arun Raghubir. The Board unanimously agreed to the motion.

- VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – February 8, 2023
 - a. Discussion about P3 Eco-Challenge
 - b. Carbon neutral calculations
- VII. Adjourn
 - a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry Szeliga, and it was seconded by Bradette Jepsen. 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.