

## Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 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 – Vice Chair, Derric Tay, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
  - a. Roll Call

Present: Natasha Inniss, Bradette Jepsen, Laila Kitchen, N. Skye McCloud, Arun Raghubir, Larry Szeliga, and Derric Tay. Staff: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer, Nataly Miguez, Sustainability Intern, and Donna Moore, Administrative Assistant. Absence Excused: Marcus Austin, Abdulkadir Husein (High School Student), and Ryan Goldman.
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2024, 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.
- C. Events and Announcements
  - a. Board member, Arun, noted there would be an Adopt-A-Street clean up on April 20, 2024, by his organization on NW 44<sup>th</sup> Street at 9:30 a.m.
  - b. The Resident Leadership Academy would be receiving a sustainability presentation on April 13, 2024.
  - c. The Sustainability Officer noted to the Board that she would be doing a Storytime event at City Park on April 20, 2024.
  - d. The Sustainability Officer stated that the City’s Nature Challenge would be held on April 26, 2024 through May 1, 2024. Vice Chair, Derric, would be leading a Nature Walk at Oak Hammock Park on April 27, 2024, and that Nataly and others would be assisting him.
  - f. The Sustainability Officer noted that on May 4, 2024, there would be the Community Greening Tree Giveaway at Nob Hill Soccer Club Park.
  - g. The Annual Sunrise Gardening for Wildlife Workshop was scheduled for May 11, 2024, at the Flamingo Park Hall from 10 a.m. – 12 noon.
  - h. The Sustainability Office related that for Pollinator Week she would be doing a “Protecting Our Pollinators” presentation at the Dan Pearl Library on June 14, 2024 at 1 p.m.
  - i. The UF/IFAS Florida Friendly Landscaping Guide and Plant books were distributed to the Board members.
- D. The Underwater: Broward Elevation Markers Activity
  - a. The Sustainability Officer distributed to the Board printed art which had a background painted by artist, Xavier Cortada. This painting was part of his program called “The Underwater”. It was noted that the artist would go into the middle and high schools to educate the students about climate change and sea level rise.

The activity the Board did during the meeting involved scanning their phones against the QR Code on the painting, indicating their home addresses in the online form, and the resulted number was the level of elevations their home was located above sea level. The Board was then instructed to create their own art of the number they received on the printed art, post the printed art in their yard, so as to educate others within their neighborhood.

- II. Welcome New Sustainability Intern, Nataly Miguez
  - a. The Sustainability Officer introduced Nataly Miguez, Sustainability Intern, who graduated in December 2023 with a Bachelors Degree in Geography and a Minor in Sustainability.
- III. Public Open Discussion
  - a. There was one person, whose name was Amber McCloud, in attendance from the public at the meeting. However, she did not have any topics to discuss.
- IV. Other Discussion
  - a. There was a brief discussion about Earth Day, and the Board members noted there were many people who wanted to purchase the T-shirts which were worn by the staff for the event. The Sustainability Officer requested the Board to either compile any comments or suggestions they had and send her an email, or to compile them for later in the year in November, which was when the Board would be planning Earth Day for the following year.
  - b. The Sustainability Officer announced to the Board about the proposal for the Clean Energy to Communities Program for technical assistance from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). She added that Sunrise was assigned with two experts, and they would be able to offer up to 60 hours of technical assistance to help with the renewable energy efforts of the Board.

They would be reviewing the Sustainability Action Plan and the goals that the Board has implemented, and have been reviewing the types of renewable energy in South Florida. They would be educating the Board at different Board meetings, would help the Board confirm different options for renewable energy and energy goals, and programs and projects that can relate to the Sustainability Action Plan. Finally, they would help to facilitate the Board with making recommendations for renewable energy. The Sustainability Officer added that the group would be doing a virtual Introduction to Energy Basics at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, and she spoke about additional topics they would be discussing for the remainder of the year.

- V. Board Discussion
  - a. Composting in Sunrise – There was a discussion amongst the Board about composting within Sunrise, composting within the City of Coral Springs, what other companies and businesses may be doing in reference to composting, and the areas that they would like to focus on in composting so as to create a report and present it to Mayor Ryan. Board members were requested to do research and add their findings to the excel spreadsheet which Board member, Arun, had created, and was provided to them via email. The topic would be an ongoing

item on the agenda and Board member, Arun, would report to the Board any updated information he found each month.

VI. Board Reports

- a. Board member, Bradette, reported that she participated at Earth Day and gave away over 500 trees.
- b. Board member, Skye, reported that she had five Monarchs that have hatched in the past week.
- d. Board member, Natasha, reported that she had a Mockingbird which had a nest at her window, and that there were baby Mockingbirds which were hatched from the nest. She shared a video she had taken with the members.

VII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – May 8, 2024

- a. Presentation by NREL on Energy Basics

VIII. Adjourn

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board member, Bradette Jepsen, and it was seconded by Board member, Larry Szeliga. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 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.