

## Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 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 – Chair, Ryan Goldman, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
  - a) Roll Call  
Present: Marcus Austin, Ryan Goldman, Bradette Jepsen, Arun Raghbir, Larry Szeliga (Arr. 6:18 p.m.), and Derric Tay. Staff: Carrie Kashar, Sustainability Officer and Donna Moore, Administrative Assistant. Absence Excused: Abdulkadir Husein (High School Student), Natasha Inniss, Laila Kitchen, and N. Skye McCloud.
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - a. A motion to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2024, Sustainability Advisory Board meeting was made by Board member, Marcus Austin, and it was seconded by Board member, Bradette Jepsen. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- C. Events and Announcements
  - a. The Sustainability Officer noted that she would be giving a presentation about “Protecting Our Pollinators” at the Dan Pearl Library which was scheduled for June 14, 2024.
  - b. The Sustainability Officer mentioned that she would be giving a brief presentation at the Florida Agriculture in the Classroom Teachers’ Training in June.
  - c. The Sustainability Officer noted that she would like to present a proclamation at the City Commission Meeting for “Plastic Free July” which was scheduled for July 9, 2024. The Sustainability Officer requested the Board members attend, if available, to support the proclamation.
- II. Public Open Discussion
  - a. There was no one in attendance from the public.
- III. Presentation  
*Renewable Energy 101*, William Tokash and Sofia Garcia-George, C2C: Clean Energy to Communities Program, National Renewable Energy Laboratory.
  - a) There was discussion amongst the Board about the homework which was given to them from the meeting held on May 8, 2024.
  - b) There were different maps presented to the Board of the following:
    - i) The Solar Intensity map of the United States showed concentrated solar capacity in the South and the Southwest of the country. It was noted that when there was a higher solar radiance then it would make a better business case overall for solar.
    - ii) The Wind Resources map revealed the intensity which included states such as Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota. It was noted that these were the more favorable states for wind intensity due to the average wind speed within these states.

- iii) The Geothermal Resources map revealed that states such as Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, southern Texas, and southern California were more favorable states for these resources.
- iv) The Hydroelectric Power capacity map revealed that states such as Washington, Oregon, Montana, California, New York, Alabama, Idaho, South Dakota, Arizona, Tennessee, and North Carolina were more favorable states for these resources.
- v) The Solid Biomass resources map revealed that states such as Iowa, parts of California, Illinois, Idaho, Louisiana, Nebraska, Alabama, Maine, Oregon, and southern Minnesota were more favorable for these resources. However, many of the states faced challenges.

c. The Solar Advantages for Florida were:

- i) Solar was best positioned from a resource availability standpoint.
- ii) Daily solar production was highest during the afternoon peak use.
- iii) The annual solar production was highest in warm summer months.
- iv) It was noted that Florida was best positioned from a resource availability standpoint.
- v) FPL offers two innovative options for customers to avoid the challenges of developing and funding on-site solar projects:
  - FPL SolarTogether community solar program
  - FPL SolarVantage utility on-site solar asset ownership and financing program
- vi) Florida allowed third-party ownership of on-site solar projects.
- vii) Certain municipal, commercial and industrial buildings often have load profiles and electricity costs. These would deliver cost savings under the third-party ownership which resulted in energy savings.

d. Discussion ensued amongst the Board about the presentation given. The Board members would be given homework assignments via email from the Sustainability Officer, which was to complete research on different cities, which they had to report on at the July 10th meeting.

IV. Board Reports

- a. Board member, Marcus, reported that his group completed an Adopt-A-Street cleaning on June 8, 2024.
- b. Board member, Arun, noted that he tentatively had an Adopt-A-Street cleaning scheduled for June 15, 2024, but it was not finalized as yet.
- c. Board member, Arun, reported about composting to the Board and noted that he had contacted a few companies such as Publix and was found out they were not composting. He also contacted IKEA, but did not receive any information from the local facility. He added that it would take education to change the trajectory of the businesses in Sunrise about composting, proposed that he would like to create a pilot flyer about gardening and composting, to target companies which were in Sunrise. He noted he would email the flyer and the concept to the Sustainability Officer for distribution to the Board.

- d. Board member, Larry, reported there was a report about rubber mulch, which stated it was bad for use on private properties because it heated up the yard, killed the plants, and that it had toxins in it. The reports have also noted that rubber mulch should only be used for playgrounds.
- V. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – July 10, 2024
  - a) Presentation by NREL on Establishing Renewable Energy Goals
- VI. Adjourn
  - a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board member, Larry Szeliga, and it was seconded by Board member, Vice Chair 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.