

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY HALL CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
FEBRUARY 28, 2011 – 6:30 P.M.**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cumulative Attendance 1/2011 through 12/2011</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Jon Albee, Chair	P	2	0
Alena Alberani, Vice Chair	P	2	0
Anthony Abbate	P	2	0
Alexandra Anagnostis	A	1	1
Jaime Castoro [6:39]	P	2	0
Vicki Eckels	P	2	0
William Goetz [6:36]	P	2	0
Donna Guthrie [6:59]	P	1	1
Dana Pollitt	P	1	0
Rebecca J. Walter [6:50]	P	2	0

**Also Present**

Todd Hiteshow, Staff Liaison, Environmental Services Manager  
D'wayne Spence, Assistant City Attorney  
J. Opperlee, Recording Secretary, ProtoType, Inc.

**Communications to the City Commission**

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to send the following communications:

1. To forward the updated version of Ms. Eckels' letter regarding the Clean Air Act to the City Commission.
2. To recommend Mayor Seiler sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Agreement, and to couple this with a proclamation reaffirming the City's commitment, to be read at a Commission meeting.
3. To inform the City Commission that some of the language approved by the Citizens Sustainability Green Committee regarding the creation of the Sustainability Advisory Board was omitted from the language presented to the City Commission on first reading. On second reading, the City Commission did not realize this language was missing. The Board recommends that amending the ordinance to include that language be put on the City Commission's Agenda.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair Albee. The Board did not have a quorum.

Chair Albee wanted to be sure that the Board received follow-up reports on items they discussed. Ms. Eckels suggested that Mr. Hiteshew and Chair Albee review the previous month's minutes when preparing the current month's agenda for such items. Mr. Abbate suggested an "Old Business" section on the agenda.

Dr. Goetz arrived at 6:36 and the Board had a quorum.

## **2. Roll call – Introductions**

- **Introduction – Dana Pollitt**

Mr. Pollitt stated he had a Masters Degree in Environmental Protection Management and had worked for the Federal government and in the private sector. Mr. Pollitt distributed a flyer for the panel discussion to be held on March 16, 2011 by the Society for Marketing Professional Services on Sustainable and Alternative Energy: Retrofitting the Built Environment.

At 6:39 Ms. Castoro arrived.

## **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 2011**

The Board noted changes to the minutes.

By unanimous consent, the Board approved the minutes of the January meeting as amended.

## **4. Staff Liaison Report**

Mr. Hiteshew reported he had met with David Ferdinand, who wanted to initiate a Florida/Brazil mission from July 1 through July 10 to discuss Sustainability, Smart Growth and Best Practices. Mr. Ferdinand would have a booth at the City's centennial event on March 27.

Mr. Hiteshew stated the ECBG was moving forward. In the rebate program, people had applied for \$18,000 in rebates and \$8,000 had already been distributed. The Home Energy Saver workshops would begin in April.

Mr. Hiteshew said the Demonstration Center would be at the Holiday Park Activity Center. The energy audit had been completed and the engineer was looking in to it. He believed there would be a 10-kilowatt solar unit on the building.

Mr. Hiteshew stated the City would also utilize some of the Block Grant funds for fleet upgrades. The City Commission would hear an item the next evening regarding

software to monitor engine idling that could be used to monitor compliance with the City's no-idling policy. They had also purchased two bucket trucks that utilized hybrid technology for the booms and lifts for tree trimming.

At 6:50 Ms. Walter arrived.

#### **5. Member Discussion Items**

- Timeline for complying with the Commission's request to prioritize initiatives listed in the Committee's report

Ms. Eckels wanted to dedicate an entire meeting to this. Mr. Abbate noted there were different ways to set priorities, and asked if the City Commission had established any criteria. Chair Albee distributed a spreadsheet of the Board's recommendations and asked Board members to consider priorities for their next meeting. Ms. Alberani suggested Board members select their individual priorities from each area. Ms. Walter recommended that the Board members responsible for each area create their priorities. Since Board members responsible for the focus areas were no longer on the Board, the assignments were made as follows:

Air Quality – Ms. Anagnostis

Water – Mr. Pollitt

Waste - Ms. Eckels

Natural Environment and Landscape – Ms. Castoro

Built Environment – Ms. Walter

Education - Ms. Alberani and Ms. Guthrie

Quality Assurance and Quality Control-Dr. Goetz

Transportation – Mr. Abbate

Ms. Guthrie arrived at 6:59.

Dr. Goetz recalled that the Sustainability Action Plan [SAP] had over 100 initiatives, and he did not know how much overlap there was with the Board's recommendations. Chair Albee advised Board members to include items from the SAP in their priorities if they wished. Dr. Goetz wanted to ask Heike Lueger from Carbon Solutions America to attend their next meeting to discuss her priorities from the SAP. Ms. Alberani agreed.

Mr. Hiteshew reported there was no dedicated budget for the Board's recommendations. Mr. Abbate suggested they work with the City's Visioning Committee because the visioning process led to a call for raising bonds.

Ms. Eckels recommended the Board create their own priorities first and then provide them to Ms. Lueger to see how they fit in with her priorities for the SAP. She noted that the City would be charged for Ms. Lueger's consulting time and the Board should prepare their priorities first. Ms Castoro agreed. Mr. Abbate thought the Board should

consult the Multi-County agreement to see how their local priorities fit into the regional picture.

**Motion** made by Mr. Pollitt, seconded by Dr. Goetz, to invite Ms. Lueger to their next meeting to discuss priorities. In a roll call vote, motion failed 4 – 5 with Ms. Castoro, Ms Eckels, Ms. Guthrie, Ms. Walter and Chair Albee opposed.

Chair Albee asked Mr. Hiteshew to invite Ms. Lueger to the Board's meeting in April. Ms. Alberani requested that Ms. Lueger present her priorities from the SAP to the Board.

- Discussion about the scheduling of presentations

Ms. Eckels wanted all presentations to be at the request of the Board only. The Board agreed.

- Clean Air Act revisited (bills with new numbers have now been introduced for the current congressional session -- H.R. 97, S. 228, and S.231

Ms. Eckels had revised her letter to include the current bill numbers and information about regional impacts to explain the reasons why the City should be concerned about watering down the Clean Air Act. Mr. Hiteshew had forwarded this revised letter to Board members.

Dr. Goetz said Mayor Seiler had been prepared to sign the letter, but Vice Mayor Rogers had raised questions.

Ms. Eckels stated Mr. Hiteshew's report should include a status update on any Communications the Board sent to the Commission at the previous meeting. Mr. Hiteshew said the Climate Protection Agreement had been discussed by the Commission on February 1 and Vice Mayor Rogers had questions. Ms. Eckels said Vice Mayor Rogers had contacted her and she anticipated it would be discussed on February 15. Mr. Hiteshew reported that the Commission had postponed discussion until February 15 but the item had not been discussed at that meeting. The Board agreed to resubmit their Communication regarding this to the Commission.

- Discussion item on restoring the language voted on by our predecessor committee for inclusion in the Ordinance that created our current Board

Dr. Goetz explained the situation, and Mr. Spence agreed that the language had been omitted as an oversight. Ms. Eckels wanted to request the Commission amend the ordinance to include the language the Committee had approved. Dr. Goetz felt staff, not the Board, should bring this to the Commission. Mr. Spence explained that staff did not approach the Commission during meetings; information was included in staff reports to the Commission.

Mr. Abbate said this should be on the Commission's Consent Agenda, and asked how items were put on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Spence advised the Board to submit another Communication to the City Commission regarding this.

Mr. Abbate stated he had sat on many boards, and except for this Board, City, County or State staff did things at the Boards' request and reported back on their actions. He was distressed at how this problem had continued and said he intended to phone his appointing Commissioner and the Mayor.

- Examination and in-depth discussion of the CSGC Jan 2010 recommendation to Commissioners and the subsequent staff response (multi-family recycling)

Ms. Eckels said it would benefit the Board to track this recommendation's progress to improve their approach toward moving other initiatives forward. Chair Albee wanted to put this item on a future Board agenda for discussion. Ms. Eckels thought her ideas on this might supersede the need for the Board to prioritize their recommendations. She explained that in January 2010, the Board had sent a Communication to the City Commission including a resolution regarding multi-family recycling, but it was not until January 2011 that Ms. Eckels had been sent a September 21, 2010 memo responding to the Board's January 2010 communication.

Ms. Eckels said part of the resolution involved utilizing recycling revenue to fund sustainable activities. The memo indicated that the recycling revenues were used to offset the cost of sanitation services. Ms. Eckels said this indicated to her that the Board should concentrate on policy. In this case, the policy should be that trash must pay its own way so recycling revenue could be put toward sustainable activities.

Chair Albee noted the Board could move their agenda forward by sending communication to the Commission on a very regular basis. He said the Board should be a leader in establishing a protocol to get things done. Dr. Goetz said follow-up was particularly important now because the budget was being drafted; if they wanted a change regarding the recycling revenue they must make the recommendation soon.

Ms. Eckels thought the Board did not need to prioritize their recommendation because she felt the Commission had requested this just to keep them occupied. She said the Board should spend its time considering the policies the City needed in order to make the initiatives a reality. Dr. Goetz felt the process of prioritization of any initiative in the City was virtually nonexistent because "they build on the programs in the last budget, add something for inflation" and the City did not Budget for Outcomes.

Chair Albee felt in order for the Board to move forward, they must be diligent. He said the quality of the Board would come from the opportunities they made for themselves and using the system to their advantage. Chair Albee believed the majority of

Commissioners had not read the entire Committee's report and it was the Board's responsibility to help the Commission understand what they wanted to do.

Dr. Goetz wanted to create a system for prioritizing initiatives first. Mr. Abbate thought they would apply the Smart Guidelines for Prioritizing Targets as a starting point and then they would combine that procedure in alignment with the Regional Compact and the County plan. This way, they would have consistency and support.

Chair Albee recommended the Board create their priorities and then address policy. At their next meeting, they would identify their priorities and send a statement to the City Commission.

Mr. Hiteshew agreed to forward the Board's resolution regarding recycling and the City's response to Board members.

Mr. Abbate felt the Board needed to be proactive instead of reactive, which they too often were.

## **6. Communications to the City Commission**

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to the following:

1. To forward the updated version of Ms. Eckels' letter regarding the Clean Air Act to the City Commission.
2. To recommend Mayor Seiler sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Agreement, and to couple this with a proclamation reaffirming the City's commitment, to be read at a Commission meeting.
3. To inform the City Commission that some of the language approved by the Citizens Sustainability Green Committee regarding the creation of the Sustainability Advisory Board was omitted from the language presented to the City Commission on first reading. On second reading, the City Commission did not realize this language was missing. The Board recommends that amending the ordinance to include that language be put on the City Commission's Agenda.

## **Other Items and Announcements**

Ms. Alberani announced that People and Planet Day would be held on April 2 in front of the Museum of Discovery and Science.

Mr. Hiteshew announced that March 12 was Water Matters Day at Tradewinds Park.

Mr. Abbate stated from March 8 through 11, the Tropical Cities Conference would be held. On March 11, there would be a workshop focusing on Fort Lauderdale's next 100 years. He noted that all day that Friday was free and open to the public. He encouraged Board members to attend.

## **7. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next meeting date: March 28, 2011

Attachments:

Minutes – January 2011

[Minutes prepared by J. Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.]