

FINAL

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 1ST FLOOR
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
FEBRUARY 25, 2013 – 6:30 PM

MEMBERS	APPT BY	ATTENDANCE	Cumulative Attendance 1/2013 through 12/2013	
			PRESENT	ABSENT
1. Valerie Amor, Chair	M	P	2	0
2. Alena Alberani, Vice Chair [6:33]	II	P	2	0
3. Robert Caine	M	P	2	0
4. Steven Cook	I	P	2	0
5. Vicki Eckels	IV	P	2	0
6. Darin Lentner	IV	P	2	0
7. Jim Moyer	III	P	2	0
8. Mate Thitisawat	C	P	1	1
9. Vacant (previously William Goetz)	I			
10. Vacant (previously Dana Politte)	II			
11. Vacant (previously Cathy Curry)	III			

Also Present

Joshua Nichols, Staff Liaison – Office of Sustainability
Heather Steyn, Sustainability Specialist – Office of Sustainability
Glenn Fields, Resident | Member of Tarpon River HOA

1. Call of Order/Roll Call

Chair Amor called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm, roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 2013

Chair Amor noted corrections to the minutes.

Motion made by Ms. Eckels and seconded by Mr. Caine to approve the noted corrections to minutes of the January 25, 2013. In a voice vote, the Board motion passed unanimously.

3. New Board Templates

Chair Amor noted new templates were drafted for the Board's agenda and minutes that include a new format and design. Edits include for new business items to be presented first rather than last for audience/guest consideration. In addition, public and committee comments will also be included in each meeting.

Mr. Cook commented the Board agenda package was large, and the exhibits were difficult to locate easily. Ms. Alberani suggested for hyperlinks to be included in the agenda to streamline the access to attached documents. Mr. Eckels preferred to have the drafted minutes submitted in a text format rather than a pdf.

4. A1A Restoration

Ms. Eckels clarified that the Board is not directly involved with this project, and preferred not to have the progressive status of A1A restoration included with the Board items. Mr. Nichols remarked the project status is merely to provide history, not to serve as a promotional tool. Chair Amor and Ms. Eckels both agreed the City's email blast and website provide sufficient information about the project.

5. Staff Liaison Report – Presented by Joshua Nichols

Rooftop Solar Challenge II

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has announced \$12M in new funding (grant) for locally-focused solar projects that offer opportunities to streamline and standardize the process for solar connection. It is anticipated Broward County will receive approximately \$1M. Last month, the Mayor's Office submitted a Letter of Support of the program to the County. Ms. Eckels inquired if the funding would be used towards solar hardware; however, Mr. Nichols noted the intention of the grant will be to improve the administration portion of the program.

EECBG Update

In order to meet the qualifications of the EECBG the Demonstration Center at Holiday Park will be eliminated from the project will be replaced with the following clean energy items.

1. Vertical Axis Turbines (4, 4kW turbines located throughout the City)
2. Electric Vehicle Dual Charging Stations (4, dual level I and level II chargers)
 - Paired with Turbine

Mr. Nichols is seeking assistance from the Board to nominate two of the four locations for the wind turbines. Although City Hall and the Beach are designated locations, Mr. Nichols would like the members to suggest two non-residential areas where the turbines will be highly visible. Installation is expected to take place in approximately nine months.

3. Fleet
 - Hybrid vehicles - Police Department
 - Electric vehicle – City Urban Forester
4. Retrofit Lighting in City Hall
 - Projected to reduce energy usage by 30%

A1A Status

Pillars are now in place and project to stay on progress before Sea Turtle season.

Green Streets

Fort Lauderdale is one of five cities in the nation chosen to participate in the EPA Green Streets Strategy Community Audit program. They will provide technical assistance (not a grant) to develop a Green Street plan. A workshop for City staff will be held March 12th at the Beach Community Center.

Adaptation Action Areas

Currently the language is being developed for the comprehensive plan. The City is working with South Florida Regional Planning Council and the State to apply for a \$50K grant to use the City as a pilot program.

Walkability Study

Mr. Nichols encourages the Board to review the report and keep in mind ideas as we have presentations on Green Streets and how this study will interact with new multi-modal hub.

6. New Business

Climate Assessment SE Regional Town Hall Meeting Highlights

The National Climate Assessment Southeast Regional Town Hall was held on February 19th at the University Of South Florida Patel School Of Global Sustainability in Tampa. Chair Amor provided her feedback about the workshop where she attended as a guest out of 80 attendees. In breakout sessions, Chair Amor facilitates one of the groups. She also noted public comments can be made until April 12th.

Broward County Climate Change Element Adopted

On February 12, 2013, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners took a progressive step forward in planning for community resilience and the long-term sustainability of Broward's environment and economy with adoption of a Climate Change Element (Element) as part of the County's Comprehensive Plan. Chair Amor noted the Compact was created four years ago between Palm, Broward, Dade, and Monroe County.

Dark Sky Initiative, attachment

Mr. Glenn Fields spoke of the dark sky initiative. Mr. Fields is a board member of the Tarpon River Civic Association. According to his research, he stated that 60% of the City's light pollution came from street lights. He is seeking the Board's support regarding light pollution since the topic was referenced from the October 2011 meeting minutes.

Mr. Fields has been working with Dr. Eric Vandernoot who's a faculty member of the Physics and Astronomy Department of FAU. He continued to explain how the sky glow is having negative effects of the beach lighting for the turtles. He explained how the ordinance aims to restrict lighting to 90 degrees and below. One of the stumbling blocks for implementation of this ordinance will be having FPL to change their fixtures since more than half of City street lights are owned and maintained by FPL.

Arguments were made that the extra lighting would be needed for crime prevention. Randall Atlas was mentioned by Chair Amor as a CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) professional who can explain lighting safety. Mr. Field also stated bureaucracy could also be another hindrance to implementing the Dark Sky ordinance. The ordinance could be fully adopted into the city's municipal code. Mr. Fields believes the Tarpon River neighborhood would be an excellent candidate to pilot the program.

Motion made by Chair Amor and seconded by Mr. Lentner to support Mr. Fields with the Dark Sky endeavor. In a voice vote, the Board motion passed unanimously.

Earth Day Event

Chair Amor stated how she would like the Board to be involved the sustainability activities of the City and mentioned that earth day would be perfect event to begin involvement. Mr. Nichols noted the third annual LauderScape event will be approaching soon and it would be a great opportunity for the Board to participate.

7. Old Business

Retail Bag Resolution

The Board discussed the outstanding resolution pertaining to regulation of retail bags. Mr. Nichols explained City Commission requested further research of Cities with an executed resolution to the Home Rule. The Board will provide additional examples with their Communication to resubmit to the Commission.

8. Upcoming Events

The following events were announced to the group:

-  March 2nd : Walk for the Animals, Huizenga Plaza, Fort Lauderdale
-  March 9th : Water Matters Day, Tree Tops Park, www.broward.org/watermatters
-  March 9th : Saint Patrick's Day Parade, <http://ftlaudirishfest.com>
-  March 16th: 36th Annual Waterway Cleanup, <http://www.waterwaycleanup.org>
-  April 27th : Earth day, <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/re-nourish>

9. Other items:

Mr. Caine left the meeting at 8:30pm.

Ms. Alberani would like Assistant City Manager, Susanne Torriente be invited to a SAB meeting to focus on money-saving projects. She wants Ms. Torriente's guidance on where the SAB might help staff further meet that criteria.

10. Communications to the City Commission

None

11. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Next meeting date: March 26, 2013

Attachments:

Light pollution images, provided by Glenn Field

[Minutes prepared by Heather Steyn]