

FINAL

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 1ST FLOOR
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
April 22, 2013 – 6:30 PM

					Cumulative Attendance 1/2013 through 12/2013	
MEMBERS	APPT BY	ATTENDANCE	PRESENT	ABSENT		
1. Valerie Amor, Chair	M	P	3	1		
2. Alena Alberani, Vice Chair	II	P	4	0		
3. Daniel Ayers	M	P	1	0		
4. Steven Cook	I	P	4	0		
5. Vicki Eckels	IV	A	3	1		
6. Darin Lentner	IV	P	4	0		
7. Jim Moyer	III	P	4	0		
8. Mate Thitisawat	C	P	3	1		
9. Jim Hetzel	I	P	1	0		
10. Barbara Walker	II	P	1	0		
11. Vacant (previously Cathy Curry)	III					

Also Present

Joshua Nichols, Staff Liaison – Office of Sustainability
Heather Steyn, Sustainability Specialist – Office of Sustainability
Richard Whitecloud – Sea Turtle Oversight Protection (STOP)
Mary Ann Johnston – Sustainability Aide – Office of Sustainability

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 – March 2013

Motion made by Vice Chair Alberani and seconded by Mr. Lentner to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2013 meeting. In a voice vote, the Board motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business

Briefing – Sea Turtle Season 2013 {Whitecloud}

Richard Whitecloud, Director of Sea Turtle Oversight Protection (STOP) presented a briefing on the status of the sea turtle season. STOP has 150 volunteers and over 13,000 Facebook members. Mr. Whitecloud said that approximately 90% of sea turtles for the Atlantic basin nest in this area. Season

starts on March 1st. STOP is concerned with the loss of coastal habitat, and the fact that a large number of hatchlings go the wrong way in Broward County due to the presence of lights at the beach. Nearly 20,000 hatchlings went the wrong way last year and on average, 1 in 3 go the wrong way. During peak hatching season, 2 in 5 go the wrong way. STOP documents where the light source is when hatchlings get disoriented. STOP suggests that half-moon shields on new lights would help encourage hatchlings to go toward the ocean. No notices of violations have been sent out to businesses along the beach that have excessive lighting present.

NOVA University and STOP monitor nests. NOVA marks the nest in the pre-dawn hours and puts down the species flag while STOP monitors overnight.

STOP is partnering with Hugh Taylor Birch Park to have turtle nesting tours to support STOP and show that eco-tourism may be a viable way to protect hatchlings. The tours will be starting in mid-May to early June.

STOP would like to conduct tour with SAB for educational purposes. Board will have to check with City Attorney on this.

Board would like to have Code Enforcement back to discuss ordinance violations and street light modifications.

4. Staff Liaison Report – Presented by Joshua Nichols

New Member Introduction

Introduction of new members: Jim Hetzel, Daniel Ayers and Barbara Walker.

Board and Committee Members Interactive Workshop

The City of Fort Lauderdale is offering an interactive workshop to all board and committee members on April 24.

Visioning

The City has published the Visioning plan for 2035 which outlines what the City would like to accomplish over the next 20+ years. It is available online.

All-American City

The City of Fort Lauderdale is a finalist and Sustainability is one of the criteria for the nomination. June 16th is the presentation in Denver. The City has to do a song-and-dance routine.

Rain Tree

This did move forward and it was acknowledged but there was no discussion at the Commission conference.

5. New Business (CONTINUED)

Presentation – Project for Public Spaces (Amor)

Chair Amor presented the results of a meeting she attended in Detroit as part of the Place-Making Leadership Council. There were 300 attendees. They spent 2 days in workshops and one day touring parts of Detroit. The intent was to provide input on what to do with Detroit and to see its current status. She spent some extra time doing private tours of the area. The city is under emergency management and it is a showcase of taking a city down and bringing it back up. There is garbage and cars everywhere.

The city currently has a population of 750,000 and in the 1950s, it was over 2,000,000. Some places in the city have all services cut off. You can buy houses very cheaply but you have to be aware of whether or not you have services in a particular neighborhood. There was a lot of focus on place-making rather than sustainability. Chair Amor wanted more green applications in the revamping buildings. There are no corner stores, ATMs or drugstores in downtown – too much crime. Some places have houses torn down and gardens are put in their place. There is a place called the Dequindre Cut which was former railroad tracks and they are trying to put in walking/bike paths to the riverfront. She discusses various projects within the city that groups or individuals have undertaken to different parts of the city. The city has targeted 10,000 homes to be demolished and so far they've torn down 7,000. They are trying to save the brick for new purposes. Many blocks that formerly had houses are now fields. There are several projects that do involve sustainability and Chair Amor hopes that more will be done to involve sustainability in future revamps of properties.

Survey – Climate change Element Workshop

The County has adopted this element and falls in line with the 4-county compact for climate change. The survey wants to determine how the compact is viewed, etc.

6. Old Business

Retail Bag Resolution

The resolution will be going to Commission on 5/7. Chair Amor notes that the environmental language has been modified from the original resolution.

Marina Lofts Hearing






The hearing is on May 14th with the DRC.

Facebook

Will look at how to modify the news feeds that are on Facebook. SAB members prefer this to e-mails. Must be cautious about posting comments on Facebook (Sunshine laws).

7. Upcoming Events

The following events were announced to the group:

-  April 23- May 15 – various meetings – Transportation Workshops
-  Extreme Weather – What it really costs businesses – deals with Miami
-  April 20th & 27th: Renourish Fort Lauderdale 2013. 27th is the Earth Day event
-  May 9th Community Appearance Board
-  May 15th Transportation Summit
-  June 18-20 -Rising Sea Summit is new – John Englander is involved
-  June 19-21 – 750 Project Work groups Summit – Plans for South Florida (7 counties and 50 years)
-  October 16th – Sea Level Rise Summit
-  Present day to December 31st – Save a Tree/Plant a Tree - go paper-free to get a free tree

8. Communications to the City Commission



None.

9. Items for Next Meeting:

Memorial Day – Will confirm in next few weeks to move to May 28th. Barbara Walker will be out. Chair Amor will confirm.

10. Public Comment: None

11. Committee Comments:

-  Mr. Lentner did a brief report on Dark Skies. Marguerita Gants is the new FPL contact for Dark Skies. He notes there is a study by Phillips and HSBC regarding LED lighting changeouts. Some local HOAs are interested in changing out lights – reduce carbon footprint, etc. Josh Nichols discusses some Dark Skies compliant solar pathway lighting that the City is purchasing.
-  Adaptation Action Area (AAA) handout by Chair Amor. Josh discusses how AAA may affect future property sales. It may be a good idea to put language in any sales contract to let them know that the property is part of the AAA and give them a 'buyer beware' warning.

12. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Motion: Steve Cook

Second: Daniel Ayers

Next meeting date: Tentative -- May 28th, 2013 – confirm in next few weeks

[Minutes prepared by Mary Ann Johnston]