

FINAL
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD (sab)
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 8th Floor Conference Room
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
JULY 28, 2014 – 6:30 PM

				Cumulative Attendance 1/2014 through 12/2014	
MEMBERS	APPT BY	ATTENDANCE	PRESENT	ABSENT	
1. Valerie Amor, Chair	M	P	7	0	
2. Alena Alberani, Vice Chair	II	A	3	4	
3. Daniel Ayers	M	P	7	0	
4. Steven Cook	I	A	6	1	
5. Vicki Eckels	IV	P	6	1	
6. William Goetz	I	P	3	0	
7. Darin Lentner	IV	P	5	2	
8. Jim Moyer [arrived 7:19pm]	III	P	7	0	
9. Mate Thitisawat	C	A	4	3	
10. Cheryl Whitfield	III	P	7	0	
11. Jim Wood	II	P	2	2	

Also Present

Public Works Department | Sustainability Division

- Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director
- Heather Steyn, Sustainability Specialist, SAB Staff Liaison

Department of Sustainable Development | Building Services Division

- Alex Hernandez, Interim Building Official

Call of Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Amor at 6:31 pm, roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2014 meeting minutes were approved

Motion: In a voice vote, the Board motion passed unanimously.

SAB Information Exchange

The Board noted their preference of the Staff Liaison organizing all group communications through the weekly information exchange (commenced May 2014).

Presentations on City Initiatives

City Solar Permitting Options

Staff member, Alex Hernandez, and Broward County staff member Michael Huneke gave brief presentations of the attachments on the options to permit solar equipment in the City.

1. Presentation: Broward County Go Solar Program*

Presenter Information

- Michael Huneke, Project Manager
- Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division
- Telephone: 954-357-4906
- Email: MHuneke@broward.org

Summary: Mr. Huneke provided an overview of the County's GoSOLAR Online Permitting, for rooftop solar panel (photovoltaic) system. This online method may be used to request permits for residential or low commercial properties as a permitting option in the City.

2. Presentation: City Regulations for Solar Equipment*

Presenter Information

- Alex Hernandez, Interim Building Official
- Department of Sustainable Development | Building Services Division
- Telephone: 954-828-6599
- Email: AHernandez@fortlauderdale.gov

Summary: Mr. Hernandez provided an overview of the permitting process and regulations for installing solar equipment. In addition, it was noted that ground mounting solar uses the general ground mounted equipment guidelines and code.

*The above presentations are included as backup to minutes.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Steyn noted the following highlights/ announcement included on the meeting agenda:

Tree Canopy Events

- Save A Tree Event
- Third Quarter Tree Giveaway

Both of these events connect with City plans such as the Sustainability Action Plan and Press Play.

In recent information exchanges the following sources were provided:

- Proposed 2015FY City Budget Board
- Confirmed 2015FY Commission Annual Action Plan

City Commission recently approved the list of ESCO contractors to perform energy saving improvements to facilities.

Florida Power and Light Community Solar Pilot Program

Presentation will be delayed until next month.

Agricultural Ordinance

Chair Amor requested the status of the Board's proposal to amend this ordinance. Staff explained this item was not included among the Commission 2015 priorities.

Presentations by SAB Members

National Climate Assessment 2014 Report, Presented by Chair Amor

Summary: Chair Amor, a partner and committee member to the National Climate Assessment (NCA) provided details about the program's annual report and how it accurately outlines the impacts of climate change in the United States, now and in the future.

A team of more than 300 experts guided by a 60-member Federal Advisory Committee produced this report, which was extensively reviewed by the public and experts. In order to efficiently retrieve information provided by NCA, she provided an overview of the resource links to the websites and report files (pdf).

Provided Resource Links**

Websites

- <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>
- <http://www.climatechange.gov>

Report Files (pdf)

- <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/downloads>

**Also backup to meeting minutes.

New Business

Tyler Whitmire, ICMA Senior Management Fellow was introduced. Mr. Whitmire will be working with the Sustainability Division for the next year.

Old Business

Proposed Communication - GMO Labeling Resolution

The initial GMO research packet was distributed to the Board on June 27th. However, the Staff Liaison has continuously received new information applicable to this subject including a late breaking submission from last week.

With limited time for the Board to review all related materials, it was proposed to delay the discussion of this topic until next month's meeting. This decision was made to be in alignment with the City Commission's directive from June 17th to properly implement a vetting process regarding GMO labeling. The Board also agreed to provide a new deadline date for further submissions in order for the Staff Liaison to update the research packet.

Approval to Reschedule Discussion

Motion: In a roll call vote, the Board passed the motion 5-3.

Yes	No
1. Mr. Ayers 2. Ms. Eckels 3. Mr. Goetz 4. Mr. Lentner 5. Mr. Moyer	1. Chair Amor 2. Ms. Whitfield 3. Mr. Wood

Approval for GMO Submissions Deadline of August 14th

Motion: In a voice vote, the Board passed the motion unanimously.

Proposed Communication - Geoengineering Resolution

Due to time constraints, this item was not discussed and will be rescheduled for next month's meeting.

Public Comments

The following nine members of the public asserted the principles behind GMO labeling and encouraged the Board to move forward with a communication to the City Commission concerning a proposed resolution of this subject.

1. Racheal Shapiro, Coconut Creek
2. Adrienne Bolton, Fort Lauderdale
3. Vickie Machado, Food and Water Watch Group
4. Jennifer Teejay, Fort Lauderdale
5. Michelle Lazaros, Hallandale
6. Santiago Arroya, Davie
7. Carmen Ple, Fort Lauderdale
8. Jason Long, Davie
9. Leslie Stoddard, Hallandale

SAB Meeting Topics

August Meeting

- Geoengineering Resolution
- Genetically Modified Organism Labeling Resolution
- Florida Power and Light | Community Solar Pilot Program. Should the FPL presentation not be available, staff will present on the City program – We Are Wild.

Potential Discussions Items/Presentations Future Meetings

- City Traffic and Mobility Plans
- City Composting
- Production of Electric Hybrid Vehicles
- Life-cycle of Recycling Clothing

Committee Comments

- Ms. Eckels – announced the City of Miami Beach banned Styrofoam containers at public spaces such as sidewalk cafes and parks.
- Mr. Lentner - noted his personal schedule for the upcoming months and may be absent in August and September
- Ms. Whitefield – suggested expanding the City's compost program to include seaweed as a material. City staff noted this option is currently being explored by the City research team.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next meeting date: August 25th, 2014 – Chambers | 1st Floor, City Hall [Minutes prepared by Heather Steyn]

LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its "Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision" and recognizes that consumers want information about the food they and their families eat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a 'right to know' issue, serving to inform citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 states to require GE labeling; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Council President

Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 171200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
6. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
7. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
8. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304