

City of Delray Beach

*100 N.W. 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444*



Minutes - Final

Thursday, September 19, 2024

09:00 AM

SOC Conference Room

Green Implementation Advancement Board

1. Call to Order

Evan Orellana called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

2. Roll Call

Present 4 - Evan Orellana, Heather Seaman, Vinnie Ardillo, and Melanie Stefanovic

Absent 1 - Adam Jones

3. GIAB Elections

Chair:

Melanie Stefanovic motions to nominate Evan Orellana for Chair.

Heather Seaman seconded the motion

All responded "Aye", the motion passed

Vice Chair:

Vinnie Ardillo motions to nominate Melanie Stefanovic for Vice Chair.

Heather Seaman seconded the motion

All responded "Aye", the motion passed

2nd Vice Chair:

Evan Orellana motions to nominate Vinnie Ardillo for 2nd Vice Chair.

Heather Seaman seconded the motion

All responded "Aye", the motion passed

4. Approval of Agenda

This was approved.

Yes: 4 - Orellana, Seaman, Ardillo, and Stefanovic

Absent: 1 - Jones

5. Approval of Minutes

This was approved.

Yes: 4 - Orellana, Seaman, Ardillo, and Stefanovic

Absent: 1 - Jones

Attachments: [GIAB Meeting Minutes - 2024-07-18-draft.pdf](#)

6. Public Comments on Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

No public present

7. Old Business

Attachments: [Bullet Points for Future Memos.docx](#)

7.a Climate Action Plan

Kent Edwards provided an update on the Climate Action Plan, noting that the survey received 369 responses, exceeding the goal of 300. The board discussed the survey results, highlighting the community's interest in the city leading by example, such as transitioning the municipal fleet to electric vehicles. The board also discussed the importance of addressing existing buildings to achieve the 50% greenhouse gas reduction goal by 2030.

7.a.i Green Building Ordinance additions memo

The board discussed the green building ordinance and the need to address greenhouse gas emissions beyond just new construction. The board acknowledged the challenges of benchmarking and data access from utility providers, and agreed to continue working with regional partners to address these issues.

The board agreed to draft a memo outlining the broader greenhouse gas reduction goals and strategies, beyond the green building ordinance. The memo will include the 50% reduction goal by 2030 and the steps taken so far, as well as recommendations for data-driven decision making and public education.

Melanie emailed Kent and Chris draft language for the memo regarding reevaluation of the Green Building Ordinance. To align with greenhouse gas reduction goals and Climate Action Planning, main points for the memo include focus on energy usage and energy efficiency, benchmarking and energy modeling, education and outreach, importance of buildings to greenhouse gas reduction strategy.

7.b Educational Initiatives

7.b.i Climate & Culture

The board members who attended the Climate and Culture event reported on its success and the high level of community engagement. The board discussed the potential for quarterly events in different venues to maintain interest and continue the outreach and education efforts.

7.b.ii EP3 Memo

The board introduced the topic of an environmentally preferable purchasing policy and its potential impact. Points raised as potential content for a memo included, no styrofoam use, use paper or recyclable items, which plastics are more recyclable, health issues related to microplastics and volatiles. Addressing policy for major City events was suggested, such as for St. Patrick's day, Christmas Tree and Menorah lighting, 4th of July, Delray Beach Open, etc. Other topics suggested for the memo included reducing waste, not using straws, considering vendors that are sustainable during purchasing decisions.

The board agreed to develop a two-part memo, with the first focusing on city events and the second on broader purchasing policies.

OSAR participation in SETAC, the committee which reviews special event applications, was mentioned.

7.b.iii Balloon Release Memo

The board discussed the issue of balloon releases and their environmental impact. The board agreed that this topic should be addressed in the broader context of the Climate Action Plan and the need for community education and outreach. A suggestion was made to draw direct attention to the existing language in the Parks use permit applications regarding balloon releases.

Evan mentioned that the first balloon release violation will be for wedding party company in Miami.

The Board questioned if the City has a balloon ordinance. It was mentioned that Parks may have a policy that applies to events. Melanie suggested that the Parks department revise their notification to permit applicants to draw better attention to our existing policy, any city restrictions, and the State statute that was passed last year.

7.c Legislative Issues

The board discussed the reasons for the Clean Waterways bill being vetoed at the Governors desk. The reasoning was he did not want to give the health department authority to unilaterally shut down a beach.

It was decided that a memo for this issue is not necessary. Kent will e-mail the City Manager to ask that he passes on the Boards support of this bill, as it would allow information on coastal water quality to be given to beach visitors more quickly.

8. New Business

No new business

9. Board Comments

Melanie commented on the spinning and dying fish and dolphin due to toxic algae in Miami caused by warmer waters and pollution from agriculture. Her concerns are for the warmer water moving northward and causing the same issue here in Delray Beach. Research is focusing on a possible link to water quality associated with runoff from land. The group discussed the implications of ciguatera, especially for individuals that catch top predator fish for food in coastal areas.

Melanie mentioned awards for cities such as "Tree City USA", and asked if there is an award we can strive for to get acknowledgement for our sustainable efforts. Kent informed the board that the city is working on a "LEED for Cities" designation and briefly explained the requirements of the certification. He also informed the board of the existing "FGBC Green Local Government" designation.

10. Staff Comments

Evan determines the board had covered the contents of the OSAR report and in the interest of time to skip this section today.

Attachments: [GIAB Staff Rpt 2024-09-19](#)

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

This was approved.