

**GREEN IMPLEMENTATION ADVANCEMENT BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019
SWINTON OPERATION COMPLEX BOARD ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Lucas
Lisa Shaheen
Christina Hammond
Susan Lebrun
Mark Cassini
Hal Stern

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sandy Trento

STAFF PRESENT:

Molly Daly, Sustainability Intern
Caryn Gardner, Assistant City Manager

GUESTS/OTHERS:

Nate Ferris
Mylene Crumiere

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Lucas at 9:03am.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Sarah Lucas.

3. Approval of Agenda

Lisa Shaheen made a motion to approve the agenda of April 18, 2019, seconded by Christina Hammond. Said motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Lisa Shaheen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 21, 2019, seconded by Christina Hammond. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. Introduction of newest member: Christina Hammond

Christina Hammond stated that she is the CEO of Producify, a video production and video marketing company. She is a resident of Delray Beach and has a passion for the environment. She is excited for the opportunity to be supporting the shift of the City towards being more environmentally friendly.

6. Public Comments (Limited to 3-minutes per speaker)

Mylene Crumiere stated she is a resident of Delray Beach who likes to live green. She said that from the information she received previously from the Green Implementation Advancement Board, she was able to install solar panels on her home through the Solar Co-op.

Nate Ferris stated that he is a new employee at Community Greening. He moved here a few weeks ago from Indianapolis, where he worked at a nonprofit and started a tree planting program. He stated that he is the fourth person in the state of Florida to be both an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist and ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist. He is excited to work in this area for a great organization.

Chairperson Hal Stern arrived at 9:10am at the end of Public Comments.

7. Old Business

a. GIAB Board Rules and Procedures

Hal Stern discussed the contents of the Board Rules and Procedures and stated that much of it does not apply to the Green Board.

Sarah Lucas made a motion to approve the bylaws for the Green Implementation Advancement Board. Chairperson Hal Stern opened the motion up for discussion.

Lisa Shaheen inquired about how the board can have more regular contact with the City Commission, and the board discussed meeting with the Commission quarterly and speaking during the public commentary period at the City Commission meetings. Molly Daly referred to the City of Delray Beach's Advisory Board Manual where it is stated that a majority of the board's members present at the meeting must vote affirmatively to send an issue to the City Commission for consideration, information or action.

Lisa Shaheen seconded the motion to approve the bylaws for the Green Implementation Advancement Board. The vote passed unanimously. Chairperson Hal Stern signed the bylaws.

b. Discussion of Tree Canopy Assessment

The Tree Canopy Assessment provided by E Sciences found that the overall tree canopy coverage for the City of Delray Beach is 23 percent. If the City pursues the goal of a 27 percent tree canopy by 2035, then 10,000 trees should be planted. The board expressed their interest in taking the findings and recommendations within the assessment and bringing it to the City for implementation.

Mark Cassini briefly discussed the Tree Board, which he is a member of, that focuses on the Tree Fund, tree plantings, and implementation of the tree ordinance.

Hal Stern shared the City Commission's interest in increasing the tree canopy, which was expressed during the April 9th workshop.

Molly Daly stated that if the board is looking to work with the Tree Board and Commission, the Green Board could plan a workshop that will focus on the Tree Canopy Assessment with the goal of passing a recommendation to the Commission. The subject of planning a workshop meeting was deferred until later in the meeting.

8. Event Updates

a. Earth Day (April 20, 2019)

Lisa Shaheen discussed the posters made by members of the Interact Club, which is part of the Rotary Club. The students also helped make origami pieces of fish, birds and turtles. Six students volunteered to be Earth Ambassadors at the Green Market in Delray Beach on April 20, 2019 to engage the public about their project, how to help protect endangered species, and give them the origami pieces to take home with an Earth Day pledge. The origami will be later displayed at the library.

How the City can engage the public on social media about events such as this Earth Day project was briefly discussed. It was pointed out that there is no social media account for the Office of Sustainability or the Green Implementation Advancement Board. Community member Mylene Crumiere stated that she has brought this issue up in the past because she has found it to be hard to find out information about what the City is doing in terms of sustainability. She also said she attends the Green Board meetings to get information.

b. Plastic Planet (April 29, 2019)

Sarah Lucas discussed the upcoming Plastic Planet Town Hall Meeting at Old School Square on April 29, 2019. There will be a number of exhibitors, art pieces and many presentations and speakers focusing on reducing the use of plastics in Delray Beach. Molly Daly stated that she will be there tabling and interacting with the public about these issues.

c. Climate and Art Festival (October 4-6, 2019)

Molly Daly stated that there have been some issues with scheduling a keynote speaker for this event. The Historical Society committed to hosting the closing reception. Susan Lebrun detailed that the opening event is going to coincide with Art Walk, a special exhibit at the Cornell Museum and there is discussion about a King/Queen Tide show and contest.

Lisa Shaheen recommended to reach out to the Resource Depot in West Palm Beach.

Christina Hammond expressed the importance of art pieces that express environmental topics and the benefit of ways for participants to interact with the art displays which will help increase conversations about climate issues.

Susan Lebrun suggested to work with the Chamber of Commerce for this event. Christina Hammond stated that we need to work with businesses and making connections to help push environmental initiatives along.

9. New Business

a. Debrief of April 9th Workshop

Molly Daly went through a list of the Commission's suggestions voiced at the end of the workshop, and board members discussed each item. Caryn Gardner, Assistant City Manager was present and discussed the City's contract with Waste Management, the challenges with purchasing efficient vehicles for the City's fleet and the recent prohibition the purchase of polystyrene products in the City's workplace.

Susan Lebrun made a motion to recommend to the City to conduct a tree inventory prior to hurricane season to have more information for FEMA and to be used for an urban forestry master plan. Lisa Shaheen seconded the motion. Said motion passed unanimously.

The Board decided to prioritize creating a program that recognizes businesses that implement green practices (using Boca Raton's model for the Coastal Connection Restaurant Program), moving forward with the findings from the Tree Canopy Assessment, and gathering a list of contacts for homeowner's associations as a way to improve sustainability within housing developments.

10. Other Business

a. Discussion of Florida HB 1299 and HB 603 to Preempt Local Regulations of Single-Use Plastic Straws

A consensus was given to defer this topic until the next meeting.

11. Comments by Board Members

None

12. Comments by Staff

None

13. Adjournment

Hal Stern declared the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.