

GREEN IMPLEMENTATION ADVANCEMENT BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 18th, 2019
SWINTON OPERATION COMPLEX BOARD ROOM
9:00AM – 11:00AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hal Stern (attendance by phone)
Sandy Trento
Sarah Lucas
Susan Lebrun
Daniel Stepner

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Shaheen
Christina Hammond

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Ana Puszkina-Chevin, Sustainability Officer
Molly Daly, Sustainability Intern

GUESTS/OTHERS:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Sandy Trento at 9:06am.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Sandy Trento.

3. Approval of Agenda

Sarah Lucas made a motion to approve the agenda of July 18, 2019, seconded by Susan Lebrun. Said motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Sarah Lucas made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 20, 2019, seconded by Susan Lebrun. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comments

None

6. Old Business

a. Ordinances on Reducing Plastics in Delray Beach

The Town of Palm Beach passed Ordinance 24-2019 to prohibit expanded polystyrene containers and single use plastic bags within the corporate limits of the town, the first of

its kind in Palm Beach County. Staff used this ordinance to draft a memorandum to the City Manager's Office to request approving a similar ordinance. Ana Puszkin-Chevlin stated she also included language to address polystyrene packing peanuts which are a common source of litter on the streets and in waterways. In addition, the memorandum requests amending Delray Beach's Ordinance 10-19, which prohibits single use plastic straws, to include limitations on plastic stirrers, toothpicks and cutlery. Staff will update the Board on the progress of these ordinances.

Hal Stern (over the phone) inquired about exceptions to the prohibition on expanded polystyrene containers and single use plastic bags. Staff clarified that the exceptions included in this recommended ordinance is the same as the Town of Palm Beach. Hal Stern also stated that his priority in supporting these types of ordinances is to limit reliance on petroleum based single use plastics in the food industry.

Sarah Lucas said that she does not want to regulate every product, but is more focused on changing individual behavior. For example, how customers can "Opt-Out" and choose if they want to-go cutlery.

Ana Puszkin-Chevlin suggested to change the amendment to Ordinance 10-19 to prohibit petroleum based to-go cutlery and to require all to-go cutlery be provided upon request only. This amendment would both limit reliance on petroleum based single-use plastics and encourage behavior change. In addition, encouraging businesses to provide cutlery upon request it will likely save those businesses money.

Sarah made a motion to recommend the City amends Ordinance 10-19 to include a goal of eliminating single use cutlery, so that cutlery is only provided upon request and plant-based products be used when possible. Susan Lebrun seconded said motion and it was opened for discussion. An amendment was made by Susan Lebrun to remove "when possible" from the motion and said motion passed unanimously.

b. Green Business Certification Program

Board members did not have feedback on the Green Business Certification Program at the moment. Staff is going to work with the Downtown Development Authority and ask a few businesses for feedback on the program, so necessary revisions can be made. The Board gave consensus to revisit the program after staff gets feedback from these businesses.

c. HOA Outreach

Staff sent the letter to introduce the Green Board to homeowner associations that had email addresses listed. For the HOAs that did not have emails listed or had emails that are no longer active, Board members suggested to staff that the City send a letter to the HOA requesting the email address for future communication. A consensus was given for staff to send out Board meeting information through email to these HOAs in addition to community members who have signed up to be on a newsletter list at past events. Board

members suggested sending emails monthly with updates on current green initiatives and tips on how to be more sustainable in the community.

Susan Lebrun stated that there is an email list the City of Delray Beach uses for updates on the City Commission. Ana Puszkin-Chevlin said that she will discuss this with the new Public Information Officer to see if there is a way to engage the community through this email list as well.

d. Climate and Art Event

Ana Puszkin-Chevlin discussed event details and provided Board members with the most up to date schedule of events for the Climate and Art Festival. Daniel Stepner inquired if staff is able to work with the food vendor to utilize more environmentally friendly food container options for customers at the closing event. Ana Puszkin-Chevlin will work with the vendor to try and accomplish this. Staff is estimating that roughly \$6,000 will be spent on the Climate and Art Festival, which includes funds for a mural, venue fees, food, graphic design and promotional products.

e. Coastal Resilience Partnership – Community Vulnerability

Ana Puszkin-Chevlin provided updates on the Community Resilience Partnership and stated that information on their work has appeared in a couple of news articles recently. The Inter-Local Agreement between partners is being forwarded to attorneys for review and the scope of work for the Community Vulnerability Assessment should be completed by September.

7. New Business

a. Daylight Hour results

Molly Daly provided Board members with information on the annual Daylight Hour event which was held this year on June 21. This event asked participants to turn off overhead lighting and use sunlight at their workspace from noon to 1pm. At the City of Delray Beach, over 200 staff members participated and helped reduce 227 kWh of electricity. To boost participation, this year's event had a superhero theme. The City department that put the most effort into the event was selected as a winner for the "Department with the most SPIRIT" and was offered a pizza party. Winners were also selected for the two best photos.

Board members expressed their interest in expanding this event to include more businesses and organizations in town.

b. Sea Turtle Public Outreach

Ana Puszkin-Chevlin informed Board members that there will be an opportunity for them to attend a sea turtle nest excavation. APTIM is looking to engage local leaders to

become advocated and help get information out about sea turtle nesting season. City staff will send the information to Board members detailing the event once it is confirmed.

8. Comments by Board Members

Sarah Lucas asked which Board members are expected to be present to next month's meeting to ensure a quorum.

9. Comments by Staff

None

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sarah Lucas and seconded by Lisa Shaheen. Said motion passed unanimously and Sandy Trento declared the meeting adjourned at 10:31am.