

GREEN IMPLEMENTATION ADVANCEMENT BOARD (GIAB) MINUTES
THURSDAY, July 16th, 2021
REGULAR MEETING
9:00AM – 11:00AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hal Stern, Chairperson (Virtual)
Sarah Lucas, Vice-Chairperson
Christina Hammond
Susan Lebrun
Shaynaz Malleck

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Shaheen, Second Vice-Chairperson
Maren Graben

GUEST:

Nancy Chanin

STAFF PRESENT:

Kent Edwards, Sustainability Officer
Lawonda Warren, City Attorney's Office
Casey LaRosa, Sustainability Intern
Brian Ruscher, Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Lucas at 9:03am. Information was provided pursuant to Executive Orders 20-69 and 20-246 about holding Advisory Board meetings virtually.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by staff. Staff and guest introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Susan Lebrun to approve an amended agenda, moving item 7.b. to go right after Public Comments, as Brian Ruscher needed to leave the meeting early. Motion was seconded by Hal Stern and was passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Sarah Lucas stated that there were a few motions attributed to her in the minutes that as chairperson she could not have made. Susan Lebrun indicated she made those motions.

Hal Stern asked to amend the previous minutes on Item 7, stating that in the Recycling discussion it needs to reflect that presentations from SWA as well as Waste Management and other organizations that work with the business of recycling should be pursued.

Susan Lebrun made a motion to approve the minutes with the previously discussed amendments incorporated. Motion was seconded by Hal Stern and passed unanimously.

Susan Lebrun made a motion due to Mr. Sterns physical disability which disallows travel, that he be allowed to participate in today's meeting virtually. Said Motion was seconded by Shaynaz Malleck and was passed unanimously.

5. Public Comments

Nancy Chanin stated that she had to leave early.

6. Discussion of Monthly Staff Report

Tree Inventory: The agreement has been signed, and the selected vendor previously performed the Tree Canopy Assessment for Delray Beach. Also, the Urban Forest Management Plan goes hand in hand with the Tree Canopy Assessment to meet the 10,000 trees planted goal. Kent has entered the requisition request to New World.

Kent then stated the next step is to meet with the contractor then the contractor will start the 5-month process. There will be a public meeting to go over the draft document to be finalized by the City Commission. Money will be coming from the Office of Sustainability and Resilience (OSAR) budget from this year to complete the project. Both the Tree Inventory and the Urban Forest Management Plan will help us with future projects. This will help the tree planting contractor to see where the trees are to be located.

Kent mentioned that to get to the goal of 28%, we need to find ways to plant trees on private properties, because there is not enough room to plant sufficient trees on City Property to reach the canopy goal. The Urban Forest Management Plan is only going to address Trees on City property.

Tree Planting: The Request for Proposal (RFP) is going to be finalized soon. It has been sent over to the purchasing team and should be published in the near future.

EV Chargers We have the agreement for 6 chargers to be installed at Robert Miller Park, but the City Clerk's Office requires a wet ink signature instead of an electronic signature from FPL. We are looking into new places to have Rapid Chargers installed in Delray Beach, and a draft agreement is currently under review. The conversation continued about EV chargers and possible locations.

BioBlitz

Casey LaRosa talked about an event called BioBlitz where the event is to engage the community to go outside and document what type of plant or animal species they see using the iNaturalist app. The iNaturalist app is an app that you can take a picture of any plant or animal, and it will be able to tell you what it is right then and there. The BioBlitz event is going on all summer long coordinated by OSAR and the Parks and Rec Department. Working together they may be able to use that material to see what type of invasive species are in our area.

RISE Climate and Art Weekend

Kent Edwards stated we have identified a couple of venues to participate in the event and are looking for speakers to talk about environmental issues and tie into City projects such as the Tree Planting. The kickoff for this event is going to be at Pompey Park on September 30th. On Friday Oct 1 we are planning an event with Public Works at Veterans Park to highlight the seawall raising and stormwater improvement projects, along with King Tides.

FGBC Bronze Certification

Kent Edwards stated we received a response from the Florida Green Building Coalition, indicating the City obtained a bronze certification, and the knowledge we got from that process we use to reach out to other City Departments in the future.

Green Building Ordinance

Kent Edwards stated the second reading is August 10th and he is working on a presentation.

Boat Speed Zone Application

Kent stated that he received a response from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and they asked for some maps and rearrangement of the submittal. There are about 45 days left before the deadline.

7. Old Business

a. Solid Waste and Recycling

Hal Stern stated that in an early meeting from the Solid Waste Association SWA he requested that we get more of a presentation on how much weight is going into the waste inventory. He wants to know what neighborhoods are recycling and what neighborhoods are not recycling.

The conversation continued about Recycling but will go more in detail next meeting due to limited time

Kent Edwards stated that he will invite Waste Management and Neighborhood and Community Services to the next Green Board meeting.

b. Tree Sections of Land Development Regulations

Kent stated that the next meeting agenda will include copies of land regulations used by Development Services. Members should review the material to better understand and inform future recommendations.

Brian stated in the Land Development Regulations (LDR) in Article 4.6.16 is where you can see the base line of all the landscaping codes and regulations of land development. There is also Article 4.6.19 is where you can see more about trees for example relocating of trees, reduction of trees and the number of trees will also be in section 4.6.19 of tree preservation. He stated that there is going to be revision of some code sections and he encourages staff be present to go over codes and make recommendations for the future. The conversation continued regarding how the GIAB can gain a clear understanding of City tree regulations and regulatory processes.

Hal Stern stated that there are professional organizations that specialize in tree preservation that could help the GIAB in making future recommendations to City Staff and help City Staff gain knowledge about the topic. Hal Stern also stated that he will reach out to these organizations to help not only the Green Board but also the City Staff for the future.

The committee discussed its role related to tree protection, and tree trust fund. Kent suggested before making recommendations, that the next several meetings be used to look into the LDR in detail. Kent also stated that the relevant LDR sections can be sent to all members prior to the next meeting, and be on the agenda for the next GIAB Meeting.

c. Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Survey Results

Sarah Lucas stated that we were able to see this information in last meeting of all the results. This survey was super helpful to see how our city stands with Climate Issues.

Kent Edwards stated that more than half, or about 60% of respondents did not see Climate Change as a major issue.

8. New Business

a. Board Members Appointments

Sarah Lucas stated that Nancy Chanin will be a new board member taking over Susan Lebrun's spot on the Green Board.

Kent Edwards stated that Donohue will also be a new person on the GIAB, along with a Columbia University student. He mentioned he was not sure whether the virtual meeting policy would come into play.

b. Motion from June 17th, 2021, Meeting Regarding Tree Outreach Research

Kent Edwards stated that the Tree Inventory Project is going to be a great outreach event that also targets Tree Planting to help outreach project. In addition, the kickoff event for Climate and Art will entail tree planting outreach, so he hoped that these actions would be sufficient to address the tree outreach research motion.

c. GIAB Annual Report to City Commission

Sarah Lucas stated that she represented the GIAB at the City Commission meeting due to Hal not being able to attend. The feedback that the commission and Mayor gave back was good.

d. Bylaws for Green Implementation Advancement Board

Sarah Lucas stated that in the Bylaws document Article I, there is reference to Procedures adopted by the City Commission on March 25th and March 17th that she was not able to find in Legistar. Ms. Warren explained that these were regular actions taken by the City Commission governing their procedures. A discussion ensued regarding the language concerning quasi-judicial procedures, as the GIAB does not handle quasi-judicial hearings.

Motion was made by Shaynaz Malleck to cross out the quasi-judicial statement in the Bylaws and otherwise approve as circulated, seconded by Susan Lebrun, and passed unanimously.

9. Comments by Board Members

No comments by Board members

10. Comments by Staff

No comments by Staff

11. Adjournment

Susan Lebrun made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Said motion was seconded by Shaynaz Malleck and passed unanimously.