

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Videoconference Meeting Held Via Zoom
May 26th, 2020 - 6:15 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2020 through 5/2020					
	Members	Appt By	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Jason Liechty, Chair	IV	P	2	1
2	Elizabeth Adler, Vice Chair	M	P	2	1
3	Carol Tamburry	III	A	2	1
4	Carolann Mazza	III	P	3	0
5	Cushla Talbut	II	P	3	0
6	Douglas Meade	I	P	3	0
7	Enrique Vadiveloo	IV	P	2	1
8	Lawrence Clark	I	P	1	2
9	Muge Nurgun	II	P	3	0
10	Owen Cylke	C	P	3	0
11	Susan Wood	M	P	3	0

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Stephanie Wilk, Sustainability Specialist, Staff Liaison

Kimberly Pearson, Sustainability Coordinator

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works – Sustainability

Guests Present

None.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Wilk at 6:15 p.m. An announcement was made to explain the videoconferencing process. The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for February 24th, 2020 were introduced. Mr. Liechty noted a correction that Lawrence Clark was incorrectly labelled Vice Chair instead of Elizabeth Adler. With this correction, a motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Ms. Adler. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

Mr. Hadwen advised that the Communication submitted to the City Commission, drafted in the February Sustainability Advisory Board meeting, has yet to reach the Commission. He added that it is scheduled for review June 2, 2020 at the regular City Commission meeting. Mr. Hadwen reminded the Board that the Communication was seeking additional clarification and direction on the City Commission's request that the SAB provide a recommendation on water quality testing.

Presentations

Dr. Nancy Gassman presented on Water Quality Monitoring for Bacteria in Fort Lauderdale. She informed the Board of the different organizations who conduct water quality testing in the City and adjacent areas. She emphasized that the City of Fort Lauderdale waterways are impacted by pollutant sources from the other upstream municipalities. She shared sampling results from different organizations which showed that water bodies in Broward County are often impaired from non-point sources of fecal coliform bacteria. Dr. Gassman explained the difference between point source discharges, such as a sewer line break, and non-point discharges, such as stormwater runoff. Dr. Gassman outlined pros and cons of increased water quality testing. Lastly, Dr. Gassman outlined past and active actions that the City is doing to improve water quality in the waterways.

Question and answers segment ensued.

The full presentation is attached.

New Business

Review September Meeting Date Due to the Yom Kippur Holiday

Ms. Wilk suggested that the September 28, 2020 SAB meeting be moved to September 29, 2020 to avoid a conflict with the Yom Kippur Holiday. A motion was made to move the Monday, September 28, 2020 meeting to Tuesday, September 29, 2020 location pending by Mr. Meade and seconded by Ms. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

City Commission Request to Consider Environmental Water Quality Issues

Mr. Liechty asked staff if the Board could revise the Communication sent to the Commission because of the changes that have occurred since February in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Mr. Hadwen advised that it may too late to revise the Communication and keep the item on schedule for the June 2, 2020 meeting. The Board did not take any further action on this item.

Sustainability Issues Regarding Yacht Docking Waivers Behind NE 20th Ave

Ms. Wilk stated that she will re-send the emails describing sustainability concerns regarding yacht docking waivers to the Board. Mr. Hadwen informed the Board that originally the waiver application in question was supposed to go to Commission on April 7, 2020. Due to meeting cancellations as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, it never reached the Commission. Staff communicated with Andrew Cuba, Staff Liaison of the Marine Advisory Board, who explained the application has been removed from future agendas until the applicant meets with their Homeowners Association. Mr. Hadwen added that as of this time, the applicant has yet to meet with the Homeowners Association. Mr. Liechty suggested that this item remain on the agenda as old business so the Board may revisit.

Proposed Communications

None.

Comments

None.

Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Liechty reminded all that the SAB 2020 topics discussed in the February meeting were listed as the following:

- March and April: Water quality
- April, May and June: Carbon reduction goal and high-level strategies
- June and July: Reduction of single-use plastics/foam
- August and September: Stormwater management

He noted that the Board would have to update and change this schedule due to the cancellation of the March and April meetings.

The Board agreed to the following topics for the June 22, 2020 SAB agenda.

- Presentations
 - Proposed revisions to the Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance {Kimberly Pearson, City of Fort Lauderdale}
- Old Business
 - City Commission request to consider environmental water quality issues
 - Sustainability issues regarding yacht docking waivers behind NE 20th Avenue
- Proposed Communications
 - Response to City Commission regarding environmental water quality issues

Future presentations for consideration:

- Energy
- Heat Island Effect
- Lessons Learned and Trends From COVID-19
- Preview of Hot Topics Items of the Updated Sustainability Action Plan
- Cool Roof Ordinance
- Effects of COVID-19 City-wide: Energy, Water, Sanitation Data

Ms. Wood explored the idea of changing the Board's focus as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. She suggested that the Board examine the effects of COVID-19 and how it integrates with sustainability. Mr. Liechty agreed that there is a big public health linkage but questioned whether the Board should explore outside the environmental realm since there are other City Boards that focus on those specific areas such as health care.

Ms. Nurgun suggested that the Board investigate both positive and negative environmental impacts of the stay at home order. She asked if there is data available at this time. Dr. Gassman answered that it is a little early to tell but Mr. Hadwen would be able to share the effects on City Operations, such as a reduction in energy use and water consumption.

Ms. Mazza raised a concern that restaurants are encouraged to use disposable plastics to prevent spreading possible contaminants that may stick to re-usable items. She suggested that the Board keep an eye on this topic. Ms. Wood added that if single-use items must be used, then paper base and plant-based items should be promoted with both the manufacturers and business owners. Mr. Liechty suggested the Board add the effects of COVID-19 as a standing item on the agenda.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Adler and seconded by Mr. Meade to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.