

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Regular Meeting
May 23, 2022 – 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2022 through 12/2022					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Vacant Position	M	-	-	-
2	Douglas Brinkley	I	P	1	0
3	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
4	Kelly Charles	IV	P	4	0
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	4	0
6	Vacant Position	-	-	-	-
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	3	1
8	Carolann Mazza (at 6:08 p.m.)	III	P	3	1
9	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
10	Carol Tamburry, Vice Chair	III	P	4	0
11	Vacant Position	M	-	-	-

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Melissa Doyle, Program Manager, Solid Waste and Recycling
Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works
Carla Blair, Prototype, Inc.

Guests Present

Laura Tellez, Solar United Neighbors

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blattner at 6:00 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

Mr. Hadwen introduced Douglas Brinkley, new member to the Board, and the Chair invited new Board member Douglas Brinkley to introduce himself. Mr. Brinkley stated he had been a Fort Lauderdale resident for six (6) years and is an architect, LEED fellow, and works for the U.S. Department of State as their LEED Sustainability Coordinator.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A **motion** to approve the April 25, 2022, minutes as presented was made by Vice Chair Tamburry and seconded by Mr. Dutton. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

Landscape/Tree Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen stated the second reading of the Landscape/Tree Ordinance by the City Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7. He noted the City Attorney was working to finalize the language, which includes enhancements to tree protection and a mechanism to fund an Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Termite Education Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen reported the Board's communication related to termite education would also be presented at the Commission meeting on June 7.

Lawn Equipment Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen provided an update on the City's Noise Control Ordinance, explaining it that the amendment to the lawn equipment section had been adopted on second reading on March 2, 2022. He stated the Ordinance reduces back the allowed hours of operation for landscaping equipment to a beginning time of 8 a.m. instead of 7 a.m.

Carolann Mazza joined the meeting via Zoom at 6:08 p.m.

A **motion** to approve Carolann Mazza's virtual participation in the meeting was made by Vice Chair Tamburly and seconded by Ms. Charles. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Presentations

Advancing Solar in South Florida

Laura Tellez, Solar United Neighbors (SUN), shared a *PowerPoint* presentation regarding the Broward Solar Co-Op. She provided a brief history on the program and how it got started with the efforts of two (2) middle school students and their parents. She discussed the organization's impact on advocating for alternative energy in the U.S. and provided statistics related to solar installation across the country and in Florida. Continuing, Ms. Tellez reviewed the components of a solar system and its process. She shared economic data for solar in South Florida, sample cost information, and efforts to make solar energy accessible for all income levels. She reviewed the benefits offered by solar co-ops, education and support opportunities, and the process of installation through a co-op.

A question-and-answer segment ensued.

Presentation is attached.

LEED for Cities Introduction

Mr. Hadwen explained it had been his original intent to invite someone from the U.S. Green Building Council to give a presentation on LEED for Cities, but the City requires that speakers for Board meeting be in person which precluded that. He shared a *PowerPoint* presentation from the program, including an overview of the LEED for Cities and its efforts to apply the LEED for Buildings ideas toward communities. He provided a brief history on the program and its evolution. Continuing, Mr. Hadwen discussed the metrics for performance and explained the integrative process that looks at how governments are working to become more sustainable, equitable, and resilient. He noted the nine (9) areas in which credits are given through the program and stated the Board may want to further discuss some of the areas and their status in Fort Lauderdale in the future. He shared a map of registered and certified projects across the country and state highlighting that many cities in Florida have participated.

A question-and-answer segment ensued.

Presentation is attached.

Ms. Charles noted she had met an entrepreneur who works in sustainability in business and had designed an electric vehicle battery for General Motors. She suggested he be invited as a guest speaker. She noted the connection with the LEED for Cities discussion and electric vehicles. Mr. Hadwen stated it was up to the Board to select topics, and electric vehicles had previously been identified as a part of the City's efforts toward Net Zero.

Discussion ensued regarding restrictions on participation in Board meetings via Zoom.

New Business

Balloon Restrictions

Mr. Hadwen stated Ms. Charles had asked that the Board discuss restrictions on balloons. He noted Broward County's recent effort to restrict balloons and other single-use plastics. He noted there is a State Statute that prohibits the release of more than 10 balloons with lighter than air gasses.

Ms. Charles asked whether the City could have an Ordinance that was more prohibitive. Mr. Hadwen stated that would be a question for legal counsel as the state preempts City authority on several types of single use plastics. Discussion continued regarding potential preemptions.

Old Business

Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations

Mr. Hadwen reminded the Board there had been a speaker in March regarding electric vehicles and charging stations, and there was interest in learning more about what the City could do. He discussed potential expansion of programs related to electric vehicle charging, including integrating chargers into City parking lot improvements. He stated staff would be looking at the issue further under both LEED for Cities and Race to Zero initiatives.

The Board discussed the potential to discuss a master plan or mandate for charging in all City parking lots and the infrastructure needs to expand the number of chargers.

Mr. Hadwen stated he would speak to staff about making a presentation regarding the City's plans for expansion of electric vehicle charging stations.

Proposed Communication

Vice Chair Tamburri suggested a communication to ask the City to partner with SUN. She agreed to reach out to Ms. Tellez for input and to begin a draft.

Comments

None.

Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Hadwen called for any additional items for the next meeting. He stated he would have a report on the greenhouse gas inventory baseline in June or July.

Ms. Charles stated she would be in Europe for the next two (2) meetings and would log on by Zoom if that is an option. Discussion ensued regarding planned absences and canceling a meeting for summer break. Consensus was to discuss scheduling for July and December at the next meeting.

Ms. Charles asked that the LEED for Cities presentation be included in the next newsletter. Mr. Hadwen agreed to include it.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.