

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING 2024-04

Held on Wednesday, the 24th day of April 2024, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Public Works Department located at 1050 Malabar Road, SW, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a brief summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Logan Luse at 6:02 PM.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Logan Luse	Present
VICE CHAIRPERSON:	Kevin Smith	Present
MEMBER:	Rebecca Ziegler	Absent
MEMBER:	Jane Higgins	Present
MEMBER:	Susan B. Connolly	Present
MEMBER:	Susan Phillips-Hardison	Present
MEMBER:	Vacant	

CITY STAFF:

Christeen Sullivan, Assistant Public Works Director; Eric Blount, Public Works Physical Environment Operations Supervisor; Carrie Dwyer, Administrative Secretary; Ashley Hammond, Asset Management Specialist.

ADOPTON OF MINUTUES:

1. Meeting 2024-02; February 28, 2024.

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Connolly, to approve the minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. Meeting 2024-03; March 27, 2024.

Motion by Ms. Higgins, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Presentation -Reef Arches, Living Shorelines – Nicholas Bourdon, Hedrick Brothers Construction, Inc.

Mr. Bourdon discussed a project in collaboration with the Marine Resources Council to help protect 150 feet of shoreline and shell midden. He advised that after a few weeks of placing the reef arch structures, the natural sediment accretion forming in front of the beach could be seen. He stated that mangroves can grow thru structures, helping to create a biological nursery. He also mentioned that the design of the honeycomb shape prevented entrapment issues for the manatees. Mr. Bourdon reported that there was evidence of oysters growing on the structures. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session with members of the board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Hardin Lane Pond (Basin 13 Pond) Update

Mr. Luse reported on the Hardin Pond Planting event that was held on April 20th, stating that 300 plants were planted on the finger of the pond. He stated that there were approximately fifteen (15) to twenty (20) volunteers to include Utilities Department staff, Board Members, and friends. Ms. Dwyer presented pictures of the event. Mr. Smith commended City staff for a well-organized event. Mr. Blount stated that Mr. McCabe provided instruction on how to take care of the plants and a crew has been watering for the last couple of weeks.

2. Sustainability Fair 2024 Follow Up

Ms. Dwyer presented pictures of the Sustainability Fair that was held on April 13, 2024. Ms. Phillips-Hardison spoke about the turnout of vendors and their excitement of participating in the event. There was discussion on planning for the event next year

including location and venues. Planning for next year's event will be revisited at future meetings.

3. Native Garden Update

Ms. Sullivan shared that due to construction of the new building, the location or relocation of the garden had not been determined. Ms. Higgins requested to provide Florida Power and Light with the projected time frame. Ms. Sullivan agreed to provide an update on the anticipated time frame at the next meeting.

4. Nemo Garden Update

Mr. Blount enlightened the Board on the near-catastrophe event at the Nemo Garden. A resident informed Mr. Blount that someone had set fire to the garden on April 10, 2024. The Fire Department responded, blocked the area, put the fire out, and monitored the fire throughout the night. All man-made structures were removed and the well was capped. The Gopher Tortoises were safe from the fire. The pathway from the Melbourne-Tillman Canal has been blocked. There are no updates from the Police and Fire Departments as to suspects or arson. The fire was mainly in the wooded areas around the garden. The garden was not impacted.

5. Low Impact Development Update

Ms. Sullivan shared with the Board that the Public Works Operations Division and other staff held a meeting to discuss multiple low impact development projects. She advised that staff has been working on operational plans and budgeting strategies. After completion, an update will be provided to the Board.

Ms. Higgins requested to see the Low Impact Development Concepts for the new Building E.

Ms. Connolly requested that the Low Impact Development Ordinances be emailed to the Board.

6. Upcoming Meetings/Events of Interest (INFORMATIONAL).

Mr. Smith invited the Board to listen to the NPR podcast on April 25, 2024, at 6:45 A.M. and 8:45 A.M. to hear him speak about challenges in the recycling industry.

Ms. Higgins mentioned Turkey Creek Day was on Saturday, April 27, 2024, between 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.; and the 15th Annual Landscaping with Natives Tour was on October 26, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

Logan Luse, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Carrie Dwyer, Recorder