



**CITY OF COCONUT CREEK  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

**Government Center  
4800 West Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, FL 33063**

**Date: November 19, 2019  
Time: 4:00 p.m.  
Meeting No. 2019-1119**

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Irene Espinosa at 4:02 p.m.

**2. PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL**

Chair Irene Espinosa  
Vice Chair Dan Mackey  
Susi Glatt  
Jack Vesey  
Daniel Gallagher, Alternate (arrived 4:09 p.m.)

**Absent:** Doreen Chamberlain

Also present: Senior Planner Linda Whitman, Public Works Assistant Director Alexander Tergis, and Deputy City Clerk Marianne Bowers.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING(S). (2019-0917)

**MOTION:** Espinosa/Mackey – To approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2019, meeting.

**Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 4-0 vote, as the vote was taken prior to Mr. Gallagher's arrival.**

**4. UPDATES (OLD BUSINESS)**

**VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR**

Senior Planner Linda Whitman provided an update on the status of the latest installment of the Virtual Garden Tour video series. She noted that the video was not completed in time for the meeting and stated that she would email a link of the video to each board member individually. Vice Chair Mackey explained that the feature video was an example of a small garden created in memory of a friend.

In response to Mr. Vesey, Ms. Whitman explained that the videos for the Virtual Garden Tour were published quarterly with the assistance of the Community Relations Department, and that the Environmental Advisory Board would decide on the topics for

## **Environmental Advisory Board Minutes**

**November 19, 2019**

**Page 2**

each video. Discussion ensued with regard to Chair Espinosa's butterfly garden featured as a future video.

Discussion ensued with regard to topics for Virtual Garden Tour videos. Vice Chair Mackey spoke about bird attractor gardens, and Ms. Whitman asked the board to provide any additional ideas to her.

There was discussion with regard to a community garden in the City, and Ms. Whitman noted that the City would support an organization that had the land and resources to maintain a community garden. Discussion ensued regarding city grants for community gardens, and Ms. Whitman explained the City's Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program, noting that funding was available for Homeowners Associations to make enhancements to their communities. She noted that butterfly gardens were an eligible project through the program and stated that she could invite the Grants Manager to speak at the next meeting to discuss other eligible projects.

Ms. Whitman spoke about North Broward Preparatory School's participation in the Lexus Eco Challenge contest, commenting that the students developed a butterfly garden for this year's challenge. She advised that she would monitor the progress of the garden to see if it could be featured in the Virtual Garden Tour series. Mr. Vesey advised that he would contact Atlantic Technical College to see if they had any gardens that could be featured in the Virtual Garden Tour series.

### **NEW RECYCLING RULES**

Public Works Assistant Director Alex Tergis gave a brief introduction and provided information on the recycling program. He explained that there was an increase in the cost to process recyclable materials and a decrease in revenues for recyclables. He noted that there was a significant amount of contamination in those materials. Mr. Tergis explained that the City updated its recycling program in response to the changing market conditions and established the "Recycle Right" campaign to reeducate the public on the accepted materials for recycling, including cardboard, plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

Mr. Tergis noted that the education campaign began with the placement of labels on recycle bins, advertising on the website and magazines, and a survey about what is currently being recycled. There was discussion regarding different types of marketing materials for the campaign. There was further discussion regarding contaminated materials, and Mr. Tergis spoke about examples of contaminated materials.

Mr. Tergis advised that Broward County and multiple municipalities were working collaboratively to develop a regional solid waste and recycling system to address challenges associated with solid waste and recycling and advised that the City was part of the working group and technical group.

The board discussed ways to educate the public, including writing an article in *Coconut Creek Lifestyle Magazine* that provides information about waste-to-energy credits and the new city-wide recycling rules.

### **COMMUNITY GREEN BUSINESS INCENTIVES**

Ms. Whitman asked the board for ideas on developing incentives to encourage businesses to reduce the use of single-use plastics. Chair Espinosa suggested recognizing businesses who voluntarily participate in green initiatives as a green partner, as Ms. Whitman discussed ways to promote those businesses on social media and with a branded logo at their place of business. There was discussion with regard to creating an awards program for businesses that reach an established threshold for being green.

Mr. Vesey commended the City for its Green Plan and spoke about promoting the use of solar energy, highlighting the cost savings for commercial and residential uses. Ms. Whitman suggested that the board discuss solar energy initiatives for the upcoming year at their January 2020 meeting. She spoke about the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program and commented that staff could organize a lecture series to educate residents about solar opportunities. Mr. Vesey commented that the City had recently adopted a resolution in support of solar efforts and solar co-ops. He asked for the board's support in tracking solar energy accomplishment data for the City's Annual Green Plan Report. Ms. Whitman noted that she would include the discussion on the agenda for the January meeting. Chair Espinosa asked for an update on the cost of recycling for the next meeting. There was further discussion on the Green Plan, and Ms. Whitman commented that the solar energy initiative in the Green Plan monitors single-family homes. She noted that staff was working to revise the initiatives within the Green Plan to be consistent with current trends. She encouraged the board to review green plans of local municipalities to gather ideas for updating the City's plan. She discussed how the Green Plan has contributed to the City's green certifications.

*Ms. Glatt exited the meeting at 5:02 p.m.*

### **ART DISCUSSION**

Ms. Whitman spoke about the utility box wraps and showed examples of images that could be used for the utility box wraps. She noted that staff would use photographs of native species and wild flowers from around the City to highlight the City's nature-oriented character. She noted that the images would be sent to Broward County for approval. There was discussion about the conceptual photos, and Ms. Whitman advised that she would direct staff to include images of pollinators, flowers, and parks.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS**

Ms. Whitman advised that a resolution was approved at the November 14, 2019, City Commission Meeting that established a policy to promote a healthy environment with food access and food security for all. She informed the board that a representative from Food For All Broward – Urban Health Partnerships would make a presentation at the January 2020, meeting. She noted that the organization provided technical assistance and highlighted areas in the City's Green Plan where the policy could be incorporated. Discussion ensued with regard to initiatives to improve the community's access to food.

**7. SET DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date was set for January 21, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Transcribed by: Daphne Haynie

---

Leslie Wallace May, MMC, City Clerk

---

Date