



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

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

**Date: July 17, 2018  
Time: 4:00 p.m.**

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Delilah Harden at 4:05 p.m.

### **2. PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL**

Chair Delilah Harden  
Charles Coxon  
Susi Glatt  
Dan Mackey  
Michel Chamberlain, Alternate

Absent: Vice Chair Irene Espinosa

Also present: Assistant City Manager / Sustainable Development Director Sheila Rose, Senior Planner Linda Whitman, Media Production Specialist John Hartzell, Transportation and Stormwater Engineer Randall Blanchette, Senior Engineer Roger Veile, Engineer II Eileen Cabrera, and Deputy City Clerk Marianne Bowers.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Mackey asked that the minutes be amended under Agenda Item 8 to include the word "Federation" after National Wildlife and to clarify the name of the certification.

**MOTION:** Coxon/Chamberlain – To approve the Minutes of the May 15, 2018, meeting, as amended.

**The Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

### **4. UPDATES (OLD BUSINESS)**

#### **VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR**

Senior Planner Linda Whitman reported that Media Production Specialist John Hartzell had worked with Mr. Mackey to complete the first Virtual Garden Tour video for review and discussion by the Board. After watching the video, Mr. Hartzell discussed possible changes to the video with the Board. Mr. Mackey commented that for future videos they could record the scripted introduction and closing in each featured garden instead of using the same recordings for all the videos. Discussion ensued regarding an introductory text slide to explain the purpose of the garden tour series and to highlight

the featured garden theme for each video. The Board reviewed the video again and discussed the themes and timing of filming for the next video tours. The Board gave consensus to make the following changes to the virtual garden tour video and publish it to the website:

- Add a caption to the recorded introduction to include Mr. Mackey's name and Board name;
- Add a caption to the interview with Mona Johnston to include her name and location; and
- Title the published video "Urban Garden."

It was noted that the City Clerk Department would email the Board when the video was published.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **CLIMATE RESILIENCY**

Ms. Whitman explained that the discussion related to climate resiliency would be broken up by topic and noted that staff from the Utilities and Engineering Department would discuss resiliency related to flooding and flood plain elevations. Self-introductions were made by Senior Engineer Roger Veile, Engineer II Eileen Cabrera, and Transportation and Stormwater Engineer Randall Blanchette.

Mr. Veile explained the Insurance Community Rating System, noting that the system uses a range between one and ten, with one being the best rating. He stated that the City is rated as a seven, which equates to a 15 percent discount for homeowners insurance related to floods. He spoke about a recent public outreach campaign through the Flood Awareness Committee to educate the public on flooding issues. He explained several methods the City uses to reduce flooding issues after heavy rain events and noted that the City does not have areas where consistent flooding occurs. He explained that the City has ongoing staff training, including a certified flood plain manager, and engages community outreach efforts to educate the public on flooding. He spoke briefly about ways to address flooding resiliency, including raising building elevations; using berms, levies, flood walls, and canals; and using retention and detention basins during development. He noted that Broward County is responsible for issuing permits related to stormwater on commercial sites. He commented that the City collaborates with Broward County Emergency Management and participates in annual hurricane preparedness drills.

Ms. Cabrera spoke about engineering requirements related to development and construction. She explained that the City is in the Cocomar Water Control District, which provides the stormwater drainage calculations for each development site. She commented that the calculations are reviewed by the Engineering Department during the building permitting phase. She discussed recent changes to the water table maps, noting that Coconut Creek's water elevation had risen one and a half to two feet since the last update. Ms. Cabrera explained that one way to address changes in the water tables is to build at higher elevations. She discussed how the elevations are determined based on flood zone maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). She explained flood insurance requirements when building elevations are lower than the minimum requirement. She explained after heavy rain events, the roadways and parking

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lots are designed to flood to keep the water away from buildings and discussed site retention requirements.

Mr. Blanchette discussed drainage in the public right-of-way and commented that the Transportation and Stormwater Division is responsible for maintaining the stormwater systems, roadways, curbs, swales, and gutters to ensure that the roads are draining efficiently. He spoke about drainage in private communities, noting that the Homeowners Associations (HOA) are responsible for drainage issues within their communities. He discussed routine maintenance of the storm drains to clean out landscape debris, explaining that the debris clogs the drains and adds nutrients to the system that can lead to algae blooms and fish kill.

He discussed the drainage improvement project in the Winston Park area to keep foliage from going into the drainage system and spoke about the use of street sweepers to clean-up debris. He noted that it was important to report landscapers blowing debris into streets/canals to Code Enforcement. Mr. Blanchette discussed the frequency of maintenance and key areas that are addressed before and after storms. He explained the requirement for HOAs to have a Service Water Management License to maintain their stormwater system through Broward County. Discussion ensued regarding the Cocomar Water Control District lowering canals and canal bank maintenance.

Mr. Veile discussed the Interlocal Agreement among Broward County and nine municipalities to share the cost of the 100 Year Flood Elevation Map update. Ms. Whitman commented on the City's collaboration with Broward County to address climate resiliency efforts related to engineering and noted that, at the next meeting, they would discuss resiliency efforts from a planning perspective.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS**

It was noted that the next garden tour to be filmed would feature the Pollinator Garden with resident Heidi Thorman.

### **7. SET DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date was tentatively set for September 25, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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Marianne E. Bowers, Deputy City Clerk

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Date