TOWN OF DAVIE
AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 7, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Adrienne Kaltman, Chair	P
Dr. Philip Busey, Vice Chair	P
Ron Fore	P
Stephanie Munson	P
David Parrish	A
Cynthia Schaefer	P
Eric Swalley	P
Scott Weinstein	A

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT
Lise Bazinet, Planner II
Jamie Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.

Chair Kaltman called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – not addressed

2. ROLL CALL

3. MOTION TO EXCUSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS - none

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 January 7, 2016, meeting

Mr. Busey did not understand the corrections made to the July 2015 minutes.

The following corrections were made to the January 7, 2016, meeting minutes:

- p. 4, 3rd paragraph under 6.3, first line: "the Broward County Nature Center" should be "NatureScape"
- p. 5, 3rd paragraph from the bottom, lines 2-3: Mr. Busey said it did not make sense, and Ms. Bazinet said she would listen to the audio and rewrite the sentences.
- P. 5, 4th paragraph, "Jim Moore" should be "Jeff Moore"

Motion made by Mr. Swalley, seconded by Ms. Schaefer, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2016, meeting as corrected. In a voice vote, with Chair Parrish and Ms. Munson absent, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Busey asked that they have a vote to approve the agenda.

Mr. Busey suggested that they try to apportion a certain number of minutes per item (10 minutes per item under Old Business) and also add the Hobby Farm to the agenda. Ms. Bazinet suggested they add the Hobby Farm to Old Business. Acting Chair Kaltman said they need to discuss the GMO Resolution at this meeting, and it was recommended they start with that item.

A brief discussion ensued on which items to discuss and what order to follow.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Awards & Categories – No discussion

5.2 GMO Resolution Options - including Rachel Shapiro, Co-director of GMO Free Florida – deferred until later in the agenda

5.4 July Meeting Date Options – addressed out of order

Ms. Bazinet presented June 30, 2016, as a possible date to meet, since the other days have conflicts.

Motion made by Mr. Swalley, seconded by Mr. Busey, to meet on June 30, 2016. In a voice vote, with Chair Parrish and Ms. Munson absent, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Ms. Bazinet stated that she provided the motion on Hobby Farms to the Town Administration but they have not yet discussed it. Mr. Busey asked that the matter be kept on the agenda for future meetings.

5.2 GMO Resolution Options - including Rachel Shapiro, Co-director of GMO Free Florida – from earlier in the agenda

Ms. Shapiro introduced herself and said that the resolution supports mandatory labeling of genetically modified organisms in the Town. She distributed copies of the draft resolution for review, noting it is just a statement of support.

Mr. Busey pointed out several typographical errors in the draft. He also asked about the use of the word “organism” as opposed to “products” or “foods.” Ms. Shapiro clarified that GMO Free Florida uses the term “organism” as an umbrella term for all genetically modified products. “Genetically modified” and “genetically engineered” are used interchangeably by GMO Free Florida. Ms. Bazinet suggested using the same term consistently.

There was a discussion on whether the term “products” would cover all items under the resolution. Ms. Shapiro said “products” covers food, crops, and items made from those crops. She said synthetic medicines/hormones are not necessarily genetically engineered.

Mr. Busey expressed concern about genome therapies based upon experiments involving GMOs, and he thought the labeling of medicine would be restricted into not using those as research

tools. Ms. Shapiro questioned why labeling a product GMO would affect research or use. Mr. Busey favored focusing the labeling on food products, but Ms. Shapiro pointed out that some skin care products are transdermal. Acting Chair Kaltman said there are no legally acceptable terms – GMO, GEO, etc. She continued that GMO Florida is part of a national coalition of labeling organizations. On the federal level, they are asking for four words on the package: "Made with genetic engineering."

Ms. Shapiro pointed out that labeling does not impede trade or sale of products – it merely informs the consumer.

Ms. Bazinet stated she has copies of resolutions from Margate, Miami Beach, and Fort Lauderdale. Ms. Shapiro encouraged the Town to send a copy of their resolution to the Governor, House of Representatives and the Senate.

Acting Chair Kaltman noted that the Miami Beach and the Minneapolis resolutions are far more detailed, and she wondered if Davie should also include more detail.

Mr. Busey noted that genetically modified crops may harm endangered species such as the Monarch butterfly. Ms. Bazinet recalled that they had discussed including items in the resolution that were important to the Town and environment. Some genetically engineered crops that are grown locally are papaya, yellow squash, and zucchini. Ms. Shapiro explained the difference between hybridization and genetic engineering.

Mr. Swalley thought a distinction should be made between crops that are altered genetically to make them grow faster, and crops that are engineered to allow them to withstand poison. He noted that researchers say there has not been enough time to adequately study the effects, so he thought they should insert a comment about a time limit, such as "until scientifically proven." Ms. Schaefer favored keeping the resolution generic and not look into the future. Ms. Shapiro encouraged the Committee to steer away from "good versus bad" discussions. She reiterated that the discussion at hand is whether the products should be labeled or not.

In response to a question, Ms. Shapiro advised that BT is a pesticide that is genetically engineered into corn to kill the bugs that eat it. It is mostly used for animal feed, but humans then eat the animals. It has been found in mother's milk. Mr. Busey advised that BT is a killed bacterial that has a naturally occurring toxin that is harmful to larvae of some caterpillars. He thought it was a safer for the environment than synthetic pesticides, while still carrying some risk.

Ms. Shapiro mentioned that a piece of federal legislation called the Dark Act has passed the House, is in the Senate, and would pre-empt States' rights to label. She encouraged the proposed resolution to point to both the State legislature and the FDA if it is voted down. If the Dark Act passes, it will be a federal issue.

Ms. Shapiro advised that GMO Florida's "favorite" resolution was from Hallandale Beach, and secondly Fort Lauderdale.

Discussion ensued on which items to include in the resolution, based on Fort Lauderdale's resolution:

Motion made by Ms. Schaefer, seconded by Ms. Munson to approve the resolution inclusive of the modifications below:

- Page 1: "genetically engineered" instead of "genetically modified"
- Page 2, Section 1: Replace "Estate legislature" with "State legislature"
- Page 2, Section 2: Say "United States Senate" instead of "United States Senate for the State of Florida"
- Page 2, Section 2: Replace "City Clerk" with "Town Clerk"
- Change "Speaker of the State House" to "Speaker of the Florida House"
- Change references to food, crops, etc. to "products"

In a voice vote, with Chair Parrish absent, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

5.3 Electric Vehicles Code Amendment

Mr. Swalley pointed out that the percentage of charging stations on page one, (b)2, should be 4% not 25%. Ms. Bazinet said that usually the new developments are very small, and they cannot accommodate many chargers. Ms. Munson thought the developers should contribute a monetary amount toward an electric charging station fund if they do not install electric vehicle chargers.

Mr. Swalley foresaw about 50% of vehicles being electric in the future, and said the number of charging stations will not be enough. He thought the matter would become private, and innovations in charging would greatly reduce the need for charging stations. However, Ms. Munson mentioned that they need to address the issue as it occurs at this time. Ms. Bazinet also said that the Town Council is asking for chargers.

Ms. Bazinet noted that Fort Lauderdale has put charging stations at their City facilities, and Mr. Busey suggested that the Town of Davie follow suit. Mr. Swalley agreed that the Town should set the example.

Acting Chair Kaltman wondered what the Town could do to encourage private enterprise to meet the needs of the population now, and Ms. Munson stated it could be part of the Town's "green" requests.

Motion made by Ms. Munson, seconded by Ms. Schaefer, to approve the Amendment, amending it to say places with fewer than 25 parking spaces will contribute to stations in areas available to the public if they do not install any of their charging stations.

Mr. Swalley suggested they could pre-wire new developments for future stations. Mr. Busey thought that the time to install the stations is when a building or business is expanding, but he said he was conflicted between "too little, too late" as well as the question of who is going to pay for the electricity. Mr. Swalley recommended discussing the item at their next meeting.

In a roll call vote, the motion passed (4-2), with Mr. Swalley and Mr. Busey opposed, and Chair Parrish absent.

5.4 July Meeting Date Options

The next meeting will be held June 30, 2016.

6. NEW BUSINESS - None

7. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Batten's Farm
- Update on Motion regarding the Farm Park

8. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Ms. Bazinet reported that she gave the Hobby Farm procedure to the Town Administration, but they have not discussed it yet.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Shapiro thanked the Committee for their concern and attention.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

June 30, 2016
Date Approved

Adrienne Kallman
Chair/Committee Member