

**AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 4, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeremy Wehby, Chair	P
Eric Swalley, Vice Chair	P
Dr. Philip Busey	P
Adrienne Kaltman	P
Anthony Rodriguez	P
Cynthia Schaefer	P
Scott Weinstein	A

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT

Lise Bazinet, Planner II
Lorraine Robinson, Secretary

Chair Wehby called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
Roll was called and a quorum was established.
- 3. MOTION TO EXCUSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS – None.**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 January 10, 2019 meeting**

Motion made by Dr. Busey, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer, to approve the minutes. In a voice vote, with Mr. Weinstein absent, the motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

- 5. PRESENTATION**
 - 5.1 Presentation on Plastic Bags and Styrofoam**
Dr. Richard Dodge, Professor and Dean at Nova Southeastern University – Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography

Dr. Dodge was unable to attend and would be scheduled for another time.

Ms. Kaltman stated she would like to add it as an item to the next agenda and Chair Wehby agreed.

- 6. OLD BUSINESS Continued**
 - 6.1 Children's Educational Programs**
Jeffrey Pohlman, Parks & Recreational Director

Mr. Pohlman provided a brief overview of the many recreational programs and cultural events provided through Parks and Recreation.

There was a brief discussion on the installation of artificial turf fields installed one year ago and has increased programming and reduced cost of maintenance. Mr. Pohlman stated that due to the rock drainage base, the fields are playable after rain storms while natural grass fields are shut down. The estimated savings per year was \$800,000 with an 8-year warranty and a 10-12 year life span. The fields were to be maintained for 2 years by the installation company.

Dr. Busey asked how the cost of maintenance was determined. Mr. Pohlman stated that it was based on current cost spent on the grass fields being watered, sod replacement, mowed, and weed control.

Mr. Pohlman outlined the various recreational programs. Dr. Busey asked what was done to avoid Davie residents from being excluded. Mr. Pohlman stated that residents were offered reduced fees.

Chair Wehby said he would like to assist with a children's program for potting plants and trees. Mr. Pohlman welcomed that offer and said there were opportunities with teachable gardens. Dr. Busey asked if the future farm park would be managed under Parks and Recreation. Mr. Pohlman responded that planning the park was in development.

There was a brief discussion about Marando Farms. Ms. Schaefer stated they are challenged with infrastructure and in need of an irrigation system for the space that was donated by them for the community garden space. Chair Wehby commented that he may have a space for a community garden and the committee could discuss that in a future meeting.

Mr. Pohlman recommended that the committee decide on programs they would like to present to Council.

Resolution HR763 – The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019

Ms. Kaltman said she would like to present a resolution to the Town of Davie to adopt HR763 which was legislation introduced by Congressman Ted Deutch. She stated there was a guest invited to introduce it to the committee.

Jeff Dorian, Chapter Leader for Broward County Citizens Climate Lobby

Mr. Dorian gave a brief presentation of the legislation. The bill imposes a fee on the carbon content of fuels, including crude oil, natural gas, coal, or any other product derived from those fuels that will be used so as to emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The fee is imposed on the producers or importers of the fuels. The rate begins at \$15 in 2019, increases by \$10 each year, and is subject to further adjustments based on the progress in meeting specified reduction. The bill also imposes a specified fee on fluorinated greenhouse gases.

Mr. Dorian added that the best way to help is to have endorsements from businesses and civic organizations.

Mr. Rodriguez asked why this was called a fee versus a tax. Mr. Dorian responded that the bill was designed to incentivize people to use more sustainable measures.

Vice Chair Swalley asked if there were regulations on fracking emissions. Dr. Busey stated that carbon sources included fracking and that it was included in the bill.

Motion made by Ms. Kaltman, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer, requesting Town Council to pass a resolution to support HR763 The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, and to

include a copy of the resolution passed by Coconut Creek City Council as a sample. In a voice vote, with Mr. Weinstein absent, the motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

6.2 2019 Sustainability Awards

Ms. Bazinet stated that there have been (1) application received for this year's Sustainability Awards. The deadline is on June 28th, 2019. Chair Wehby asked if anyone could apply. Ms. Bazinet stated that Ms. Robinson recommended to change the application title from Nomination Form to Entry Form to make it clearer that anyone can apply.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Bazinet stated there are two proclamations at the April 17th, 2019 Town Council meeting for Arbor Day and Earth Day. She invited the committee to attend and receive the awards.

7.1 Goal Setting

Chair Wehby asked each member what each of their goals were:

- Ms. Schaeffer wants to have more community gardens and to engage the community in participating. In addition, having a plan for composting and soil building. She would like the banning of roundup and gas-powered leaf blowers.
- Vice Chair Swalley proposed hydrogen energy education. He was working on a third-generation solar collector for the green fair.
- Chair Wehby goal is to find alternative ways to use horse manure and lawn debris.
- Ms. Kaltman interests is with supporting solar energy programs with co-ops, workshop for residents and education.
- Dr. Busey wants to avoid duplicating efforts that the County has already done.

Chair Wehby asked the members to review their goals and come prepared at the next meeting on how they can put these goals into action.

Ms. Kaltman asked what happened with the recommendation for Waste Management to recycle manure. Ms. Bazinet responded that the recommendation was provided to Council. Ms. Schaeffer said she would go to Marando Farms and speak with them to be a drop-off site.

7.2 Lawn Replacements

Ms. Schaeffer said she provided the article on perennial peanuts as an alternative ground cover since it was drought resistance, can grow in full sun and hearty. Chair Wehby stated that jasmine minima is also a good alternative.

8. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Solar Presentation.
- Community Garden Update.
- Committee Goals Action Plan.

Motion made by Ms. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, for Robbins Park to have allotted space to be designated as a community garden with a minimum (2) boxes to be set aside for disadvantaged families as defined by Mr. Jeffrey Pohlman. In a voice vote, with Mr. Weinstein absent, the motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

9. **COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS**

10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – discussed earlier in meeting.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Date Approved:

7/11/19


Chair/Board Member