

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
 CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 3010 DESOTO BLVD.
 CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 @ 5:00 P.M.

- MINUTES -

MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	APPOINTED BY:
	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	17	
Ramesh Airan	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	Mayor Cason
Sharon Trbovich	P	E	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	A	E	Vice Mayor Quesada
Rhonda Anderson	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Lago
Roy Wasson	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Slesnick
Marlin Ebbert	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	E	P	E	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
Irela Bague	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	City Commission-As-A-Whole

A – Absent
 P – Present
 E – Excused
 (*) no meeting

STAFF:

Matthew Anderson, Sustainability Advisory Board Staff Liaison
 Tiffany Hood, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chairperson, Ray Airan called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

GUEST:

Jasper Brock
 Teddy L'houtellier

MOTIONS:

Roy made a motion to excuse Sharon from the March 22, 2017 meeting. Rhonda seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

March 22, 2017 SAB meeting minutes – Roy made a motion to approve the minutes. Enrique seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Rhonda made a motion to excuse Sharon and Irela from the meeting. Enrique seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2-year Term Appointments (Concluding May 31st)

Matt reminded board members about the upcoming 2 year term appointments which are concluding on May 31st. He stated that City Clerk's office informed him that it takes a month or two after the term appointments end for the new appointments to be implemented. Matt recommended reaching out and letting their appointers (City Manager/City Commissioners know if they wish to remain on the Board or if they wish to step down).

Ray asked for an update on the Prohibition of Single Use Plastic Bags. Matt updated the Board that at the March 9th City Commission Meeting the Ordinance on single use plastic bags received unanimous support on first reading from the City Commission and the Environmental Community. He mentioned that he is working with the City Manager's office, Economic Development and Mark Trowbridge from the CG Chamber of Commerce to get additional input from the business community and make modifications between first and second reading. Some of the anticipated changes include extending the education/phase in period from 180 days to 1 year, defining small events as 100 people or less, allowing for retail establishments to propose innovation programs that eliminate plastic bags, and issuing warning before citing. Staff presented to the Economic Development Board on April 5 and it received unanimous support. The ordinance will be going for second reading on May 9.

MEMBER'S REPORT:

Enrique: spoke with the Assistant City Manager Peter Iglesias about the concept of a glass solar roof for City Hall. He stated that he would like to get with Tesla for them to provide the City of Coral Gables with a demonstration project. He stated that he will continue to conduct research on solar roofs. He also stated that there are two bills that are going through the Florida Legislature that are in opposition to promoting solar roof installation to protect Florida homeowners from being abused by contractors.

Rhonda: mentioned to the Board that there was another bill to authorize FPL to charge consumers for an investment into fracking without concern of whether this is a viable investment or not.

Ray: mentioned that he is waiting to hear back from the City Manager to arrange the meeting to speak with the Assistant City Manager Peter Iglesias after the election, he wants a report from the Manager.

Roy: mentioned that he has seen the Florida Legislation work to protect homeowners from a case that took place over twenty years ago where homeowners were scammed into purchasing solar water heaters that were defective and the State of Florida won the case in favor of the homeowners. The House Bill seventeen (17) which would repeal previously passed laws and prevent cities, counties statewide from enacting any law that affected businesses, commerce, registration fees, licensing fees, paper, plastic and Styrofoam.

Green Means Green Awards at CG Hyatt Regency (April 27th 6-8pm)

Matt: updated the Board regarding staff doing research on possible recognition awards for all of the great work the City and the Sustainability Advisory Board is doing. The Chamber of Commerce has an annual award ceremony for recognizing businesses and individuals for environmental and sustainability. Matt stated that the City has applied for the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Green Means Green Awards this year although we did not win the award. He mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce is honoring Mayor Jim Cason; he is a green legacy award winner for all of his efforts in leading the City of Coral Gables in being sustainable and on sea-level rise at tomorrow night's award ceremony. Matt remarked that we also applied for the U.S. Mayor's City Livability Award which is solely focused on sustainability we are waiting for a response regarding this award.

Recap of Past Month's Events

University of Miami Green Fair:

Matt stated that UM had their annual Green Fair on April 21st from 10am - 3pm. David and Matt had a tent and was distributing sustainability and transportation information with attendees. We shared a table with the City of Miami Beach. He stated that there were between seven hundred (700) and eight hundred (800) students that passed by the tent. There was a lot of interest from students in doing a possible internship with the City.

2017 Electronic Recycling Events

Matt updated the Board of the success electronic recycling and household hazardous waste event which took place on Earth Day, Saturday April 22 from 9am-12pm in the City Hall Parking Lot. There were over two hundred and fifty (250) cars that attended the event. We have received several responses via emails and phone calls from the residents that expressed how ecstatic they are that the City of Coral Gables is able to provide this service. Last year we had several electronic recycling events in which we collect thirty-four thousand pounds (34,000) and this year at this event alone we collected over seventeen thousand (17,000) pounds. We partnered with the police department to offer sensitive document shredding as a part of the event as well. John Osgood coordinated household hazardous waste collection which was included in the event as well and we are still waiting on that report. The second event is scheduled to take place on November 18 which is the first Saturday after America Recycles Day (November 15). There is an additional opportunity to schedule one additional event during the summer if needed, however last year the summer proved to be the lowest turnout in terms of weight of material collected.

Baynanza Biscayne Bay Cleanup at Matheson Hammock Park

We have partnered with the City of Coral Gables Police Explorers for the past three years to clean up the park and we encourage residents in the community to come out as well. This year Matheson Hammock was selected as the VIP location for all the elected officials throughout Miami-Dade County. We also partnered with University of Miami on this event which we are waiting to receive pictures that were taken during the event.

Upcoming Events:

Arbor Day

There will be a celebration on Sevilla Avenue and Granada Blvd in which the children's program begins at 10:30am and the adult program begins at 11:00 am celebrating Arbor Day and the importance that trees play in our community. This event is put on by the City, the Garden Club and the Landscape Beautification Board.

LED Lighting

We are completing our LED lighting upgrades at our Public Works facility and have converted almost three hundred (300) fixtures to LED. We have gone from using one hundred and twenty-eight (128) watts per fixture down to fifty (50) watts. There are also motion sensors and dimmer switches installed to ensure efficiency. We are expecting to save six hundred dollars (600) dollars a month on lighting and receive a payback on this conversion within five (5) years. We started piloting upgrades at the Public Works facility and will be moving on to the Coral Gables War Memorial Youth Center, parking garages and also we will begin upgrades in City Hall.

ADJOURNED:

5:48pm