

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

ZOOM MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY:
	19	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
Martin Pinilla	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Gordan Fales	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*		P	P	Commissioner Fors
Rita Teutonico	*	E	E	E	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	Vice Mayor Lago
Greg Hamra	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	*	E	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*		P	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Irela Bague	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	City Commission-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	*	P	E	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	*	P	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	*	E	P	P	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	F.I.U. Representative

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

STAFF:

Matt Anderson, Senior Sustainability Analyst
Solanch Lopez, Administrative Assistant City Manager’s Office
Jeannette Reyes, P.W. Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairperson, Irela Bague called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

GUESTS:

Jasper Brock, CG Resident
Rhonda Anderson, CG Resident

Nicolas Eterovic, CG Resident
Rudford Hamon, Owner of Jelly Places
Addys Kuryla, FPL External Affairs Manager
Mariela Quintanilla, FPL Marketing Communications
Jennifer Schaffer, FPL Director of Development
Florencia Olivera, FPL Marketing Communications

MOTIONS:

***September 23, 2020 SAB meeting minutes* – Enrique made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Martin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Enrique made a motion to excuse Greg, Marlin & Monique; Gordon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Enrique made a motion to excuse Martin at the September 23, 2020 meeting, Gordon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

FPL Presentation on Solar Programs – Addys introduced Jennifer Schaffer, FPL Director of Development who is responsible for designing and deploying new and innovative renewable energy programs that meets the needs of customers while enabling the continued growth of a renewable generation in Florida. Jennifer’s most recent accomplishment the successful launch of the largest community Solar Program in the Country. Jennifer started the presentation with;

- *NextEra* which is the worlds #1 producer of renewable energy from the wind and sun.
- Operations or Development projects in 48 U.S. states and Canada.
- Goal to reduce CO2 emissions rate 67% by 2025, from a 2005 baseline.
- FPL at a glance – serves more than half of Florida, it is the largest utility in the U.S. by electricity sold.
- FPL typical residential bill is 30% lower than the national average (1,000 kWh).
- FPL is one of the cleanest electric utilities in America – Florida’s largest solar producer with 28 solar energy centers currently in operation (with 14 more coming online by 2021).
- By 2030, FPL plans to – install 30 million new solar panels, build 100-plus new solar energy centers and generate energy 67% cleaner than the 2005 U.S. electric company average.
- FPL’s solar projects create jobs and supports the local economy.
- Miami-Dade Solar Energy Center – 74.5 MW enough to power 15,000 homes with solar energy.
- FPL SolarTogether – the largest community solar program in the country.

- Battery integration helps improve the Predictability and reliability – of solar power.
- FPL SolarNow – inspires people to learn about solar energy.
- Miami-Dade County is a showcase for clean energy technologies (Amphitheater at Bayfront Park & Miami International Airport).
- FPL Evolution is bringing electric vehicles charging to their customers.
- EV charging stations in Miami-Dade County (Sunny Isles).

Q & A;

Teddy asked if West Dade is coupled with storage too?

- The answer is No.

Gordon asked what was the SW land used for before?

- The answer is that a lot of the land being used for the solar panels are abandon land/lots.

Martin asked if they are looking for similar used land sites?

- The answer is yes.

Irela asked if they are planning on doing more of the floating solar.

- The answer is it depends on the first stages of understanding how the floating solar works.

Rhonda's 1st question – is there fencing around these solar panel sites to protect people and the wildlife?

- The answer is they have provided a variety fencing mechanisms to keep people out and allow wildlife to get through, depending on the property and the building code for the area.

Rhonda's 2nd question – there are warehouse roof tops, parking garages etc., is FPL looking at utilizing some of those for the panels and what types of arrangements would you make with the building owners regarding liability?

- The answer is the biggest challenge they have right now is that the scale is not quite there yet to take them to the cost-effective space.

Nicholas asked if they have any plans on using interstate systems?

- The answer is there is a technology that they have toyed with and considered doing at Bayfront that is walkway solar (still in the works).

Updates on Ongoing City and SAB Initiatives –

- Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program – Solanch announced that they submitted and received their 1st grant under the Keep Coral Gables Beautiful program. It is a \$2,500 grant

from Waste Management that will help in offsetting some of the cost for the HHW Collection Events.

- International Coastal Cleanup Season (September 19th - October 31st) Solanch asked that the Board spread the word and shared pictures of a resident on his canoe picking up trash on the waterway.
 - Employee Waterway Cleanup (October 12) Solanch played a 40 second video of city employees cleaning the waterways.
- Community Discussion on Water and Water Quality- (Thursday November 5th at 5 pm): Matt reminded and encouraged all board members to attend the virtual discussion. FIU and Matt and Hermes will be presenting.
- Optimized Energy and Water Efficiency in City Facilities Projects – LED upgrades at the Merrick House have been completed, he asked that the Board drive by and see it. Venetian Pool and the Alhambra Water Tower are next.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events – (Saturday, November 14, 2020 9 am – 12 pm). We are anticipating a very large turnout.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Irela – the Chamber host a water workshop every year, this year they are focusing on Biscayne Recovery and Coastal Resilience.

Greg - Matt said that Greg requested everyone look at the energyinnovationact.org website and be familiar with it, to continue discussion at the next meeting.

Monique – Matt said that Monique requested that Matt forward to the Board the subject to sewer report that the county put out a few years ago, she wanted a copy of that and asked what the City was doing as far as working with the county.

Enrique - thanked Irela for arranging the FPL Solar Panel Presentation and he also thanked Solanch for her initiative in Keeping Coral Gables Beautiful and he thanked everyone who keeps the City going despite these trying times. Enrique is trying to understand the connection of credit for energy for reducing emissions.

Teddy - what he wants the city to understand about the Solar Together Program is if the City enters into an agreement, they keep the renewable energy credit.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

ADJOURNED: 6:38 pm.