

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
 CORAL GABLES CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – THEATER ROOM
 405 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
 CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016 @ 5:00 P.M.

- MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	APPOINTED BY:
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16	
Ramesh Airan	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Cason
Sharon Trbovich	-	A	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	E	P		Vice Mayor Quesada
Rhonda Anderson										P	P		Commissioner Lago
Roy Wasson	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Commissioner Slesnick
Marlin Ebbert	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E		Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	A	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	E		City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
Irela Bague	-		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		City Commission-As-A-Whole

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

STAFF:

Matthew Anderson, Sustainability Advisory Board Staff Liaison

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair person, Ray Airan called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

GUEST:

Luiz Rodrigues, Ecological Solutions - ECOMB
 Teddy Lhoutellier, University of Miami
 Rita Teutonico, Director, Strategic Research Initiatives with FIU

MOTIONS:

April 20, 2016 meeting minutes – Irela made a motion to approve the minutes, Sharon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The board made a motion to excuse Enrique and Marlin, the motion was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sharon made a motion to adopt Irela's short term and long term solutions to Coral Gables Plastic Bag Reduction Program for the City's Commission consideration, Roy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Matt asked the board members to sign the sheet acknowledging that they have received their Financial Disclosure Package and if they needed copies he had some available.

Coral Gables S.E.E. Green Committee & Green Means Green Awards – Mayor Cason, Matt, Irela, Sharon, and Jessica attended the Green Means Green Award ceremony on April 29th at the Hyatt Regency. It was a great event with over 100 people in attendance. The City was a finalist in the Green Business Non-Profit Category along with FIU and the University of Miami. The University of Miami ended up winning the category. Matt congratulated UM and stated that both UM and FIU have been amazing partners of the City's Sustainability and Sea Level Rise initiatives and appreciates their continued support.

Recap of the Previous Month's Events and Commission Meetings:

April 26, 2016 Commission Meeting: included a number of sustainability related items on the agenda, which included:

1. Earth Day Proclamation declaring April 22 as Earth Day in Coral Gables and highlighted all of the City's Sustainability Efforts.
2. The City unveiled the 20 new Electric Vehicles that have been added to the City's administrative fleet. Matt also mentioned that the majority of the Level 2 and Level 3 charging stations are up and running at City Hall and in the Parking Garages. The City has created a website under Sustainability at www.coralgables.com/electricvehicles with all the information on the locations of the charging stations, where to go to sign up for an account to be able to use the charging stations, etc.
3. The LEED Ordinance was passed on second reading that requires all new public buildings and private buildings over 20,000 square feet to be built to LEED Silver or equivalent
4. The City also passed an ordinance exercising home rule when it comes to the Ban on Expanded Polystyrene to ensure that it is not preempted and that it remains enforceable.
5. The Commission also had a discussion on what to do about plastic bags with the existing state preemption in place. The City Attorney provided his input and advised that if we tried to challenge the preemption we would likely not be successful. The Commission has requested that the Sustainability Advisory Board come up with recommendations on how to deal with plastic bags that do not violate the regulations established by the State (please see the list of short and long term recommendations outlined on the next page).

May 24 Commission Meeting: The City passed on second reading a green procurement policy where the City provides an opportunity for a responsive and responsible bidder or proposer supplying environmentally preferred good or services, which within 5% of the bid to match the lowest responsive and responsible bidder's bid. It also requires those city departments, whenever practicable, or when specific procurement guidelines have been developed, to designate environmentally preferable products or services when procuring products or general

services from vendors and contractors. In addition, it shall require outside vendors and contractors to use environmentally preferable products or services in the performance of services to the city.

Electronic Recycling Events

Matt reminded everyone that next Electronic Recycling Event is scheduled for July 15, in the City Hall Parking Lot. The last Electronic Recycling event held on April 29th was a big success. We were able to collect 8,000lbs of electronic waste. Thank you to everyone from the board that came out to help with the event. Coral Gables TV did a great job covering the event. Please visit www.coralgables.com/electronicrecycling to view the video. So far during the two events we have collected over 18,000lbs of Electronic Waste and we want to continue building on that success.

Earth Day at the Coral Gables Congregation Church

Matt and Roy both had a table at the Coral Gables Congregational Church for their Earth Day celebration on April 24th. Matt talked and provided information about all of the City's Sustainability efforts.

Prescription Drug Drop Off

Prescription Drugs drop off bin is up and running at the Police Station. It's a 24-hour 7 days a week service, all you have to do stop by and drop it in the bin.

April 26, 2016 Commission Meeting (Plastic Bags) – the City's Commission asked that the Sustainability Advisory Board look into the issue of the State not taking action since 2010 on banning plastic bags and come up with recommendations. Irela did some research and came up with some recommendations to share with the Board:

1 Short Term Solutions

- a. Resolution urging the State to take action on the recommendations provided by the Florida DEP in 2010.
- b. Participate in the July 3, 2016 International Bag Day
- c. Find a sponsor to provide recyclable/reusable bags giveaways at city locations and at events

2 Long Term Solutions

- a. Work with the Chamber and BID to create a pledge campaign to institute a voluntary program where businesses can take a pledge and incentivize customers to bring their own bag.
- b. Schedule recyclable bags giveaways and incorporate them in City events that are already scheduled.
- c. Meet with Publix, have them provide cloth bags for a Coral Gables bag giveaway days and discuss providing incentives to customers who bring their own bags.

Rhonda suggested giving the consumer the option of, with the purchase of a bag a portion of the proceeds will to go to a charity of your choice.

Chairperson and SAB Member Reports

Rhonda asked about the salt water bloom issues with FPL and if anything is being done about it. Irela said she will forward to Rhonda the discussion documents on the issue but that it is a Miami Dade County, DEP, at the State level and FPL issue at this point.

Sharon asked why is there no recycling at the Biltmore Hotel. Matt said he would talk to John Osgood to look into and find out.

Luiz stated that they have a lot of information on their web-site ecomb.org that is relevant to the City or Coral Gables and all County residents. Sharon said the bad thing about web-site is that a lot of older people do not use computers. Luiz suggested going on their web-site and whatever information is helpful and relevant to the City use it to have it printed on the City's News Letter.

Irela suggested having a Recycling 101 Workshop with Waste Management and the City's Solid Waste Department to provide an educational meeting with the residents. The group agreed and Matt will coordinate with John Osgood about having it sometime in the fall.

Sharon asked if the metal roofs presentation of the April meeting was presented to anyone else other than the board, because she is not fond of the ones that were presented. Ray said that the commission is looking for aesthetics and when it comes to metal roofs the commission wants something that looks like clay tiles to keep the look of other homes. Ray said currently, the board is seeking additional vendors who provide metal roofs products.

Matt, Teddy and John Osgood met to discuss the feasibility of large scale composting. They will continue to research and provide periodic updates to the board.

ADJOURNED:

6:44 pm