

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016 @ 5:00 P.M.

- MINUTES -

<b>MEMBERS</b>	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	
Ramesh Airan					P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Cason
Sharon					-	A	P	P	E	E	P	P	Vice Mayor Quesada
Trbovich													
Meg Daly					A	P	P	E	P	E	E	A	Commissioner Lago
Roy Wasson					P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Slesnick
Marlin Ebbert					P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal					A	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
Irela Bague					-		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:**

Rhonda Anderson, Coral Gables Resident  
 Daniel Irwin, Oceanography and Ecology - Coastal Systems International  
 Jasper Brock, Coral Gables Resident  
 Rita Teutonico, FIU – Assistant Vice President for Research Initiatives

**MOTIONS:**

**Sharon said she will investigate Shred-It (a shredding paper documents company) at the last meeting and it was not added to the minutes. Matt said he would add it.**

**January 27, 2016 meeting minutes - Marlin made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections, Enrique seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Irela made a motion to request that the City Manager do an inventory of the City properties where recycling bins can be placed alongside the trash bins, Marlin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Sharon made a motion to move the Wednesday, April 27, 2016 meeting to a week prior Wednesday, April 20, 2016, Irela seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Sharon stated that when the City attorney made the presentation in reference to the sunshine law he clearly said not to reply all. Jeannette sent an e-mail and asked that the board reply all to confirm attendance. While confirming meeting attendance would not violate the sunshine law, Matt said he would prefer everyone to just reply directly to him. This situation was unique because Jeannette was going to be out all week and if they would have replied to her he would not have seen their confirmation to the meeting and Matt also did not want everyone to get a number of emails confirming other member's attendance.

Enrique sent two messages to Matt and he never received confirmation that the e-mails were received or forwarded as he requested. Matt said he forwarded the second email providing the metal roof vendor information and will forward again to Enrique after the meeting. In the first e-mail Enrique gave a description of the metal roof samples and his conversation with Ramon Trias and at the end of the email indicated his opinion on the metal roof products and how he would vote. Matt was apprehensive about forwarding it to the board believing it could possible down the road violate the sunshine law and wanted to wait until this meeting to discuss. Matt apologized to Enrique for not communicating back to Enrique about his apprehension.

Matt reminded the board that if it plans on having any special meetings, such as planning the Electronic Recycling/Earth Day Event, the minimum notice required to the City Clerk's office is 48 hours but the preference is as far in advance as possible.

Ray asked if the letter to the Mayor of Miami was mailed out. Roy passed out a draft letter of proclamation for the board to review and agree on.

Ray said as Chair of the Board he gives thanks and appreciates the board members support, especially Matt and the guest participants on the great job they are doing. Ray stated, the word out is that the Sustainability Advisory Board is working hard and doing a great job.

Matt will reach out to the metal roof vendor and confirm that they are available to present at the next March 23, 2016 meeting. Matt will keep everyone up to date with the status.

Matt – the SEE Green Committee through the Chamber of Commerce is still planning their annual Green means Green Awards, where they recognize businesses, individuals and local leaders in environmental sustainability. The awards are scheduled for April 29, 2016 at the

Hyatt Regency Hotel. Irela asked if the Chamber Awards event was still allowing for table top displays, Matt will ask Betty. Both Sharon and Irela said they would volunteer if needed. Matt will let Betty know.

At the monthly meeting Tiffany Troxler from FIU presented what the Sea Level Rise Solutions Center at FIU does. Matt will be partnering with Tony Newell chairperson of the SEE Green Committee to present at the MAPI Conference on Friday March 11, 2016 at the Biltmore. They will be discussing the City's Sustainability Initiatives and communicating those to the businesses.

**Sea Level Rise discussion** Jasper said that the Mayor stated he thought it was a well-attended event, the last time something similar was done only 3 people were present. Jasper said the topic of conversation was on banks that will no longer give out 30 year mortgages because they're not sure the building will still be there in 30 yrs., and insurance rates going up to cover the cost of higher water because salt is coming in to the water tables. Rather than the water coming over the beach and into the communities it's the water that's not coming in through the Everglades and filling the aquafer, therefore sea water seeping under Coral Gables and into the water tables.

Matt said part two is scheduled for March 8, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Coral Gables Museum, covering public policies implications and Dr. Ryan Stoa from FIU will be presenting. The third one will be on April 13, 2016 also @ 6:00 p.m. at the Coral Gables Museum and the students from FIU Sea Level Rise Solutions will be presenting the projects they have been working on.

Matt added that the City has created a Sea Level Rise informational page on their website under Sustainability. [www.coralgables.com/sustainability](http://www.coralgables.com/sustainability)

\*\*Irela said the reason people have a hard time wrapping their heads around sea level rise is because it's so far away, but it really is not. There will be an increase in flooding because of the full moon, carbon is in the atmosphere heating everything up, but no one wants to talk about global warming only sea level rise but it's all connected. Everything that can be done to lower emissions is a step to a better future, it does not mean bad things are not going to happen; people will still need to adapt.

\*\*April 1, 2016 Irela will be hosting a conference called Sea Level Rise Emission at the Chamber of Commerce; invites should be ready by next week. Irela will forward an e-mail to Matt with all the information and Matt will forward it to the board. The whole point is that the Chamber of Commerce has been a leader educating people for 4 years on this particular issue.

\*\*Irela gave the City credit for having the Coral Gables T.V. attend the Chamber of Commerce conference; they will be recording and videotaping everything. They will have cd available and it will be online as well.

*The February 9, 2016 and the February 23, 2016 commission meeting update* - The expanded polystyrene ban, was passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading on February 9, 2016. The educational period will be

ongoing and enforcement will be starting with warnings on August 9, 2016 and full enforcement beginning on January 1, 2017. On February 23, 2016 the Commission passed, on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading a Waterways Advisory Board to cover topics related to the waterways and canals such as public safety, maintenance, and sea level rise.

*Town Hall meetings:* Matt presented at Commissioner Lago's Town Hall meeting on Sustainability and covered topics like increased recycling, Polystyrene ban, Sustainability Master Plan, etc. Other issues that were discussed were Miracle Mile Streetscape, Public Safety, traffic, and more.

*Town Hall Meeting:* Commissioner Slesnick's Town Hall meeting, Sharon said the meeting dealt mainly with over building and traffic.

Marlin said other cities are doing recycling better than Coral Gables. Marlin said she was in Atlanta last week at their new aquarium and she said it was obvious that there were choices, whereas Coral Gables has everything going all in together. Irela said it's a matter of policy and why doesn't the city have this in city buildings. Matt said he is working on Capitol Improvement Budget request to put the recycling bins throughout the city and in city parks.

Ray said he attended a neighborhood meeting that was mainly about crime and the police department, during the process Chief Hudak offered a tip and Ray thought it was good. He said when a product is purchased and the box is thrown away, the thieves know what you've purchased. The Chief suggested not only breaking the box down but recycle it, everyone started clapping.

#### *RECYCLING:*

Irela asked the chair if it would be wise to make a recommendation to the Commission asking if they can add recycling bins to their budget, ask that they do an inventory of city properties, see where they would need to place some and how many they would need to purchase and incorporate recycling bins

Enrique mentioned at the last meeting that Waste Management had some recycling signs that were old; Waste Management went out and covered up the old signs with very small, not too visible signs advising no cardboards allowed. Enrique said they destroyed every concept of what is allowed. Matt will follow up with WM to get proper signage for Enrique's building.

#### *EARTH DAY EVENT:*

Matt is working with the special events committee on submitting the application for the electronic recycling event on April 23; he will be submitting applications for the remaining 2 events as well, for the rest of the year. Matt spoke with Mr. Kaye on identifying dates for the rest of the year. Mr. Kay confirmed for April 23, 2016, Matt is currently looking into June or July for another event day. Matt is in contact with Mr. Kay to see if Saturday, November 12, 2016 is a good day for him, which is right before Americas Recycle Day.

*FARMERS MARKET:*

Matt sent out a request to see every ones availability February 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. He received a response from Sharon and Ruth. Ruth selected the 26<sup>th</sup> and Sharon said any morning. Matt and Jessica will be at the March 26<sup>th</sup> event therefore if any of the board members want to split the times on that day they can.

*BIKE DAY:*

Coral Gables Bike Day is this Sunday, February 27, 2016 Matt is encouraging everyone to attend. The event will start in front of City Hall, and it is organized by Bike Walk Coral Gables. The Transportation/Sustainability will have a booth set up from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

*BIKE TO WORK DAY:*

A City organized event, organized by Matt it will take place at the Coral Gables Museum it will be on Friday, March 4, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in the patio area. Matt encourages anyone who works in the downtown area to bike to work that day and go by the Coral Gables Museum they will be giving away T-shirts to the first 20 people that show up, the Transportation/Sustainability will have a booth set up; they will be serving breakfast and providing information to attendees.

*CHAIR PERSON & SAB MEMBER REPORTS:*

Enrique – is currently working with Jessica and Public Works Department on a project sponsored by Commissioner Vince Lago and the City Manager and is in the process of submitting an RFP for conversion to LED lighting. Enrique also followed up on metal roofs since the last meeting; he went to Bill Minors office to see the samples Ray requested. Enrique was very impressed with the samples and contacted the vendor who is based out of South Florida and asked if he would make a presentation in front of the Sustainability Advisory Board. Matt will call the vendor tomorrow morning to see if he is available for Wednesday, March 23, 2016.

Roy – exciting times ahead for electric vehicles said Roy. Starting in March the Tesla model 3 will be unveiled around the same time as the Chevrolet Bolt. Matt stated the City has purchased and added 20 electric vehicles to their fleet. Steve the Fleet Director and Kevin the Parking Director are currently looking into charging stations as well.

Irela – \*\*see the Chamber of Commerce discussion reported earlier.

*SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN:*

Matt presented to all of the directors and assistant directors and everyone is in agreement, they are also working on the Cities strategic plan for the next three years. Sustainability has been incorporated into the Cities strategic plan; currently they are waiting for it to be approved to add it to the Sustainability Master Plan.

Ray – stated that at the Town Hall meeting with Commissioner Slesnick Sharon told him the Economic Development Director wanted to attend one of the SAB meetings. Ray invited him to the November 17, 2015 meeting and he never followed up on it. Yesterday at the commission meeting Ray approached him again and he was none comital. Ray said it is a public meeting and anyone that wants to attend can. Ray said after the metal roofs projects he will be working on court yard projects and then on open parks to come up with something education for students.

*NEW BUSINESS:*

Matt also wanted to mention to the board that he, Jessica and P.W. Utilities Director Jorge Acevedo met with County's new Climate Resilience Officer, Jim Murley to keep increase communication with the County on climate change and sea level rise and explore future partnership opportunities.

Matt also mentioned that the City is participating in a Climate Resilience Dialogue through the White House. CG is one of 5 cities from around the Country that is participating. The goal of the dialogue is to help share resources to help with climate adaptation and mitigation.

**ADJOURNED:** 6:51 pm