# ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

**TO:** Mayor and City Commissioners

**FROM:** Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

CHAIR: Ram Tewari
VICE CHAIR: Carlos Marcos

**REPORTING TERM:** August 2022 through May 2023

**DATE:** May 2, 2023

### **HISTORY / OVERVIEW**

The Environmental Advisory Board is proud to submit our annual report for review to the City Commission. The report is required to be submitted per Section 32.011 of the City's Code of Ordinances.

On November 28, 1990, the City Commission approved Ordinance 941, thus creating the Landscape Advisory Board. At the time of creation, the Board consisted of 5 members which served in an advisory capacity to the City Commission regarding landscaping. On February 15, 2017, the City Commission approved Ordinance 1869, restructuring the Landscape Advisory Board (LAB) into the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). This restructure has broadened the Board's duties and responsibilities from landscape and aesthetics toward environmental protection and conservation.

The role of the Environmental Advisory Board is to provide constructive advice and counsel to the City Commission, with a broad outlook toward environmental protection and conservation to the City Commission as well as recommendations on the adoption, prioritization and implementation of initiatives, actions, policies, and public outreach and education programs to support and promote all aspects of sustainability and/or going green.

Per Section 32.101, the Environmental Advisory Board shall consist of 11 regular members and 1 alternate. Six members are required for quorum. In previous years, the board struggled to obtain quorum due to lack of membership; however, 3 new members were appointed in the last year bringing the board membership to 10 with 2 vacancies (1 – District 2, 1 – District 3).

With the addition of three board members, quorum was able to be obtained at all meetings. The Board met the following months:

- August 2022
- September 2022
- November 2022
- December 2023
- February 2023 (No meeting, the Board participated in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Workshop)
- March 2023
- April 2023 (Regular Meeting and City Commission Attendance)
- May 2023

City staff continues to provide the EAB with monthly liaison reports that inform members of landscape inspections, tree removals, new landscaping throughout the city, and updates on new projects with significant environmental impact. The Board also continues to receive legislative environmental updates related to our areas of focus.

#### **EAB ACKNOWLEDGES**

The EAB would like to acknowledge the guest speakers / public that attended meetings this year:

- September 6, 2022 Assistant Utility Director Paul Thompson, who discussed the wastewater treatment process.
- March 7, 2023 Commissioner Tom Good, who generally discussed the current state of waste disposal in the city.

The EAB also acknowledges recent environmental / sustainable efforts of the City:

- The implementation of the Citywide ERP / electronic permitting system which significantly reduces paper usage within the city and fuel consumption due to reduced trips to City Hall.
- The continuing expansion of the Wastewater bio solids program.
- Purchasing department's continued exploration of EV vehicle opportunities within the city.
- The city continues to support the partnership with Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to encourage a connection between greenways and public transportation to enhance the natural environment.
- The creation of master planning documents such as the Transportation Master Plan and Parks Master plan.
- The City's practice of obtaining outside energy audits and work programs for city facilities.

# **EAB ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The Board continued to focus on the Green Plan update over the last year. The update culminated with the adoption of the plan by City Commission at the April 4, 2023 Commission meeting. The Board's main task during the update was the following:

- 1. Evaluate the original goals and objectives from the Green Plan.
- 2. Review the Citywide accomplishments and changes in policies made since the implementation of the original Green Plan.
- 3. Recommend new goals and objectives within the Green Plan update to meet future environmental needs.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The EAB recommends the following actions which were passed unanimously to the City Commission for their consideration:

- The encouragement of the City Commission to consider waste disposal options that include recycling and environmental benefits in addition to the economical aspect.
- The city to hire a Sustainability Coordinator with the responsibility of implementing and achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the City's Green Plan.
- The creation of a citywide sustainability (strategic / action) plan for the City.
- The EAB supports the Interlocal Agreement for a regional biosolids study, to expand the current wastewater biosolids program and look for safe ways in which producing high quality biosolids can be sold or distributed to farms, businesses or the general public to be used as fertilizer.
- The city to explore partnerships with FPL or other EV providers to provide EV charging stations at City facilities and parks.
- The city to purchase EV or hybrid vehicles, where determined feasible. The city to also encourage or require certain city contractors to utilize EV vehicles.
- The city to continue to explore the purchasing of vacant land to preserve as open space and/or wetlands.

In addition to the recommendations above, the board also supports commission in their actions regarding the following commission items:

- 23-0231: Potential agreement with FPL to convert FPL owned and maintained poles within the City to LED fixtures.
- 23-0161: ILA for regional biosolids study
- RLI AD-22-04: Disposal of Solid Waste
- 22-0925: Replacement of drinking water fountains at various Charter Schools.

- 22-0726: Exploration of the potential opportunity to purchase the Borluv and Neighboring parcels for preservation as wetland, open space or park use.
- 22-0622: Agreement with Energy Resources Integration, LLC to review annual energy saving project measurement and verification reports.

### CONCLUSION

In the coming Board year, the board is aiming to prioritize a list of topics to further explore in order to provide insightful feedback to the Commission. In addition, the Board supports Plans and Policies adopted by the City Commission that enhance quality of life, promote responsible growth and are committed to conserving our natural resources. The Board's desire is to support the City and City Commissions to create a livable home for residents and future generations that will create prosperity for all following sustainable development.

The board welcomes your feedback and asks that you provide suggestions to any topics that you would like explored. Thank you for allowing us to serve the City of Pembroke Pines.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

EAB Minutes August 2022 – April 2023 EAB Attendance Log August 2022 – May 2023

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

August 2, 2022

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, August 2, 2022, in The Frank Art Gallery.

**Present:** Chair Tewari; Vice Chair Marcos; Members Smith, Rimarachin, Naigur, Tripathi, and Johnson

**Absent:** Member Cordova

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needelman, and Board Secretary Nadia Ally

#### **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:**

Member Marcos, seconded by Member Tripathi, nominated Member Tewari to serve as Chair. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Tewari, seconded by Member Tripathi, nominated Member Marcos as Vice Chair. The vote was unanimous.

#### MINUTES:

On a motion by Vice Chair Marcos, seconded by Member Naigur, to approve the February 1, 2022, March 1, 2022, and April 5, 2022, and June 7, 2022 meeting minutes as presented, passed unanimously.

# **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Williams reviewed landscape information for June and July 2022 including new developments, landscape upgrades, mitigation projects, tree removal permits, landscape permits, and new projects with sustainability elements.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Yaciuk discussed chapters 1-3 of the proposed Green Plan. Comments made by Member Naigur were distributed to the board members for review. Liaison

Yaciuk went over the appendix, intro to chapter, and goals and recommendations format. November will be the final vote for the Green Plan update.

Chair Tewari asked members to respond, even if they do not have comments, stating that they have reviewed the plan. Liaison Yaciuk reviewed the Green Plan final steps.

Liaison Yaciuk announced that at the September meeting, Paul Thompson, the Assistant Utility Director, will be a guest speaker. Chair Tewari advised members to visit the utility department link on the city website to get familiar and send in questions they may have.

Liaison Yaciuk reviewed the meeting calendar. Member Naigur asked if meetings could be held in January and July. Liaison Yaciuk said he would look into it.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There was none.

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

On a motion by Vice Chair Marcos, seconded by Member Naigur, to excuse the absences of Members Cordova and Naigur from the March 1, 2022 meeting, Members Tripathi and Johnson from the April 5, 2022 meeting, Members Naigur, Tripathi, and Johnson from the June 7, 2022 meeting, and Member Cordova from the August 2, 2022 meeting, passed unanimously.

#### REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

There was none.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Tewari adjourned the meeting at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadia Ally

Nadia Ally

**Board Secretary** 

APPROVED: 9/6/2022

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

September 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:33 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, September 6, 2022, in The Frank Art Gallery.

**Present:** Chair Tewari; Vice Chair Marcos; Members Smith, Rimarachin, Naigur, Cordova and Johnson

**Absent:** Members Tripathi, Fancher, and Stephens

**Also Present:** Assistant Utility Director Paul Thompson, City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needelman, and Board Secretary Nadia Ally

### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Vice Chair Marcos, seconded by Member Naigur, to approve the August 2, 2022 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

# **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Williams reviewed landscape information for August and September 2022 including new developments, landscape upgrades, mitigation projects, tree removal permits, landscape permits, and new projects with sustainability elements. Liaison Yaciuk mentioned noteworthy Commission items. Member Naigur spoke on the wetland and would like the board to recommend to the City Commission that green spaces be preserved. Chair Tewari advises to discuss after agenda items.

# **GUEST SPEAKER:**

Paul Thompson, the Assistant Utility Director, spoke to board members on the wastewater treatment process.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

On a motion by Member Smith, seconded by Member Cordova, to place the topic of preserving the land at 196<sup>th</sup> as a green space on the next agenda, passed.

Liaison Yaciuk discussed chapters 4-6 of the Green Plan and the final steps. He also reviewed the calendar.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There was none.

# **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Smith, to excuse the absences of Members Tripathi and Stephens, passed.

# **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Member Naigur suggested speakers from other municipalities.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Naigur, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm, passed.

	Respectfully submitted,
	Nadia Ally
	Board Secretary
APPROVED:	

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

November 1, 2022

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:33 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, November 1, 2022, in The Frank Art Gallery.

Present: Present: Chair Tewari; Vice Chair Marcos; Members Cordova, Stephens,

Johnson, Fancher and Rimarachin

Absent: Member Tripathi, Member Naigur

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, City Attorney Samuel Goren, and City Clerk Marlene Graham

#### OATH OF OFFICE:

Members Stephens and Member Fancher were sworn into office.

### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Member Johnson, seconded by Vice Chair Marcos, to approve the September 6, 2022 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

### **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Salazar-Rosario reported data on the number of permits for solar panels waiting for final inspections to be scheduled.

Liaison Yaciuk mentioned noteworthy Commission items such as Commissioner Good's item on comprehensive waste disposal services to the city.

Liaison Yaciuk reviewed information on city activities with input from different departments. Clean School Bus Program. Propane Shuttle Buses. Hands-Free Electronic Bottle filling stations at Charter Schools.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

Samuel Goren, City Attorney, spoke to board members on comprehensive waste disposal services and the interlocal agreement with Broward County; the solid waste working group and the issue of recycling.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Yaciuk discussed the Green Plan and the GIS base maps relating to parks, parcel acreages. He provided a map of wetlands and open spaces. He also reviewed the calendar.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Member Stephens spoke about the Preserves and her concerns about toxic quality of the undergrowth.

### **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

On a motion by Vice Chair Marcos, seconded by Member Cordova, to excuse the absences of Members Tripathi and Naigur, passed.

# **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

There was none.

# ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Marcos, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm, passed.

	Respectfully submitted,
	Nicole Lafrance
	Board Secretary
APPROVED:	

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

December 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, December 6, 2022, in The Frank Art Gallery.

Present: Chair Tewari; Vice Chair Marcos; Members Cordova, Stephens, Johnson,

Fancher Rimarachin, Tripathi, and Naigur

Absent: None

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needelman, and Board Secretary Nicole Lafrance

### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Member Fancher, seconded by Vice Chair Marcos, to approve the November 1, 2022 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

### **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Salazar-Rosario new developments that had been passed including Century Center Medical Offices near Pembroke Gardens.

Chair Tewari mentioned the community wanting to expand around Waste Management Building. He also spoke about the Commission meeting on November 2<sup>nd</sup> with Commissioner Tom Good having to do with Waste Management and solid waste recycling.

Vice Chair Marcos mentioned the City and Commissioner was trying to find the cheapest way to get rid of trash including possibly incinerating items or taking items to another city to be disposed of. Members Naigur and Cordova expressed concerns where the City is looking for the cheapest way to dispose of trash but also looking into the most environmentally friendly.

A motion by Member Naigur seconded by Member Cordova to recommend the encouragement of the City Commission to consider waste disposal options that include recycle and environmental benefits in addition to the economical aspect passed unanimously.

City Attorney Needleman suggested to Chair Tewari to have a meeting with the Commissioner on behalf of the Board to discuss Motion above.

# **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Cole discussed the Green Plan and having a motion to have the plan passed. Member Cordova suggested that there be more attention to climate change directly. Liaison Cole explained how the Green Plan would be the new packet for the City and Departments to strive for these goals to be more environmentally friendly.

Member Naigur requested that the Board receive simple updates on how the City is making efforts to going green, Liaison Cole mentioned that he does get an update monthly from thee departments.

Members discussed trying to get Commissioner Tom Good or any of the Districts Commissioner to come and speak at one of their meetings to discuss past recommendations that were made on behalf of the board.

Member Fancher suggested the Board seek out one commissioner to sponsor the Boards recommendations who can then take that to the City Manager to become an Agenda item.

Member Fancher suggested that Chair Tewari write a letter to the Commissioner so that it is on record, the top three concerns and recommendations of the Board.

Chair Tewari mentioned he would try and speak to City Clerk Marlene about concerns and recommendations of the Board and getting subject items on their Agenda.

A motion by Member Fancher seconded by Member Naigur to pass the new Green Plan passed unanimously.

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

There was none.

### REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Liaison Cole discussed bringing in speakers for future meetings.

A motion by Member Johnson seconded by Member Fancher to add a planning
session of the priorities of the Board for 2023 to be added to the February
agenda passed unanimously.

# ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Marcos, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm, passed.

Respectfully submitted,						
Nicole Lafrance						
Board Secretary						

APPROVED:

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

March 07, 2023

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:323

P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, March 07, 2023, in The Frank Art Gallery.

**Present:** Chair Tewari; Members Cordova, Johnson, Stephens, Tripathi, and Naigur

**Absent:** Vice Chair Marcos; Members Fancher and Rimarachin

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Commissioner Thomas Good, Assistant City Attorney Paul Hernandez and Board Secretary Nicole Lafrance

#### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Member Tripathi, seconded by Member Smith, to approve the December 06, 2023 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Smith, to excuse the absence of Member Fancher, passed unanimously.

# **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Salazar-Rosario began the meeting by reviewing the recent permits that have been approved such as solar panels, new landscape, as well as a walk-through with Memorial Cancer Center and inspections.

Liaison Yaciuk spoke on the recent Commission Meeting dealing with Waste Management and a Letter of Interest that went out and is currently being reviewed. Liaison Yaciuk also mentioned that on February 15 2023 Maxwell Park has been approved for new playground equipment.

Chai Tewari then asked Commissioner Good about the Waste Management Letting of Interest and if this Board can recommend an action item or have any involvement. To which Commissioner Good let the Board Members know that Pembroke Pines was making great improvements for Solid Waste Management. Commissioner Good mentioned that for about one year Broward County has

been getting other municipalities to join their agreement with Wind Systems and the Burn Facilities. Commissioner Good let the Board know that Pembroke Pines has refused a 5-year agreement and they are continuing to look at other offers and options available. They are working on Requests for Letters of Interest.

Commissioner Good went on to say that two different companies have submitted Letters of Interest, both being different ways to dispose rather than Burn and Landfill getting the City closer to a Zero Waste target. Commissioner Good also advised the members that they are not only looking for the cheapest option but also looking for the best option to be more environmentally friendly. Commissioner Good mentioned he was excited for Pembroke Pines as well as all of Broward County being on the cutting edge of new ways to recycle.

Member Smith asked if Commissioner Good knew what those two companies were, he did not. Liaison Yaciuk answered Hughes Energy and Purcell.

Commissioner Good mentioned that the City will probably still have potential for sorting some waste such as metals. He went on to acknowledge some smaller companies who will transport waste from South Florida to Central Florida to landfills there. Member Cordova asked Commissioner Good that if this plan for waste management turns out to be good is the City able to bring in other cities. Commissioner Good responded that the RLI only suggested Pembroke Pines and its partners, so for the 5 years we would have the contract, no. Commissioner Good mentioned Waste Management is very important and it is also very important that the City look at all other options before committing to a plan.

Member Tripathi asked if Pembroke Pines will definitely be going with one of these two companies or if they are still waiting on more interest. Commissioner Good said the city is only looking at these two options. Member Tripathi asked when it would be possible to know what kind of other method these companies are using besides burn and landfill. Commissioner Good did not know this answer but advised that this should be public on their websites. Assistant City Attorney Paul Hernandez advised that once and award was given to one of the two companies we would not know the exact language of the RLI. Commissioner Good mentioned a new law with bids and them being held for a period of time because of the possible interference with evaluations. Member Naigur asked once the information was made available if that could be pushed out to Members.

Chair Tewari asked Commissioner Good what part of the City was going over these proposals and if it possible to have involvement in decision making. Commissioner Good said that the City Manager states who is part of that team. Chair Tewari asked if the Board can bring their interest to the City Manager. Commissioner Good mentioned the purpose of the team going over proposals is to bring the Commission. Commissioner Good mentioned once the information is available all members independently can read and bring their input to the Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Good mentioned the City's current disposal system will expire this year and it is very important they make the right choice going forward for the future.

Member Smith asked if the system in place would include the recycling of materials such as asphalt. Commissioner Good responded that some materials such as asphalt will stay in the same traditional process and be 100% recyclable.

Chair Tewari went on to thank Commissioner Good to coming to this Meeting. Commissioner Good had a recommendation to bring lots of back up information to bring forward if the Board wants to go forward with creating a new position for Sustainability Manager such as position compensation and what it would take for Human Resources to create. Member Naigur volunteered to put together a package with information on the role of Sustainability Manager and if other cities have a position for this. Commissioner Good thanked the members of this Board for their service and volunteering.

Liaison Yaciuk went on to speak about the City's activities such as starting demos for an EV bus for the Pembroke Pines Charter School, EV charging stations for City vehicles and looking at different partnerships such as FPL to come into a city and do installs of these items. Liaison Yaciuk went on to advise that in the news Tesla is looking to expand their charging to other vehicles as well as Tesla's. Member Stephens asked if these charging stations are free, Liaison Yaciuk did not know how much exactly but Member Tripathi was able to provide that he has paid \$9 for 300 miles.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Yaciuk discussed the Parks Master Plan Workshop and improvements to the Parks such as playgrounds, furnishings, trees, and trails. Some parks at the Workshop mentioned was Fletcher Park, Memorial Park and City Center. Member Naigur asked if the City is looking at renewable energies for these parks such as solar. Liaison Yaciuk advised that the Workshop didn't go into so much detail. Member Cordova asked if the trails would be interconnected to other areas around the City, Liaison Yaciuk advised that some of that information can be found in the Transportation Master Plan.

Liaison Yaciuk brought up some changes to the Natalie Belmonte Contest and how they will have monthly nominations, the winner will be presented at the Commission Meeting.

# **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Liaison Yaciuk brought examples from the City of Ft Lauderdale of what their future topics are including Net Zero, EV, solar, water quality, and modal transportation. Member Tripathi asked what Net Zero is and Member Naigur explained it is a framework to reduce emissions by 2050. Member Tripathi asked if the City of Pembroke Pines plan to have similar topics to the City of Ft Lauderdale, and if the Board should look at a list of topics from other cities. Member Smith also mentioned even looking to other countries to see how they are lowering emissions. Member Naigur mentioned interest seeing how other cities are dealing with these topics and what kind of success they have had.

On a motion by Member Cordova, Seconded by Member Naigur to extend the meeting by 30 minutes passed unanimously.

Member Cordova suggested the Board have something on the books today about moving forward with talking to HR about a Sustainable Manager position. Chair Tewari asked if anyone would be willing to write in to different departments to get more information on this. Member Naigur volunteered.

Liaison Yaciuk went on to provide a list of suggested speakers for future items. Liaison Yaciuk also asked members to move the April meeting to 6:00PM due to a Commission Meeting that will start the same day at 6:30PM.

Liaison Yaciuk brought up Arbor Day Contest for posters and the winner will be announced at the Commission Meeting.

Liaison Yaciuk spoke about the annual draft to Chair Tewari and how they will be getting together in the next few weeks to draft that up.

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Smith to move the April meeting to 6:00PM passed unanimously.

Liaison Yaciuk brought up Water Matters Day that the City of Pembroke Pines will be involved in and have a booth at.

On a motion by member Cordova, seconded by Member Johnson to have Member Naigur present her findings on the position of Sustainable Manager at the next meeting passed unanimously.

### ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Cordova, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, passed.

	Respectfully submitted,
	Nicole Lafrance
	Board Secretary
APPROVED:	

# CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

April 04, 2023

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:09 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, April 04, 2023, in The Frank Art Gallery.

Present: Chair Tewari; Members Cordova, Stephens, Tripathi, Smith and Naigur

**Absent:** Vice Chair Marcos; Members Fancher, Rimarachin, Johnson

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needelman and Board Secretary Nicole Lafrance

#### **MINUTES:**

On a motion by Member Tripathi, seconded by Member Stephens, to approve the March 07, 2023 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Smith, to excuse the absence of Member Fancher and Johnson, passed unanimously.

# **REPORT OF LIAISON:**

Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario opened up the meeting by going over new permits including a new Chick-Fil-A, 47 new tree removals and 25 new solar panel permits.

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk went on to discuss some topics that were discussed at the March 15 Commission meeting, including a partnership with other Broward Cities to find a consultant for management of biosolids. Chair Tewari spoke on the problems with biosolids and the disposal of these wastes and the possibility of making good use of them. Member Stephens raised the question of health concerns of these wastes, to which Chair Tewari responded the consultant would be looking at all these concerns and they would be classified into different grades which can be used.

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk also mentioned a topic that would be on tonight's Commission Meeting Agenda for the possibility of having and agreement with FLP to convert existing City lighting to LED lighting, which would save the City money.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk discussed the idea of a Sustainability Coordinator position and comments that were brought up by the Members when a draft position was emailed. Member Tripathi had an opinion about the readability of the position title, and the name being too long. Member Tripathi also wanted to know who this person would report to, Liaison Yaciuk replied that would be up to HR and the duties of the role. Member Cordova asked if there were any existing positions within the example cities for a Sustainability Coordinator. Member Naigur responded that the examples of the position she provided were open positions and example salaries and responsibilities. Member Stephens asked if the City of Pembroke Pines has had a position like this before, which Member Naigur said it would be something new. Liaison Yaciuk mentioned whether they would want this recommendation to go on the Annual Report. Member Cordova thinks it would be a good start to getting it approved.

Member Naigur brought up a previous recommendation made from the Board and wanted to know if they could get any updates or feedback. Liaison Yaciuk said he would try to follow up with this request. Chair Tewari brought up this same issue and wanted to know when they make a recommendation what happens next. Liaison Yaciuk mentioned that possibly the Board would want to bring this up at Board Night and get feedback. Liaison Yaciuk went on to discuss the steps and process of how a new position would be created. Member Naigur wanted to know if there was an opportunity to bring this up with other boards, City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned that it has happened in the past where two boards had a joint meeting.

Liaison Yaciuk mentioned that the Annual Report was sent out to the members and would like comments and recommendations for the final draft. Member Cordova asked when the vote would be to approve the Annual Report, to which Liaison Yaciuk informed would be in May. Member Naiger asked if the position of the Sustainability Coordinator could be added to the Annual Report. Liaison

Yaciuk mentioned they would go over and review the Annual Report at the next meeting and vote for the approval.

Member Stephens requested to Chair Tewari if it would be possible for her to speak at and be on the agenda for their next meeting about her volunteer work for clean water. City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned to be on the agenda she suggested they have a vote. On a motion by Member Naigur seconded by member Tripathi to allow Member Stephens 5 minutes during the next meeting to speak, passed unanimously.

Member Cordova asked for an update on the legislation in which City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned she would provide this update at the next meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Tewari adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole Lafrance Board Secretary

APPROVED:

MEMBER NAME:	AUG 22'	SEPT 22'	OCT 22'	NOV 22'	<b>DEC 22'</b>	JAN 23'	FEB 23'	MARCH 23'	APRIL 23'	MAY 23'	<b>JUNE 23'</b>	JULY 23'
Tewari	Р	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	Р		
Marcos	Р	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	UE	Е	Р		
Smith	Р	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	UE*		
Rimarachin	Р	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	UE	UE*	Р		
Naigur	Р	Р	NM	Е	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	Е		
Tripathi	Р	Е	NM	Е	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	Р		
Johnson	Р	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Р	E	Р		
Cordova	UE	Р	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	Р		
Stevens		Е	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Р	Р	Р		
Fancher		UE	NM	Р	Р	NM	NM	Е	Е	UE*		

P- PRESENT

**UE - UNEXCUSED** 

UE\*-TBD

E - EXCUSED

RESIGNED/NOT APPOINTED

NM - NO MEETING