

## **GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES January 4, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE:** The following Green Advisory Board members were present at 6:00 pm when the meeting commenced at the City of Cooper City Pool and Tennis Center meeting room: Paul Kragh, Chairperson, Janet Arculeo, Jackie Fisher, Jennifer Gross, Jerilyn Habenicht, and Lill Maniscalco.

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Bob Kirschbaum, Vice Chairperson and Treasurer, Diana Guidry, Jacque Sanchez, and Cooper City High School Student Liaison Alia Salim.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Dawn DeLand, Cooper City Green Advisory Board Liaison and Linda Kragh, GAB Recording Secretary Emeritus to the Board

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:** Lill Maniscalco made a motion to approve the December 7, 2023 minutes as amended. Jerilyn Habenicht seconded the motion. All board members voted to approve the minutes as amended.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dawn Deland handed out a spreadsheet of expenses spent for this fiscal year. Wildflower seeds were purchased for \$300. Logo tablecloths were purchased for \$300 and \$92.00 was spent on craft supplies for Light Up Cooper City. At the last meeting, the Board members voted on spending \$200 for environmentally friendly straws to give out at the Senior Lifestyle Expo. With this expenditure the budget will have about \$1600 left to spend. Paul asked the Board members to consider ideas to spend the money on. In previous years, the Board created environmental signs for the community.

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Alia Salim was absent from the meeting due to Cooper City High School winter break, so no report was given on the activities of the Cooper City High School Environment Club. Karen Wade was not in attendance to give a report on the Cooper City Commission workshop on landscaping but Jennifer Gross, Janet Arculeo and Lill Maniscalco attended in person or via Zoom. All board members in attendance said that the audio was terrible, and they could not hear much of what was discussed. The Commissioners are having another workshop on January 11, 2024 and many board members are planning to attend.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Paul Kragh brought up that the Board is still short one board member. Dawn Deland said she will send an email to Commissioner Katzman reminding him that our Board is still short a Board member. Dawn Deland mentioned that Waste Management will not be Cooper City waste management company after March 31, 2024. The students selected for the Waste Management Cooper City Academic Scholarship should be determined before this date. The Board members decided that the application deadline date should be February 29, 2024. There was a discussion on the amount of the scholarship. Previous years the amount was \$10,000, but the August 2023 Amendment to the Waste Management Contract list the annual scholarship program amount as \$5,000. Dawn Deland is going to check on the amount before the February meeting so the Board members can vote on the amount to distribute. Dawn is going to send out the announcement in the next week or so. Dawn will distribute the student's applications at the March 7, 2024 meeting so the Board Members can score the students applications and Paul Kragh and Dawn Deland will tally the results. Next on the agenda was the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. The Board members discussed the Pledge and decided to perform the same 8 action items as last year. These were the items from last year. 1. Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and species need for habitat. 2. Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch

gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. 3. Engage with gardening leaders and partners to support monarch butterfly conservation. 4. Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway, or swap. 5. Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent community location. 6. Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program.) 7. Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in public community gardens. 8. Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitats for monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The following 2 items will be accomplished if the board members have the time and resources to complete: 1. Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs. 2. Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat beyond monarch demonstration gardens. The next item on the agenda was the Senior Lifestyle Expo on February 3, 2024. The following Board members will be volunteers: Bob Kirschbaum, Janet Arculeo, and Lill Maniscalco. The event will start at 10. Paul Kragh will give either Dawn Deland or Bob Kirschbaum the tablecloths and the giveaways. Paul Kragh asked Jerilyn Habenicht to take the minutes at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dawn Deland completed all the paperwork for Tree City USA and is waiting for confirmation of Cooper City status. She also completed the Mayors' Monarch paperwork and the NWF National Community Wildlife paperwork for 2023.

**MEMBER COMMENTS & CONCERNS:** Paul Kragh mentioned that maybe we could have a bee removal service come and talk at the Tree and Plant Care workshop in September. He also mentioned that he is giving a talk for Broward County Parks Lunch and Learn program at Ann Kolb Nature Center January 26, 2024 on Florida's Threatened Burrowing Owls.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 02/01/24, at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion duly made and seconded by Jennifer Gross and Jackie Fisher respectively, the Board members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. Minutes submitted by Linda Kragh, GAB Recording Secretary, Emeritus to the Board. The foregoing Minutes were approved by vote and signed by

*Paul Kragh* Paul Kragh, Chairperson of the Green Advisory Board, on  
*February 1*, 2024.