

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES March 7, 2024

ATTENDANCE: The following Green Advisory Board members were present at 6:01 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, Lill Maniscalco. Ileana Ryan, Jacque Sanchez, and Alia Salim, Cooper City High School student liaison.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Kirschbaum, Vice Chairperson and Treasurer, and Diana Guidry

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

APPROVE THE MINUTES: Jennifer Gross made a motion to approve the February 1, 2024 minutes as amended. Janet Arculeo seconded the motion. All board members voted on the approval of the minutes as amended.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Kragh presented the Treasurer's Report. The GAB 2023 – 2024 FY budget has \$1,652 remaining in the budget.

GUEST SPEAKER: Commissioner Mallozzi came to discuss the beautification of Palm Avenue. She understands that driving along Palm Avenue is a distraction looking into residents backyards. She brought welcome news. The City may be able to get a variance due to hardship if the city gives the Water Management District a plan that leaves room for a Gator to go along the canal. The Water Management District may approve the variance if the City is willing to remove plants that are invasive and not supposed to be along the canal. She suggested that the Board members meet and visit the area and come up with a plan with plants and trees to plant in this area to block the view of residents back yards.

PUBLIC INPUT:

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Alia Salim discussed the projects the Environment Club is doing at the High School. They are discussing a project called "Fill the Box" which is for clothing donations and helping the organization called 4Oceans.

NEW BUSINESS: Items on the agenda were rearranged because of the discussion of the Waste Management Academic Scholarship and Commissioner Mallozzi coming to speak. The Board spoke first of the budget. Paul called the wildflower seed provider and was told the price of the Milkweed seed packets is now \$5.00 a packet. We will need more seed packets for the Tree and Plant Care workshop. The decision to purchase more seed packets was postponed until another date. Hopefully, the price will go down. The Board needs seed packets to fulfill one of the goals of the NWF Mayors Monarch Pledge. Paul reminded Dawn DeLand that the Mayor has to sign the proclamation for the Mayors Monarch Pledge. She will check on this. At the April or May meeting the Board will need to vote on spending money for the giveaways for the Cooper City Tree and Plant Care Workshop. The Board members also suggested buying more plants for the Butterfly Garden. Ileana Ryan suggested the Board buy more plants for butterfly gardens in other locations in the city. Unfortunately, these gardens need maintenance, and the City has so few employees to do the work. Currently, the Green Board maintains the butterfly garden at the Pool and Tennis Center. Paul suggested to Ileana that maybe she could get an organization such as the Girl Scouts to fund and maintain a garden and the Board members would match the amount that they provide for the garden. Volunteers for Cooper City Founder's day was the next discussion item. Alia Salim says that she has two shifts of Cooper City high school students. She has 3

students for each shift, and she will fill in for any gaps. Paul discussed the giveaways for Founder's Day. We have rain gauges, reusable straws, wildflower seeds, turtle bumper stickers and pipe cleaner butterfly crafts to giveaway. Broward County Water Matters day is the same day as Cooper City Founder's Day. Two of our Board members, Janet Arculeo and Jacque Sanchez, will be helping with this event. The next discussion was Cooper City Arbor Day activities. Arbor Day will be on April 26, 2024. Last year the city gave a tree to Cooper City High School. This year the Board discussed giving a tree to Embassy Creek Elementary School. Board members mentioned that the principal at the school recently passed. The Board members discussed the Cooper City Tree and Plant Care workshop. Jackie Fisher is giving Dawn the name of a speaker on wildflower care. She is from the Florida Wildflower Foundation. Paul Kragh mentioned having a speaker on Bees. Janet Arculeo says that maybe Anthony Gross from NatureScape Broward would be willing to give a talk. Next the Board members discussed the Waste Management Academic Scholarship scoring after Commissioner Mallozzi and Alia Salim left the meeting. A few of the members just got their packets so they will do their scoring and return the packets to Dawn by Thursday next week. Linda made a spreadsheet to enter the Board members matrix. Paul will take the spreadsheet to Dawn tomorrow.

OLD BUSINESS: Lill Maniscalco, Janet Arculeo and Jerilyn Habenicht gave a brief update on the Cooper City Senior Expo. The straws again were a big hit with the seniors. The event was well attended. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz was in attendance. The Cooper City Manager Ryan Eggleston came over to the Green Advisory Board table and introduced himself. Again, the noise level was high, and the Board members had to speak over the announcements. Project Perch has a table at two Earth Day events. This year's Earth Day theme is Planet vs Plastics. Paul was looking for volunteers for Sunrise's Earth Day on April 6, 2024 and Plantation's Earth Day event on April 20, 2024. Paul mentioned that two pairs of owls at Isle Casino have moved into the artificial burrows that were installed. The pond is now a large lake on the property,

MEMBER COMMENTS & CONCERNS:

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 4/4/24, at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion duly made and seconded by Jerilyn Habenicht and Jennifer Gross respectively, the Board members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 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 April 4, 2024.