

## GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES April 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, Bob Kirschbaum, Vice Chairperson and Treasurer, Janet Arculeo, Jackie Fisher, Jennifer Gross, Lill Maniscalco, Ileana Ryan, and Jacque Sanchez.

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Diana Guidry, Jerilyn Habenicht, and Alia Salim, Cooper City High School student liaison

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

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:** Jackie Fisher made a motion to approve the March 7, 2024 minutes as written. Jennifer Gross seconded the motion. All board members voted on the approval of the minutes as written. Jackie Fisher noticed that the agenda had the wrong date for the next meeting, which should be May 2, 2024.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bob Kirschbaum presented the Treasurer's Report. The GAB 2023 – 2024 FY budget has \$1,652 remaining in the budget. There was no money spent since the last meeting.

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Karen Wade discussed the Beautification plan for the city. The company hired presented sign and hardscape designs. She noticed that they did not discuss the plants the city will be using in the Beautification plan. She wished that the hedges around the city would be taller. She asked Dawn how many times the dead palm fronds on city right of ways were trimmed. She noticed that after strong storms the streets are covered in dead fronds. Dawn mentioned that the city has a new contract, and she believes they are trimmed 8 times a year. Alia Salim was not in attendance to give a report on the Cooper City High School Environment Club's activities.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Paul Kragh brought up the beautification of Palm Avenue. The Board members believe plants need to be installed to improve the appearance of the community when drivers head into our city. This area is an eye sore. The Board members decided to meet on April 15, 2024 at 9:30 to walk down the east side Palm Avenue and discuss what types of plants could be installed in this area. The plants installed must not be too big to obstruct the sidewalk or prevent the Water District from taking a Gator utility vehicle along the canal. The area must also have drought tolerant plants since there are no sprinklers in the area. The Board members that look at the area will make a recommendation to the City Manager and the Public Works department. The next discussion item was the Cooper City's Tree and Plant Care Workshop. Every Saturday in September one of the Board Members will be out of town except for September 28, 2024. Paul Kragh asked Dawn to see if she could get the speakers on this date so all the Board members could attend and help with the workshop. Bob Kirschbaum made a motion to spend \$250 for raffle ticket giveaways at the Tree and Plant Care Workshop. Jacque Sanchez seconded the motion and the Board unanimously voted in favor of spending \$250 on the giveaways. One of the Board Members mentioned that there was a float in the Founders Day parade from a landscaping company. Maybe Dawn could get the company to do a presentation at the workshop. Paul Kragh gave Dawn the business card of a bee company that does educational talks and Jackie Fisher gave a name of a wildflower presenter. Cooper City Pool and Tennis Center butterfly garden needs it's

spring maintenance. Four Board members, Paul Kragh, Bob Kirschbaum, Jackie Fisher, and Ileana Ryan will meet tomorrow at the garden and remove plants not needed. Jacque Sanchez made a motion to spend up to \$450 to buy plants and mulch to update the garden. Jackie Fisher said that some of the plants such fog fruit and wild petunia did not thrive in this location. Lill Maniscalco seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Arbor Day is Friday April 26, 2024. The City usually buys a tree to plant at one of the schools. This supports one of the Tree City USA requirements. The Board members suggested that the tree be planted at Embassy Creek this year. Paul Kragh brought up the Booth lighting at both Light Up Cooper City and Founder's Day. He thinks rechargeable LED lights will work in the booths for the 2 hours of light the Board members need. Lill Maniscalco made a motion to reimburse Paul Kragh for the 3 LED lights he bought for the city. The cost was \$48.34. Jacque Sanchez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Next year the Green Advisory Booths will have light at both events. Paul Kragh brought up the prize wheel flapper broke again this year. He suggested that we buy 2 of the more inexpensive flappers and 2 of the more expensive flappers from amazon for the 40-inch prize wheel. Janet Arculeo made a motion to spend up to \$100 to replace the broken flapper and to have replacements. Jennifer Gross seconded the motion and the Board unanimously agreed to spend the money. Dawn is going to order the replacements through Amazon. Paul Kragh said that all the seed packets were given out at Founder's Day. We will need more for the Tree and Plant Care Workshop and to meet one of the actions of the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. The price for native seeds has gone up. Jackie Fisher made a motion to spend up to \$500 on seed packets for giveaways. Jacque Sanchez seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously passed it. Paul Kragh discussed the Board not meeting in the summer months of June, July, and August. Jacque Sanchez made a motion to approve summer recess for the Board. Jennifer Gross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. After the next meeting in May, the Board meetings will resume in September.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dawn DeLand said the Cooper City and Waste Management Scholarship applications have all been scored and 4 students will be receiving \$1250 sent to the colleges they will be attending. Paul Kragh reminded the Board members that this information is confidential until the Commission presents the scholarships at their meeting. Paul Kragh and Lill Maniscalco reported on Cooper City Founder's Day. One of the Board members said that the park was shut down for a while since the event was so well attended. The Green Advisory booth was very popular. All of the 150 clothespin butterflies were given out as prizes and most of the rain gauges and seed packets. The prize wheel is very popular with the children and most liked answering the environmental question. Dawn DeLand said the Mayors' Monarch Pledge Proclamation should be ready this week.

**MEMBER COMMENTS & CONCERNS:** Project Perch has 4 outreach events this month. Sunrise Earth Day April 6, Plantation Earth Day April 20, Broward College South Eco-Fair April 10, and Parkway Christian Academy talk on Burrowing Owls on April 29, 2024. Jackie Fisher took pictures of the Purple Martins at Jerry Morgan park this month. They were using the houses that the Green Advisory Board purchased. She also saw 5 baby limpkins at the park.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 5/2/2024, at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion duly made and seconded by Jackie Fisher and Bob Kirschbaum respectively, the Board members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 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, Chairperson of the Green Advisory Board, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.