

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES May 2, 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, Diana Guidry, Jennifer Gross, Jerilyn Habenicht, Lill Maniscalco, Jacque Sanchez and Alia Salim, Cooper City High School student liaison.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Ileana Ryan

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Mallozzi, Cooper City Commissioner, District 2, Dawn DeLand, Cooper City Green Advisory Board Liaison, Linda Kragh, GAB Recording Secretary Emeritus to the Board, Karen Wade, Cooper City resident, Jeannette Wofford, Cooper City resident, and Analia Exposito, incoming Cooper City High School student liaison 2024 – 2025.

APPROVE THE MINUTES: Jennifer Gross made a motion to approve the April 4, 2024, minutes as written. Janet Arculeo seconded the motion. All board members voted on the approval of the minutes as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Kirschbaum presented the Treasurer's Report. The GAB 2023 – 2024 FY budget has \$912.54 remaining in the budget. The GAB approved \$500 to spend on native wildflower seeds to give out at the Cooper City Tree and Plant care workshop at the last meeting. This expenditure has not been spent. The GAB members are waiting to see if the price for native milkweed will go down closer to the workshop. They will order the seeds sometime in late August or the beginning of September. This will leave around \$400 to spend at the next meeting. A few members suggested that the Board buy 12 plant identification signs for the Cooper City Butterfly Garden at the Pool and Tennis Center. This will encourage residents to buy these native plants for their own homes. Board members will investigate the prices with Marc with Quick Time Signs for the next meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER: City Commissioner Lisa Mallozzi discussed the beautification of Palm Avenue with the Board members. She also suggested that the Board send in snippets such as "Did you Know" to the Cooper City Communications department, so they can put this knowledge in the Cooper City newsletter or the DRW magazine to get the public interested in attending the Tree and Plant Care Workshop. Ms. Mallozzi also gave a lot of input on the Beautification of Palm Avenue during the GAB discussion. Board members are aware the city cannot plant on private property when trying to improve the appearance of Palm Avenue.

PUBLIC INPUT: The Cooper City Environment Club has finished their projects for the year. The new Environment Club (SITE) board members were selected this week. Analia Exposito was selected as President and will be attending the GAB meetings in the fall.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

NEW BUSINESS: Paul Kragh presented a certificate to Alia Salim from the Mayor thanking her for volunteering to be the student liaison this year. The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the

Cooper City Tree and Plant care workshop. Dawn has two confirmed speakers for the workshop on September 28, 2024. Dawn Deland has booked the room and the person who supplies the food is available on this date. Door prizes have been ordered and arrived. The confirmed speakers for the workshop are Anthony Gross from Naturescape Broward and CJ McCartney who will present a talk on planting wildflowers. Dawn had not heard from Beeboyz but Paul Kragh had spoken to the owner. Beeboyz owner is going to check on the date to see if he has any family plans on this date. Since the workshop is on a Saturday, he is usually busy with work. He would want to be scheduled first thing in the morning. Jeannette is checking with Scott Bryan to see if he is interested in giving a talk. There was a discussion of which company could bring plants to sell at the event since this is popular with the residents. Diana Guidry suggested we get a speaker to talk about fragrant plants. Diana Guidry is going to talk to the owner of Florida Nursery Mart to see if she can get him to come. The next item on the agenda was the beautification of Palm Avenue. On April 15, 2024, the following Board members met and walked down the east side of Palm Avenue: Paul Kragh, Diana Guidry, Jackie Fisher, Lill Maniscalco, Bob Kirschbaum, Ileana Ryan, and Janet Arculeo. Karen Wade, a Cooper City resident was also there for the walk. Diana Guidry took pictures to discuss ideas with the Board. In some places where the wooden fence or concrete wall does not butt up to the sidewalk there are no plants, unfortunately this strip of land belongs to the property owner. Diana mentioned that you would have to get 12 owners to agree to some type of planting along this fence. There is no irrigation along this strip of land so native plants would need to be planted but even these plants need irrigation to get started. The Thatch palms that were planted are doing well. Also, the Pond Apple trees are doing well. The GAB members think that the area just needs a few more pond apples to block the view of the backyards along Palm. The Board members thought that maybe more Thatch Palm islands could be planted. Paul Kragh suggested that Board members write up a recommendation for Palm Avenue to be presented at the September meeting. If all the Board members agree, it will be sent to the City Manager.

OLD BUSINESS: Jackie Fisher, Diana Guidry, and Paul Kragh have been watering the recently planted plants in the Butterfly Garden at the Pool and Tennis center. Sadly, a few of the plants such the Bahama Cassia have been eaten by iguanas. There is no solution to this problem since there are so many iguanas in the environment. If you remove a few iguanas, others will take their place. We may want to plant plants that iguanas will not eat or buy larger plants that will not be so devastated. The National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge action items have been met. The city will need to renew their pledge between December 1, 2024, and March 2025. Diana Guidry mentioned that we will need to update the Cooper City photos on the National Wildlife Community Wildlife website.

MEMBER COMMENTS & CONCERNS: Paul Kragh's Project Perch update was tabled due to the late hour.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion duly made and seconded by Lill Maniscalco and Jerilyn Habenicht respectively, the Board members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 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 9/5, 2024.