

## GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

THURSDAY, February 7, 2013

A meeting of the Green Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00pm in the Community Center Conference Room.

**ATTENDANCE:** The following Green Advisory Board members were present: Diana Guidry, Chairperson, Gladys DiGirolamo, Didier Dupuy, Debra Athas, Janice Malkoff, Jeri Habenicht, Secretary, and newly appointed member Ian Dasho.

Not in attendance: Gary Hines, who had a commitment to attend the SBBC meeting, and Patti Webster, who is out of town.

Also in attendance: Patricia Martineau, interested citizen.

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:** The minutes of October 4, 2012, were previously approved with one correction. The minutes of November 1, 2012, were then unanimously approved after Gladys's motion and Janice's second.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Diana introduced the newly appointed GAB member, Ian Dasho, who is a flight instructor by trade at the NSU campus. He explained that he wanted to become more involved in the community and responded positively to Mayor Ross' request to serve on GAB. He is familiar with, and has a copy of, the newly drafted CC Green Sustainability Plan. Diana explained that we are in the process of developing a way to track the progress of this plan. The other board members each then gave a brief bio of themselves to Ian.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** The Re-Engage for the Good Program, presented by Robert Kirschbaum, was then explained to GAB. The intent of this program is to involve baby boomers in community volunteer programs. He explained about three project areas that are currently under consideration:

1. Health and Safety via Baptist Hospital lecture series on how to cater to senior needs, CPR training, etc.
2. Expansion of the Historical Room at the CC Pool and Tennis Center in Rock Creek.
3. Tree inventory program for the city (for maintenance purposes, hurricane recovery, etc.) and other tree related topics. Mr. Kirschbaum felt that this project area would fit nicely with GAB initiatives.

Mr. Kirschbaum said that there is money available for these program areas via Bloomberg Grants. The city arborist, Jeanette Wofford, is aware of this program area and could be of significant assistance, and the Division of Forestry could liaison this effort, also, not to mention the expertise of NatureScape, Broward. Diana mentioned that GAB would like to see some habitat programs initiated in the city via the Re-Engage for the Good Program, and she had emailed Mr. Kirschbaum with this suggestion in the planning stages of the program areas.

Ian mentioned that the Emergency Response Team had done an inventory of the fire hydrants in the city, and this team could possibly provide some suggestions for the tree inventory process. Debra suggested that interested parties, not just baby boomers, could get involved in this program on weekends. Once the program is approved by City Commission, the program would be conducted on city properties only – not in gated communities, for example. Diana suggested having Master Gardeners and Habitat Stewards in the city help with the inventory. Gladys suggested taking photographs of any tree that a volunteer could not identify (even after the initial training process.) Diana said that GAB would like to participate and support this program area in whatever capacity it can. Perhaps a message about the program could be posted on the city's website along with the schools in the CC zone to alert interested boomers. Also, the program areas could be publicized at the GAB booth on Water Matters

Day and at a booth for CC Founders' Day. Local newspapers could be alerted. Diana suggested T-shirts for volunteers to wear in phase two – this will also help publicize the program. Gladys suggested recruiting high school students (with an interest in earning community service hours) to help with the tree inventory in park areas. Mr. Kirschbaum can be contacted via email at recreation@coopercityfl.org or by phone at 954 434-4300 x 233.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Diana announced that there is a vacancy on the board. Interested parties can complete an application which is available on the city's website, or s/he can approach Carol Adams for one.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Diana discussed the status of the Waste Management Scholarship Application which is not yet available. Once approved, with edits, it will be made available to local students with a proposed May 1, 2013, submission deadline. Diana spoke with Bruce Loucks today who promised to follow-up on this and let her know when it will be available. She, in turn, will let the rest of the committee know when everything is approved (with the necessary change of dates.) We brought Ian up to date on the scholarship.

Debra then handed out amended copies of the Guidance Spreadsheet for the Sustainability Plan that she prepared after November's discussion about this. Debra used the edits from the previous meeting to make the corrections, and GAB was genuinely impressed with, and grateful for, her efforts to do this. GAB discussed whether this data would be collected based on fiscal or calendar year and decided to ask for feedback from the Commission on its preference.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Water Matters Day is March 9, 2013, at Tree Tops Park. GAB has graciously been given the full use of Cooper City's booth (unlike its being shared as in the past.) Diana will look into giveaways and publications to hand out. We will discuss this further at the March GAB meeting which is several days before the event. Gladys offered to print the posters (which have to be approved by Carol Adams) about the Re-Engage for the Good Program and Waste Management Scholarship. Jeri volunteered that her students could advertise these opportunities by wearing sandwich posters throughout the park. GAB members who volunteer to man the booth should wear their GAB shirts. We will communicate via email about this event because of the time constraints.

We also discussed GAB's participation in Founders Day on April 27. Many members won't be available to participate that day, so we may not be participating this year. Jeri may still be able to arrange student involvement in both the parade and booth events, however. GAB will discuss this when Gary is present next month.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Diana encouraged all GAB members to attend the next Commission meeting which is 2-12-13 at 6:00 to help with the Commission's decision regarding the new rollout recycle cans.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be March 7, 2013, at 6PM, in the Community Center.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With unanimous approval, the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn the meeting at

Minutes submitted by Jerilyn L. Habenicht, GAB Secretary.

The foregoing Minutes were approved by *Diana Adams*, Chair of the Green

Advisory Board on 3-5, 2013