

## GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

THURSDAY, June 2, 2016

A meeting of the Green Advisory Board was called to order at 6:06 pm at the Rock Creek Pool and Tennis Center meeting room.

**ATTENDANCE:** The following Green Advisory Board members were present: Diana Guidry, Gary Hines, Jan Lowenthal, Janice Malkoff, Scott Lynch, Lill Maniscalco, Paul Kragh, Michelle McKay, and Jeri Habenicht, Secretary, and Stephanie Sui, CCHS Liaison

Not in attendance: Ian Dasho, excused

Also in attendance: Bob Kirschbum

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:** With only one copy of May, 2016, GAB minutes available, Jan agreed to read the minutes aloud while the rest of the board listened and offered its critique. Janice made a motion to approve the minutes, Jan seconded the motion, and the board unanimously approved after noting the need for a last name spell correction.

### OPENING REMARKS:

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

**GUEST SPEAKER:** GAB member Paul Kragh, as a representative of Project Perch, gave a very interesting report on how the Burrowing Owl Project at West Ridge Park in Davie is being used as a testing ground to determine the success of translocating 15 owls from the airport. Paul also explained how artificial nests are prepared and shared the scope and breadth of community involvement in this owl effort so far. Paul shared that there used to be 30 owls at Brian Piccolo Park years ago, and that there are only 6 owls left there now. Paul suggested that the city pursue a census of the burrowing owls that are in Cooper City, and Diana said that this is something for the board to consider next fall.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

**OLD BUSINESS:** Diana gave an updated report on the status of Cooper City's effort to become a NWF Certified Wildlife Community. There are currently have 121 homes certified and with a total of 150 needed for certification. We suggested setting the trifold in Rock Creek Community Center to draw attention to this cause because of all the summer activity there. Perhaps a blurb could be placed in local newsletters? The goal is for the city to be certified by the time of the next annual Plant and Tree Care Workshop in September. Discussion continued on how to accomplish this goal.

Jan read communication from Susan Fleidner regarding the status of the butterfly and Victory Gardens at CCHS. Susan had addressed the board in April to explain her volunteer efforts with the school's gardens. Stephanie, CCHS liaison, who was not present then, said that she would try to recruit summer student volunteers for this effort.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Diana opened discussion and initiated a process of selecting new GAB Officers for the fall. She briefly explained her duties as GAB chairperson over the past eight years. She then explained the purpose of the Florida Commission on Ethics – Guide to the Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers Employees bulletin which had been distributed to seasoned board members early in their appointment. Scott made copies of this bulletin on the premises and gave one to those members who had never received it.

Diana opened the floor for nominations for new board chairpersons. Jan recommended Scott, Jeri seconded it, Scott agreed without hesitation to assume this duty, and the board unanimously approved. Scott then nominated Paul to be the new vice chair, Jeri seconded, and the board unanimously agreed.

Next, Diana explained to board members who might be affected by this fall's mayor and commission election results how to pursue reappointment to GAB.

Diana suggested that the board discuss ways to use the balance of the GAB budget – perhaps on a new habitat installation. Janice suggested purchasing an acrylic (see through) box similar to those used by realtors to place in local parks to house NWF certification applications for community perusal. Scott suggested using a birdhouse, instead of a realtor box, which would serve a dual purpose. Diana made a motion to allocate \$100 of the GAB budget for habitat enhancement (pending Jeanette Wolford's approval) to encourage community interest in becoming a certified yard. Stephanie offered to recruit high school SITE (Students Interested In the Environment) volunteers to help in whatever capacity that is needed to promote this cause.

Next, the board unanimously voted to skip the July and August meetings while interested board members will meet to setup the potential birdhouse and trifold displays mentioned earlier in the meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER PRESENTATION:**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 1, 2016, at 6:00pm in the Rock Cree Pool and Tennis Center. The board will discuss the possibility of a burrowing owl census in the city and GAB's involvement in the annual Tree and Plant Care Workshop in September.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion duly made by Jeri and seconded by Lill, it was unanimously VOTED by the board to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jerilyn L. Habenicht, GAB Secretary.

The foregoing Minutes were approved by *Paul Nease*, Chair of the Green

Advisory Board on 11/3/16, 2015