

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

THURSDAY, November 6, 2014

A meeting of the Green Advisory Board was called to order at 6:04 pm in the Meeting Room of the Rock Creek Pool and Tennis Center.

ATTENDANCE: The following Green Advisory Board members were present: Diana Guidry, Chairperson, Janice Malkoff, Ian Dasho, Debra Athas, Jan Lowenthal, Michelle McKay, Scott Lynch and Jeri Habenicht, Secretary

Not in attendance: Gary Hines, excused for illness, and Gladys DiGirolamo

Also in attendance: Mayor Greg Ross, Robert Kirschbaum and Lill Maniscalco, and Commissioner Green who popped his head in to say 'hi.'

APPROVE THE MINUTES: Approval of the minutes from the October 2, 2014, meeting with two minor corrections was motioned for passage by Janice and seconded by Debra with unanimous Board approval.

OPENING REMARKS: Diana circulated a copy of the GAB attendance roster for each member to peruse and correct if necessary (see attachment with corrections). She then introduced Mayor Ross.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mayor Ross introduced himself and thanked GAB for all its efforts. GAB members then made their own brief introductions to the Mayor. Subsequently we had a round robin type discussion about the ongoing green concerns and activities of GAB. Diana shared some of the outreach fliers for NWF Wildlife Certification with Mayor who expressed his interest in having his yard certified. Gab is interested in creating/embellishing habitat sanctuaries in existing city parks and public areas to serve as inspirational design for home owners. Plans were made with Debra's suggestion to install a Purple Martin House on the island at Passive Park at Palm Avenue and 55th Court with hopes to certify that area. Ian invited the Mayor to attend the December meeting when he will be presenting a program on aquaculture – a fish/plant symbiotic sustainability project he has installed in his backyard.

We all recognized and thanked Bob Kirschbaum for his ongoing efforts with the city's Tree Inventory grant program. Bob said that the evening inventory had to be temporarily suspended until further notice due to the recent Daylight Savings time change. Perhaps scheduling weekend inventories or beginning at 4:00pm, rather than 5:30pm, are possible alternatives.

Mayor Ross explained that he is always accessible, is only a phone call away and that GAB should be sure to approach him whenever necessary in the future. He is more than willing to help with GAB concerns which will always be funneled via Jeanette Wofford who has been an invaluable city asset with GAB efforts. Mike Bailey has been especially helpful to GAB also. In closing, Mayor told GAB about a pet project he was especially interested in creating involving a monthly chess meet-up group for all ages.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: GAB will be presenting an update at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 6:30pm in the City Hall Auditorium. Members were encouraged to attend. Diana has made two efforts to meet with the principal of Franklin Academy without success. In a round-about way, Diana was approached by one of the teachers there regarding vegetable gardening, and she hopes to eventually be able to meet with the principal to discuss NWF Schoolyard Certification.

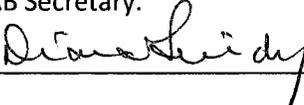
Jan expressed an interested in creating a wildflower meadow somewhere in the city. Diana shared her efforts to plant clay wildflower seed balls along the canals which was partially successful on the Davie side of the canal. Diana might succeed in getting a grant in December and have funds for this. Debra suggested the corner of Griffin Road and 106 Avenue as a possible location. We might be able to create one at Flamingo Park, also. As the board continued to brainstorm, Ian suggested a community garden or Victory Garden in the city's open space. Debra suggested awareness campaigns or some type of technology blast for citizens to learn proper use and types of fertilizers for personal use, for instance, or about NOT releasing exotics into the environment, posting recycling guidelines, etc. Diana suggested approaching this through the schools, but there is a great deal of planning and channeling involved in this. Jeri suggested posting messages on the inside of lavatory doors in public areas (which has been a successful tactic used recently at Pioneer.) Contests or prizes could be initiated at school aftercare programs or summer camps. Diana suggested a trifold display on revolving environmental topics in the Rock Creek Pool and Tennis Club lobby and/or other public locations in the community. Ian suggested that some sort of certification be offered to interested citizens for attending an environmental series, for instance. This could be advertised via HOAs.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Diana suggested that the board consider whether or not to meet in January as the scheduled date is January 1, 2015. Diana will see if the Pool and Tennis Court is available the following week on January 8 and report back next month.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm after a motion made by Ian, seconded by Jan and unanimously approved by the Board.

Minutes submitted by Jerilyn L. Habenicht, GAB Secretary.

The foregoing Minutes were approved by , Chair of the Green

Advisory Board on 1-8-15, 2014