

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
 CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
 3010 DESOTO BLVD.  
 CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017 @5:00P.M.

- MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	17	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	15	16	
<b>Ramesh Airan</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Cason
<b>Sharon Trbovich</b>	E	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P	E	P	P	Vice Mayor Quesada
<b>Rhonda Anderson</b>	P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Lago
<b>Roy Wasson</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Slesnick
<b>Marlin Ebbert</b>	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Keon
<b>Enrique Bernal</b>	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P	E	E	City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
<b>Irela Bague</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	City Commission-As-A-Whole

A – Absent  
 P – Present  
 E – Excused  
 (\*) no meeting

**STAFF:**

Matthew Anderson, Sustainability Advisory Board Staff Liaison  
 David Lindsey, Administrative Analyst  
 Tiffany Hood, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson, Ray Airan called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

**GUEST:**

Christina Albright  
 Leisha John  
 Jane  
 Manny Papier

**MOTIONS:**

**December 21, 2016 SAB meeting minutes – Irela made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Roy seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

**Rhonda made a motion to excuse Sharon Trbovich from the meeting. Irela seconded the motion, the motion was unanimously approved.**

**MEMBER'S REPORT:**

**Ray:** Updated the Board regarding sustainable roofing and wants City officials to be open minded concerning metal roofing. In addition, Ray also requested that the City research possible recognition awards for all of the great work the City and the Sustainability Advisory Board is doing. Matt stated that the City is applying again for the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Green Means Green Awards this year. Matt will research additional awards

**Enrique:** Would like to invite the City Manager and/or staff to the next Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting to talk about the City's 3-year Strategic Plan. He wants to ask how we as a Board can be more effective with the City of Coral Gables in making an impact. Enrique requested an update on the approval of the sustainability master plan. Matt stated that in the midst of finalizing the Sustainability Master Plan (SMP) the City began the development of the 3-Year Strategic Plan which included a sustainability component. The first 3 years of the Sustainability Plan were used to create the sustainability section of the 3 year strategic plan. The City is currently finalizing the SMP and updating with recent developments and hopes to present in early April. Matt also expressed that the 3 Year Strategic Plan has been adopted and staff is being measured on the objectives that have been set forth. Enrique also discussed the concept of solar roofs being implemented in the City of Coral Gables and working with the Historical Preservation Board. Irela suggested that there should be a workshop to discuss different options and invite the relevant Boards.

**Marlin:** Updated the board concerning the idea of showing sustainability/recycling related films such as " Landfill Harmonic" at the Coral Gables Cinema as a part of a green film festival type of event maybe sometime in April, she will follow-up on this and talk with the Coral Gables Cinema.

**Rhonda:** Asked the board to take a look at the report regarding FPL Injection Wells and sewage being pumped down into boulder zones. She has spoken with several individuals concerning alternatives and has invited a guest speaker Manny Papier to share a presentation with the Board today. Manny Papier presented on Natural Sustainable System via a PowerPoint Presentation.

**Irela:** Matt and I met with Mark Trowbridge of the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, Javier and Jessica from the City to discuss the Green Business recognition program which resulted in a partnership with the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce and businesses within the City of Coral Gables. As was discussed at previous board meetings, the program looks to recognize local business for their achievements in sustainability. The program focuses on six key areas: solid waste reduction & recycling, energy conservation, water conservation, transportation alternatives, and green innovation. The program also includes a plastic bag reduction pledge that encourages businesses to voluntarily move away from the use of single use disposable plastic bags. The plan to launch this program is projected for April "Earth Month". Irela also mention that at the December 6 Commission Meeting, the City passed a resolution urging the Army Corps of engineers, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida

Water Management to expedite phase II of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project and to take necessary actions to expedite completion of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project. Irela also attended the workshop on Jan 20 covering the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands project. We need public awareness of the impact of this infrastructure project.

**Roy:** Matt, David Lindsey and Roy attended the annual Coral Gables Big Toy Event that took place on Saturday January 7. The City had on display 2 of the 20 Electric Vehicles from our fleet. We updated the attendees on the benefits of EV, talking about the City's EV Charging Stations and sustainability efforts. There was a large turnout of interested residents and Roy took a few families around the City in his personal Nissan Leaf. Roy updated the Board on FPL's plan to run a hundred foot power lines down US1 which is now being appealed in the 3rd District Court. Roy also mentioned the idea of asking companies to establish a cooperate policy to offer alternatives such as reusable bags or paper bags to customers as opposed to plastic bags. A few members raised the concern of paper bags being possibly more harmful for the environment than plastic bags. Roy conducted additional research and reported back to the group. There is a smaller carbon foot print with plastic bags opposed to paper bags. At face value paper bags are good for some things and plastic bags are good for some things and feels that patrons should have a choice. Roy wants to make a resolution to offer customers paper or plastic in grocery stores. Irela mentioned that they there are plans to meet with Publix and that this could be incorporated along with a list of items.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Farmers Market (Jan 14-March 25):**

Transportation and Sustainability Department will be participating in one of the upcoming Farmers Markets. Matt will keep the board up to date on which Farmers Market date is chosen. Staff will have a tent with a table and chairs to share sustainability and transportation information with attendees.

#### **University of Miami:**

Matt stated that they are having their Green Fair on April 21st from 11am - 2pm. David and Matt will have a tent with a table and chairs to share sustainability and transportation information with attendees.

#### **2017 Electronic Recycling Events**

Matt has confirmed with STS Electronic recycling the dates for 2017. The first event is taking place on Earth Day Saturday April 22 from 9am-12pm in the City Hall Parking Lot. Great news is we will be partnering with the police department to offer sensitive document shredding as a part of the event as well. John Osgood is also trying to coordinate household hazardous waste collection to be included in the event as well. The second event is scheduled to take place on November 18 which is the first Saturday after America Recycles Day (November 15). There is an additional opportunity to schedule one additional event during the summer if needed, however last year the summer proved to be the lowest turnout in terms of weight of material collected.

#### **Non-Member Discussion**

Coral Gables Sustainability Advisory Board  
January 25, 2017  
Continued

**Christina Albright**

Stated the need to educate residents on the need to recycle and reuse plastic bags.

**The next SAB Meeting is taking place on February 22.**

**ADJOURNED:**

6:30pm