



Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2024 at 11:45 AM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Zeina Matar-Ghantous, Stephen Pategas, Becky Distad, John Page, Sam Stark, Mark J. Yonker

Absent

Terry Hotard

Staff Present

Sustainability Manager Sara Miller, Natural Resources and Sustainability Administrative Coordinator Victoria Tabor

1. Call to Order

Sam Stark called the meeting to order at 11:51 a.m. and asked for a moment of silence to recognize and honor the victims and families on the 23rd anniversary of 9/11.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of August 20, 2024

Motion made by Stephen Pategas to approve the minutes, seconded by John Page. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda)

4. Action Items

5. Non-Action Items

Item 5a was discussed after Item 6.

- a. City of Winter Park - Vulnerability Assessment Presentation

Ms. Miller introduced Dr. Leesa Souto, the consultant for the vulnerability assessment provided by a grant received from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Dr. Souto presented the Winter Park Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment (VA). The purpose of the assessment was to understand what the city considers to be its critical assets. The state of Florida further defines critical assets in statutory requirements when evaluating vulnerability. The next step is to model different flood scenarios and evaluate how these potential flood scenarios will impact the critical assets. and then prioritize. The City of Winter Park is not affected by sea level rise. Dr. Souto stated the results of the assessment guides the City's adaptation and strategic planning. FDEP has additional funding to help with implementation. The

100 year and 500 year storm models were projected. The 100 year storm means it has a 1% chance of happening in any given year while the 500 year storm has a 0.2% chance. Hurricane Ian was considered a 500 year storm and the city did well. Dr. Souto presented several slides explaining the results of the study.

Slides were presented on temperature change, an event that occurs with climate change. Focus was placed on temperature, historical and trends; evapotranspiration rates and tree canopies. What's driving temperature in the city of Winter Park is where there is vegetation and where there is not. Evapotranspiration is the rate at which vegetation is actually taking water out of the soil or the atmosphere and transferring it back through the leaves. The NDVI and tree canopy method looks at vegetative cover in the city to better understand where canopy is. Satellites measure irradiation and convert to temperature. From the timeframe 2014-2023 the city, with the amount of trees, has maintained relatively stable temperatures which is not typical.

Next steps were discussed. Dr. Souto advised that the city has applied for the grant and began corrections after hurricane Ian.

6. Staff Updates

a. Natural Resources & Sustainability

- Food Insecurity
- Landscape Ordinance ad-hoc Meeting
- CFI DOT Grant
- Public Engagement

Ms. Miller presented staff updates. Staff has worked with Killarney Elementary with Food Insecurity and will implement a survey to help identify other areas in the city that may need assistance. When the survey is finalized, it will be sent to the Board for review. Mr. Stark recommended using a QR code for the survey. Board members were invited to attend the landscape ordinance meeting, following the advisory meeting.

Charging Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) DOT federal grant allows expansion of the EV infrastructure. This is the second round of funding. KWPB & S is submitting for Corridor and Community funding. Corridor funding is specific to level 3 chargers. Community funding is specific to chargers being placed within a half mile of a low income area. When completed, the Board can request a copy of the submitted application. It was asked if board members as citizens could advocate for the grant. Ms. Miller advised a number of organizations provided support letters and if there is another round, advocacy from committed individuals will be appreciated.

Ms. Miller pointed out the public engagement with the "Fix it! Don't Pitch It" event. The participants shared and bonded with each other and Winter Park 32789 group reported on the event. Consideration for a spring time event is in the works. Ms. Miller expressed thanks to board members who participated and encouraged them to participate in the upcoming events.

b. Past & Upcoming Events - KWPB&S Members Needed

- Howell Branch Clean-up - 8/24 9a @ 2917 Temple Trail
- Fix it! Don't Pitch It - 9/7 9a @ Winter Park Events Center
- Paddleboard Clean-up - 9/14 9a @ Kraft Azalea to Dog Island
- Wood Duck Box Workshop - 9/14 9a @ MLK Jr. Park
- Sustainability Fair & EV Car Show - 9/21 9a @ West Meadow
- Get Hooked! - 10/5 7a @ MLK Pond
- 2024 Backyard Biodiversity Day - 10/19 9a @ Mead Garden
- Lake Shoreline Restoration - 10/19 9am @ Temple & Tuscany

Mr. Pategas suggested residents bring a picture of their irrigation controllers to the "Fix It! Don't Pitch It" event to receive advice on saving water. *An additional suggestion is noted on the November 19, 2024 minutes.* Ms. Miller invited a board member to attend the Orange County Public School Green School Awards banquet on Wednesday 9/25 at Camping World Stadium from 1pm to 3pm. The remaining upcoming events were announced with a request for volunteers from the board.

7. Board Comments

a. Green Minutes

Mr. Pategas pointed out that if you have an irrigation system, you are required by law to have a functioning rain sensor that shuts off when it rains.

b. New Business/Announcements

Ms. Matar-Ghantous was proactive in asking local businesses about the Green Business program. Mr. Stark will reach out to the Chamber to help partner with the Green Business program.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

Ms. Matar-Ghantous suggested advertising the Green Business award and recognizing those businesses that participate in the program. Further discussion ensued on promoting the green business program. Ms. Miller will send the green business checklist to the board members.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Approved by the board on November 19, 2024

/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator