



Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2025 at 11:45 AM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Becky Distad, John Page, Sam Stark, Zeina Matar-Ghantous, Susy Scarlatos

Absent

Terry Hotard

Staff Present

Director of Natural Resources & Sustainability Gloria Eby, Sustainability Manager Sara Miller, Sustainability Specialist Nicole Marshall, Administrative Coordinator Victoria Tabor

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. with an introduction of the newest member Susy Scarlatos

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of April 15, 2025

**Motion made by Ms. Distad to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Page.
Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.**

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

4. Action Items

5. Non-Action Items

- a. Park Ave Refresh Update - Clarissa Howard

Communications Director Clarissa Howard presented the Park Avenue Refresh program. The last refresh took place between 1996 and 1999. The city departments were engaged, along with stakeholders, the Park Avenue district, and the Chamber of Commerce, and a public survey was conducted with 1,300 respondents to gather their preferences.

Mr. Alex Stringfellow has been appointed as the project manager, focusing on urban planning and design. A webpage has been developed to conceptualize the ongoing efforts on Park Avenue. Individuals may subscribe for updates regarding this initiative. The project spans from Webster to Fairbanks. At the conclusion of February, the commission approved the design concept alongside Phase One, which extends from Webster to Garfield. To ensure the safety of Park Avenue, collaboration was established with the Police Department.

On April 23rd, the City Commission approved the installation of new streetlight poles. Around 100 poles will be replaced at a cost of \$9300.00 each. These poles will utilize smart technology with DarkSky lighting. The funding for this initiative comes from the CRA, which has set aside \$ 1 million for the project. Lights will be acquired in phases, featuring Sternberg designs anticipated to last the city another 50 years. Additionally, the project will involve new electrical work, landscaping, and the installation of trash cans.

Next steps include the installation of gateway signs at both the north and south ends of Park Avenue. Following the completion of the survey, work will commence on the construction documents. The next update for the City Commission is scheduled for August, where the construction documents and associated costs will be presented. If approved, construction is set to begin at the north end at Webster around September or October.

The plaques previously affixed to the poles as part of the KWPBS fundraiser in 1999 will not be installed on the new poles. Efforts are underway to determine methods for their preservation.

b. Mobility Hub Update

Ms. Eby presented the Mobility Hub. The locations for EV charging stations are in collaboration with Optimus Energy Solutions. Following changes in grant opportunities that eliminated funding, Optimus Energy Solutions contacted Winter Park to explore a potential partnership for rapid chargers across the city and to establish a mobility hub. The hub's location has been identified at the intersection of Morse and New York, near the train station. It will feature rapid chargers, ADA-compliant parking spaces, dedicated rideshare access, a rideshare shelter, and an e-bike charging rack. The project is already underway and is expected to launch in July. Optimus is funding all expenses related to upgrading from low chargers to rapid chargers, contributing \$5K to the rideshare shelter, and covering all operational and maintenance costs for public charging stations in the city. Charging rates will be standardized at \$.40 per kWh, and any questions should be directed to Optimus as indicated by the new signage.

6. Staff Updates

a. Natural Resources & Sustainability

- Green Event Initiative
- Food Insecurity Initiatives: Killarney Elementary Community Program, Community Partnerships (4 Roots, Center Health & Wellbeing), Community Gardens @ Winter Park Housing Authority
- Landscape Ordinance Subcommittee Meeting
- Past Events Successes

Ms. Miller reviewed the Green Event initiative work session, which was attended by representatives from Parks and Rec, as well as board members Mr. Stark and Ms.

Matar-Ghantous. The city has a process in place that utilizes an event program called Asana. Problems persist in regulating plastic usage at events. The board discussed enforcement strategies, incentives, staffing shortages, vendor guidance, prioritizing large events, collaboration with other departments, and the implementation of single-use and zero waste policies. Updates regarding the green event initiative will be provided regularly.

Ms. Miller shared an update on food insecurity initiatives. Suggested dates will be emailed to Mr. Page and Ms. Matar Ghantous for their attendance at the next landscape ordinance subcommittee meeting. Ms. Marshall reviewed past and upcoming events. The staff welcomed new board member Susy Scarlatos.

b. Upcoming Events

- Fix It! Don't Pitch It - 5/17 9am @ Winter Park Events Center
- Florida Friendly Landscaping - 5/29 5pm @ Winter Park Events Center
- Board Member Orientation - 6/5 5:45pm @ Commission Chambers
- Board Appreciation Event - 6/12 5:30pm @ Winter Park Events Center
- Litter Clean-up with Rep. Anna Eskamani - 6/21 8am @ Howell Branch Preserve
- Paddleboard Clean-up - 6/28 9am @ Lake Virginia & Mizell
- Ballroom Dance Lessons - Monday Nights @ Community Center (See Attached Flyer)

7. Board Comments

- a. Green Minutes
- b. New Business/Announcements

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

- a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:42pm.

Approved by the board on June 17, 2025

/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator