



Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2023 at 11:45 a.m.

City Hall, Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Ben Ellis, John Page, Becky Distad, Mark Yonker, Kay Hudson and Stephen Pategas.

Absent

Laura Gustafson-Hullinger

Staff Present

Sustainability Manager Sara Miller; Sustainability Specialist Mia Brady; Natural Resources & Sustainability Administrative Coordinator Victoria Tabor; Virtually: Board Coordinator Tatia Ghviniashvili.

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:46 a.m.

2) Consent Agenda

- a. Approve minutes of the regular meeting June 20, 2023

Motion made by Mark Yonker to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Becky Distad. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

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

Zeina Matar-Ghantous, 1660 Magnolia Avenue, spoke briefly about various ideas the city can implement to becoming more sustainable, and offered to volunteer and help with them.

4) Action Items

- a. Electric Vehicle Charging Rate

A long discussion ensued about EV charging rates for the switch from free to paid charging on January 1. Staff is looking for board recommendation on the rate structure, along with any continued incentive for people to use charging stations once the switch is made. Staff suggestions included keeping the first hour free, and then charging per kilowatt hour moving forward (11 cents), or adding an additional fee on top of the kilowatt per hour.

The board asked various questions to help in developing a rate structure fitting for the residents and the city. A further discussion followed about whether or not the focus of the rate be on simply incentivizing residents to not park for extended amounts of time, or using the charging system to produce income to invest back into EV charging throughout the city.

Motion made by Stephen Pategas to have two hours of free parking with a fee of 1 ½ times the market rate of kilowatt hours, and then \$10.00 an hour for parking after the first two hours; seconded by John Page. Motion failed due to a 2-4 vote.

New motion made by Kay Hudson that the first two hours of charging are free, after which the parking fee goes into effect of \$10.00 an hour; seconded by Mark Yonker. Motion failed due to a 3-3 vote.

A further discussion followed.

Motion made by Kay Hudson that the first two hours of charging are free after which a \$10.00 per hour free will be charged- with signage posted of the change; seconded by Mark Yonker.

A brief discussion followed about where the money made will be invested into/what account it will be deposited to. Staff will discuss internally and report back to the board.

Motion carries with a 5-1 vote.

b. Photography Contest

Staff presented twenty-two photographs (numbered in the agenda packet), and went through each one to review background and information. Following the presentation, the photographs were shown once more, and each board member voted on twelve to be featured in a calendar.

Following a vote, photographs 4, 11, 17, 20, 22, 2, 7, 12, 16, 21, 13, and 15 were selected as the winners and will be showcased on social media platforms as well as kiosks around the city.

Motion made by Stephen Pategas to approve the twelve photographs as voted on; seconded by Ben Ellis. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

5) Non-Action Items

a. David Klawitter, Sustainability Manager for Orange County Public Schools

Mr. Klawitter spoke on a request on behalf of Orange County Public Schools to support the Green School Recognition Program both financially and from a community sense. Information and past performance of the program were outlined.

Motion made by Kay Hudson to budget \$1,000.00 for the Orange County Public Schools Green School Program; seconded by Becky Distad.

A discussion followed and the board asked various questions to clarify program details.

Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

6) Staff Updates

a. Review KWPBS Budget

Staff presented the current balance of the budget for 2023, and highlighted that the Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable account receives \$50,000.00 from the city on an annual basis, along with funds that are donated, received from grants, or obtained through fundraisers. Amended on August 15, 2023.

The floor opened for discussion and the board asked a few questions about the budget.

b. Zero Waste Update

Staff is brainstorming solutions to provide multifamily homes with recycling, such as a drop-off location where residents can bring their recyclables on a weekly basis. Staff is also working with an outside organization to help acquire grant funding for this project as well as education.

A food waste diversion update was provided, with over 10,985 pounds of waste diverted in the first month from four participating restaurants. Staff is also working on an educational video that participating restaurants can use to provide appropriate training to new staff on how to divert waste.

c. Quanta Update

There were no significant updates to report at the time of this meeting, aside from the newly approved job position – to oversee the program- being posted and advertised.

d. Energy Efficiency Study Update

Staff is working with 15 lightyears to finalize the reports, and once completed they will be provided to this board for review.

e. Grant Updates

Staff has submitted for the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant and the Energy Efficiently and Conservation Block (EECBG) Grant, however, due to a recent veto for funding from Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, receiving funding might pose as a challenge.

f. KAB Tree Planting Day 10/13 9am @ Howell Branch Preserve

The date and time for the event has been finalized, and the board is welcome to volunteer/attend.

g. Orange County Solar Co-op Update

The Orange County Solar Co-Op is still open to new members, and out of the 250-member limit there are 120 signed up at the time of this meeting.

h. KWPB Advertisements

A KWPB insert (Utility Bill) will be sent to all residents with various information on events, educational material, and ads. Staff will work with the Communications Department to include information about EV charging in the fall edition of the Winter Park Update.

i. Lakes Appreciation Month

Staff has been pushing Lakes Appreciation Month on social media, and alongside the Communications Department, has created a calendar for residents which highlights various activities one can do in/around the city lakes.

j. Upcoming Events

The Lake Knowles Dock Party Neighborhood Engagement Event will be held on July 29 at 9 a.m.

Various other event dates were provided.

7) Board Comments

a. Green Minutes

There were none.

b. New Business/Announcements

Staff is looking to add a dishwasher in the Event Center to help with city green events.

8) Upcoming Agenda Items

a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

Mr. Pategas asked for a line item to discuss recycling information on the website.

Green School Grant deliverables provided by staff.

9) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Minutes approved by the board on August 15, 2023.
/s/ Tatia Ghviniashvili, Board Coordinator.