



Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board Minutes

January 17th, 2023 at 11:45 a.m.

Commission Chamber
401 S Park Ave, Winter Park

Present

KWPB&S: Stephen Pategas, Catherine (Kay) Hudson, Carey Bond, Ben Ellis, Justin Yonker, Laura Gustafson-Hullinger, Rishona S Teres (virtual)

City Staff: Gloria Eby; Director of Natural Resources and Sustainability Department, Mia Brady; Sustainability Specialist, Johnny Miller; Event Manager, Victoria Tabor; Admin Coordinator/Recording Secretary

(1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Kay Hudson at 11:50 AM.

(2) Consent Agenda

Stephen Pategas motioned to approve the November Meeting Minutes. Carey Bond Seconded and the motion passed.

(3) Public Comment

Mikayla Miller, Community Outreach Librarian from the Winter Park Library, provided an update on the classes that ran in January. They have been very successful. They had two master gardeners. One class already happened on vegetables, the next is on raised garden beds with Adrienne Barton and Fran from IFAS. The library also hosted the climate change panel, which was rescheduled twice. There were 32 people in attendance. There was a Q&A at the end, which provided ideas for future classes at the library.

(4) Staff Updates

Gloria Eby provided an update on the energy efficiency study. They have met with 15 lightyears and have done a couple of building audits, but they are currently on pause as they are pulling old building plans to see how original building were built. This is being done in order to collect benchmarking data made available. They have already audited the Winter Park library and Events Center, as they chose to do these buildings first. They are still waiting for the results of those, while 15 Lightyears continues to perform the other building audits.

Gloria also provided an update on the Backyard Chicken Ordinance and its amendments. The City Commission accepted the side-yard addition to the ordinance. The strikethrough of approval from neighbors was not accepted by Commissioners and that will be presented for a second reading at the commission meeting on January 25th. Mia Brady shares she has been in contact with IFAS to see about setting up a chicken class specifically for Winter Park residents.

Mia gave an update on the election sign recycling initiative. PureCycle has run into some issues in opening up their new plant so the team is unsure how that will go. Mia shared that they are prepared to have the program run again if there is an election in March. The Sustainability Division did purchase reusable crates from U-line to be used during this project. Kay Hudson asks how much they were and Gloria responded that they were around \$300 a piece, totaling to around \$2,500 for all the crates purchased. Kay requested information about the crates that were purchased.

Mia discussed the Sustainability Divisions' upcoming clean ups, workshops, and events. The next cleanup is at Lake Baldwin Park on February 18th. The team wanted to do a tree planting but it isn't the right time with Urban Forestry, they will try again another time later this year. The household hazardous waste and e-waste drop-off is on March 4th from 8 AM-12 PM at Progress Point. There has been a lot of residents emailing and asking about when this event will occur. The first Green Business Cleanup will occur during the weekend of March 10th-12th. Mia explained that it is a self-directed cleanup but participants will pick up their kits at recognized green businesses throughout the City. There will be a paddleboard cleanup at Dog Island on March 25th. Mia shared that a paddleboard company gives them paddleboards to use for the day, and they also encourage people to bring their own, as well as kayaks. Gloria shared that the Lakes Division cleans Dog Island once a week but there is still a lot of trash there. Kay talked about a kayak company that also does lake shore cleanups and she asked if they could be invited to the March 25th event. Mia didn't see how this would be a conflict of interest to the paddleboard company and asked Kay to reach out to her after the meeting to talk more about that.

Gloria wanted to share about the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce's Grow and Gather event at Mead Gardens on January 21st. There will be volunteers installing temporary art installations to celebrate 100 years of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce. She encouraged board members to volunteer and participate.

Mia also shared with the board that she has been in contact with IFAS to set up composting classes again and hopefully that will be started again soon.

Johnny Miller shared that the Lakes Division will be hosting a dock party at Dinky Dock on March 25th as well. Laura Gustafson-Hullinger expressed that she would like to share the dock party event information with the Sustainability Program at Rollins College. Gloria asked Victoria Tabor to email calendar invites for all events to KWPB&S board members.

Gloria also provided an update on the dock parties that will happen monthly. These are opportunity for lake residents to meet the Department and ask any questions they might have related to lakes or Sustainability. These events will typically happen on the last Saturday of the month. She also shared that there is a large Chain of Lakes meet and greet happening on February 16th in the evening.

Gloria provided an update on the Muscovy Duck removal program, which passed at the City Commission meeting. They are moving forward with procurement and implementation for the removal part of the program.

(5) Non-Action Items

Mia talked about America In Bloom and let Stephen Pategas know that herself and Sara Miller don't believe they can take it on this year, to which he agreed. Mia expressed that they want to start it up again in 2024 and will plan further in advance.

Mia also provided SAP updates and highlights from the SAP work session in December. She said it went really well. Gloria Eby, Sara Miller, and Mia Brady presented on different aspects of the Sustainability Action Plan. The Commission would like to see several work sessions, pulling from different sections of the SAP. They want to hear more about adopt-a-lot urban agriculture program, adding community gardens, and implementing more four-day work week schedules. They had a lot of questions about Quanta and how the feasibility study was going. Gloria commented that the Sustainability Division will be proposing the resolution for adoption at the next commission meeting on January 25th, and for everyone to have that date on their calendars. Kay Hudson asked if it would be helpful to have board members present and Gloria responded that it would be helpful to have their support. She encouraged members to participate however they can. Kay also encouraged the board members to go to the City Commission meeting since there is an issue dealing with sustainability, or KWPB, on January 25th at 3 PM. Justin Yonker asked about joining the meeting virtually. Gloria explained that you have to register online for the public comment section, which starts at 5 PM.

Gloria introduced updates on the Quanta Feasibility Study. The Department and other city members already had an extensive workshop with Quanta's team. Things have been going well so far. They are planning a

three-hour workshop with City Commission February 23rd at 1 PM due to the heavy amount of complex data and information to review. Gloria said that the team would like to have a mini work session with the KWPB&S board before going in front of the Commission, which will happen on February 21st at the next board meeting.

(6) Action Items

Mia Brady introduced the Green Schools Grant submissions from the seven schools that applied. First was Parke House Academy, who wants to improve their gARTen, which is a garden they have that focuses on art as well as food education within their school. They also have a hydroponic garden system that Sara Miller and Mia were able to go visit. They use it in their science classes, where students test the pH of the water, and to teach about growing your own food. They want to add a thinking bench and hopefully another hydroponic unit. The Methodist School for Early Education, wants to replace their existing garden beds and improve what they have for a longer lasting garden. The Walden School, wants to install seven bee houses to teach their students about the life cycle of bees and the importance of pollinators. They also want to start a recycling program on their campus by purchasing a Terracycle box. This will allow them to recycle things like candy wrappers or other items you can't put in your normal recycling bin. Trinity Preparatory School wants to install a native plant garden to promote appreciation of plants, gardens, and the environment. Mia went to their campus this past year to see what they used their previous grants funds for. She met with their student garden club who oversees the garden and decides what they plant. The First Congregational Preschool wants to extend their gardening program and beautify their schoolgrounds, as well as incorporate a reading garden. They asked for a large sum of money but partially to fund a new position to oversee the garden. Mia reached out to them and asked if they could still manage the project without the salary funding. They said yes given that they have a good base of volunteers consisting of parents and teachers to run the garden. College Park Middle School wants to restart their school garden with an emphasis on providing students with fresh produce. They also want to work with their cafeteria to eat the vegetables they grow. Their application emphasized food security within their school by demonstrating how many students receive free lunches. Stephen Pategas asked where College Park Middle School is located and Mia responded that it's zoned to serve Winter Park students, even though its technically not within Winter Park boundaries. All Saints School, wants to improve their garden beds for an edible interactive garden to foster healthy habits in their students. Kay Hudson pointed out that because there are 7 schools, each can receive \$500 if the full amount is split evenly and Justin Yonker made a motion for each applicant to receive \$500. Carey Bond seconded the motion. Stephen Pategas and Kay Hudson wanted the opportunity to have more discussion. Stephen Pategas suggested honoring the amount that they had each asked for- one gets \$500, one gets \$507.99, one gets \$550, they budgeted it out, one gets \$426.93, \$300, \$500, and the difference could go to First Congregational since the Board couldn't honor their full request. Kay asked about if the excess funds could enhance any other aspect of the Green School and Gloria Eby explained that this money is only for the grantees. Therefore, if the full amount wasn't used, it would not be useful anywhere else. Laura Gustafson-Hullinger agreed. She also suggested honoring the amount each school asked for and giving the remainder to First Congregational Preschool. Ben Ellis worried about what the Methodist School might think when all the other schools got \$500, but they only asked for \$300. However, he agreed with the approach of approving based on the amounts that they listed before and giving the remaining balance to First Congregational Church. Justin Yonker amended his proposal to what Stephen Pategas suggested: giving each school the amounts they requested and the remaining balance to First Congregational Preschool. Carey Bond seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Gloria introduced the approval of the ad for the February 2023 Winter Park Magazine. She explained the KWPB&S Board has the opportunity to roll the existing KWPB recycling ad, or start to promoting the Earth Day event. Gloria started that staff were looking for direction from the board. Justin Yonker liked the idea of doing a save the date for Earth Day and getting the word out before other Earth Day events are advertised. Stephen Pategas liked this too and asked about the effectiveness of the ad in the past. Gloria Eby responded that it is hard to benchmark the effectiveness of an ad, because they don't have a survey to collect that data. Kay Hudson asked if there are any other calls to action that could be added, other than just saving the date. Gloria responded that it is going to be a very competitive event, as it falls on the actual Earth Day, so there will be many other activities happening. She said the ad will be very broad, including the date, location, time, etc. Johnny Miller explained that Earth Day used to be a Keep Winter Park Beautiful main and stand-alone event. With changing departments and internal reorganizing everything last year, it piggybacked on the Run for the Trees and this helped with attendance. He expressed that KWPB wants to promote the event outside of just the race to get the community engaged. It'll get publicity for the Run for the Trees, but it

should have traction as its own event as well. Stephen Pategas asked if it will be at the same location as last year and Johnny confirmed that it will still be next to the Center for Health and Wellbeing. Stephen liked the idea of promoting Earth Day and is hesitant about the efficiency of the current recycling ad. He thinks an Earth Day ad will be refreshing. Gloria commented that per the updated SAP, they will be rebranding all recycling efforts. Mia shared the slogan she came up with, "Zero in on Zero Waste" and how it will focus on reduction of overall waste instead of just recycling. They are trying to focus on use less and reusing items. This will pair well with the Fix It, Don't Pitch It event and the household hazardous waste collection. Kay Hudson asked about the event on March 4th and Mia explained the household hazardous waste and e-waste collection event at Progress Point. Gloria redirected attention back to the voting on the ad. Justin Yonker made a motion to approve the ad as an Earth Day save the date for the February 2023 issue. Stephen Pategas seconded the motion and it passed.

(7) Public Hearings

No Public Hearings.

(8) Board Comments and Green Minute

Kay Hudson shared that Nature Photography day is on June 15th and she wants the KWPB&S board to host a nature photography contest for residents. She wants 12 winners to be selected and the photos to be used in a calendar. This will showcase the natural beauty of Winter Park. She also suggested asking someone to host a photography class at Mead Gardens. Laura Gustafson-Hullinger shared that the photography club at Rollins would be interested in this. Johnny Miller says they can meet with Peter to discuss logistics. Stephen Pategas suggested doing the workshop in the morning and hosting it a week before the deadline to submit photos for the contest. This would give people time to take their own photos before the contest. Stephen Pategas mentioned that the City of Orlando does an architectural calendar every year and Kay asked who oversees it. Stephen was unsure, but guessed it is the historical preservation board as they highlight older buildings throughout the city. Gloria Eby asked the board if they would want to provide the Sustainability Division with a skeleton of criteria for the photo contest. Kay said she would and suggested selling the calendar as a fundraiser for KWPB. Gloria also asked if the KWPB&S board usually has a table at the Winter Park Art Festival and Johnny Miller said no, but there is a cultural table that is run by the Communications Department. Gloria asked when the Art Festivals is held and Johnny said there is one in March and one in October. Gloria suggested that the KWPB&S Board aims for the October Art festival to launch, sell, and promote their nature calendar. Johnny reiterated that there will need to be work put in by certain individuals and groups to get this idea moving forward. He also said that, down the road, there is an opportunity to combine this effort with promotional ideas for Earth Day. Kay asked how the board is going to move forward with this idea and called for an ad-hoc committee to be made for the idea. Laura Gustafson-Hullinger, Carey Bond, Stephen Pategas, and Kay Hudson are going to be on the committee. Kay suggested that the workshop could be held on June 15th, which is the nationally recognized day for nature photography.

Mia Brady shared updates on fundraiser dance classes, as they have started up again. She also says that line dancing has been added as well. There are two classes on Tuesday nights, the first being classical line dancing and the second is modern line dancing. Gloria shared that they are adding an online platform for payment so that it is easier for attendees.

Gloria also called for an ad-hoc committee for Earth Day. Ben Ellis, Justin Yonker, Rishona S Teres, and Kay Hudson are on that committee. Kay asked if the layout of the event will be similar to last year's and Gloria said yes, it is designed to be the same but enhanced.

(9) Adjournment

Ben Ellis made a motion to adjourn and Carey Bond seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.

