CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING 2023-04

Held on Wednesday, the 26th day of April 2023 at Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a brief summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Phillip Snyder	Present
VICE CHAIRPERSON:	Logan Luse	Present
MEMBER:	Kevin Smith	Present
MEMBER:	Susan B. Connolly	Present
MEMBER:	Jane Higgins	Present
MEMBER:	Rebecca Ziegler	Present
MEMBER:	Vacant	

CITY STAFF:

Suzanne Sherman, City Manager; Kristin Suros, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

1. Ms. Chanda Begin introduced questions about homeowners' associations (HOA) in Palm Bay. She wanted more information regarding policies that may or may not support utilizing sustainable measures in landscaping, such as rain barrels, composting, non-turf grass yards, and use of native plants.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting 2023-03; March 22, 2023

Motion by Mr. Luse, seconded by Ms. Ziegler, to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sustainability Fair discussion and overall outcome

Mr. Snyder requested wish lists from each board member for upcoming fairs. The Board concurred to have matching attire, such as t-shirts, to be easily recognized at the fair. Also, having workshops and tents for the Utilities Department and Republic Services were favorable and would be requested in the future. Future improvements included obtaining more food trucks, better garbage and recycling control and/or attempting to be a zero-waste event and striving to have more focus on vendors that had clear links to sustainability.

The Board discussed having a raffle at next year's event, forming a sub-committee, and beginning planning stages sooner for the event. Board members provided some new ideas for workshops and demonstrations.

2. Native plant demo garden update

Ms. Higgins noted that the Conradina Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society was interested in providing fundraising assistance for the garden. She said the group needed more information before making a decision to proceed. Ms. Sherman advised that a follow up meeting with city staff would be needed.

3. New goal(s) for board to pursue

Mr. Snyder asked each board member to present a topic of interest. Members agreed on trying to establish a composting program within the city. Comments included educating and following up on HOA's in Palm Bay with regard to their rules and regulations.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Upcoming meetings/events of interest (INFORMATIONAL)

Ms. Higgins and Ms. Connolly advised of a forum hosted by Little Grower's Inc. A reminder was given about the Brevard Working Sustainable Group that met on the 4th Monday of every month. Board members mentioned a meeting regarding the Malabar Scrub Jay Sanctuary that would take place Monday, May 1st, at the First Baptist Church of Malabar.

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ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:41 P.M.

ATTEST:

Phillip Snyder, Chairperson

Kristin Suros, Secretary