

DRAFT

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Fort Lauderdale Fire Station 2
Third Floor Conference Room
528 NW 2nd Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
April 15, 2024 – 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2024 through 12/2024					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Sofia Thordin, Vice Chair (at 6:10 p.m.)	M	P	4	0
2	Vacant	I	-	-	-
3	Robert Daoust	II	P	2	2
4	Kelly Charles	IV	P	3	1
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	A	3	1
6	Suzee Bailey	C	P	3	1
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	3	1
8	Cameron Steagall	III	A	2	2
9	Jason Kirchhoff	II	P	3	1
10	Vacant	III	-	-	-
11	Nicole Barnett	M	P	2	0

Staff Present

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Mallory Jones, Sustainability Administrator

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. with Robert Daoust as Acting Chair The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager, noted Ms. Bailey had highlighted an error in her attendance.

A **motion** to approve the March 25, 2024, minutes as amended was made by Mr. Kirchhoff and seconded by Ms. Barnett. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

County-wide Sustainability Committee

Mr. Hadwen stated he had received an email from the Chair of the Hollywood Sustainability Advisory Committee expressing an interest in creating a County-wide coalition made up of members of each of the SABs in individual cities and meet virtually once a month. He read the email and asked if the Board was interested in participating.

Sofia Thordin arrived at 6:10 p.m.

Mr. Hadwen advised that due to Sunshine Law considerations, if the Board were interested in participating, only one (1) member should be designated to attend and report back.

Ms. Charles stated she thought it was a great idea but a commitment to both this meeting and the County-wide meeting once a month might be an issue. She asked if it was possible to do a rotation. Mr. Hadwen confirmed it would only be an issue for two (2) Board members to attend the same meeting. Discussion continued as to whether they should select a primary and alternate for consistency or open it to the membership each month.

A **motion** to participate in the County-wide Sustainability Coalition was made by Ms. Charles and seconded by Ms. Bailey. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

A **motion** to nominate Suzee Bailey and Robert Daoust as alternating representatives to the County-wide Sustainability Coalition was made by Ms. Charles and seconded by Ms. Bailey. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Vulnerability Assessment Updates

Mr. Hadwen stated that he had hoped to bring forward maps from the Vulnerability Assessment at this meeting, but the maps are still in draft form.

Mallory Jones, Sustainability Administrator, stated that elevation certificates for critical facilities City-wide are still underway. She stated the next meeting with the consultant was next month, and the State had granted an extension due to the additional funding provided for the grant.

Mr. Kirchhoff asked for clarification on coordination between the consultant and the South Florida Water Management District. Ms. Jones confirmed they were coordinating, and noted Broward County is also working on a plan using Federal dollars to coordinate efforts of individual municipalities and the County in emergency events.

Ms. Bailey asked for an update on the Urban Land Institute (ULI) report. Ms. Jones stated from the date of the March 14 panels, the final report will come out roughly 10 to 12 weeks later. She advised a midway meeting was scheduled for the following week, which would include a progress update and provide an opportunity for staff to answer any questions.

Ms. Bailey asked if it would be possible to have Broward County Chief Resiliency Officer, Dr. Jennifer Jurado, speak to the Board. She commented on a recent vulnerability presentation and noted there had not been anyone from Fort Lauderdale there. Ms. Jones advised that there had been a separate presentation for governmental agencies and staff had attended.

Mr. Hadwen inquired as to which were specific topics Ms. Bailey would request that Dr. Jurado speak. Ms. Bailey referenced mitigation and storm resiliency. Discussion continued regarding the work being done on the County level and the Water Management District level and it was determined the Board would continue the discussion under New Business.

Ms. Bailey stated the suggestion to hear from the County had come out of the ULI panels. She asserted everyone should be on the same page, because different numbers are presented in different places.

Mr. Kirchhoff commented that a presentation on the work being done by the Water Management District would also be interesting, as their efforts are largely behind the water control structures versus in front of the structures.

Video: Preventing Termite Damage in FTL

Mr. Hadwen shared a video created by the Strategic Communications team on the subject of termite awareness. He advised the video had been shared on social media.

Chief Waterway Officer Communication

Mr. Hadwen stated the Communication to the Commission submitted by the Board was expected to be presented at the May 7 Commission meeting. He provided a brief update for those who were not present at the April meeting, stating the Commission had advised that creation of the Chief Waterway Officer position was underway.

Presentations

Net Zero Updates

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manger, made a presentation regarding the City's Net Zero campaign. He stated Net Zero had been a subject for some time, and it was the SAB that helped to initiate the effort. He provided a brief update, reviewing greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals, GHG emissions, the Net Zero plan, solar installations, electric vehicle charger installations, ordinances, potential legislative preemption, and energy disclosure.

A question-and-answer segment ensued. Discussion topics included insurance concerns related to solar panels, legislation, and regulation of heat exposure.

Ms. Jones shared details of the My Safe Florida matching grant program, noting the next round of applications opens July 1. The program provides matching funds for repairs to help homes better withstand storms and prioritizes low-income and senior residents first. She stated the mitigation report is free, and funding is based on that report. Discussion continued regarding the criteria.

New Business

Mr. Daoust asked if there were any more comments regarding inviting presentations from Broward County and South Florida Water Management District regarding resiliency efforts. Ms. Bailey asked if she should provide a proposal. Discussion ensued as to potential speakers from the County.

Ms. Bailey advised there had also been a recent presentation regarding chemicals in water treatment and the need for updates to the new treatment plant to meet changing requirements related to per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS). Mr. Hadwen stated that would be a question for City staff.

Ms. Bailey shared that Residents for Resilience and Marine Research Hub were hosting a speaker series, with the next event scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 5 p.m. at Museum of Discovery and Science. Discussion ensued regarding the speakers scheduled and innovations they would be presenting.

Mr. Hadwen restated the speaker requests, including a speaker from Broward County to discuss resiliency planning efforts and a representative of the Utilities and Engineering or Environmental Department to discuss how the City plans to address PFAS concerns related to water quality. Consensus was to add the requests to the list of topics.

Old Business

None.

Proposed Communications

None.

Comments

None.

Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Hadwen highlighted upcoming events, including an Arbor Day observation on Friday, April 26, and Heal the Planet Day on Sunday, April 21, at Esplanade Park.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m. The next meeting of the SAB will be held on May 20, 2024.