

**MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

April 6, 2023

A Regular meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Meeting was held on April 6, 2023 at City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noted.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

City Manager Whitten called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Chairman Mike Mervis led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Mike Mervis	Chairperson
Shan Lathem	Vice Chairperson
Dick Bankhead	Board Member
Cynthia Johnson	Board Member
Kimberly Prosser	Board Member
Jennifer Riggs	Board Member
Joy Rutherford	Board Member

PRESENT:

Mike Mervis	Chairperson
Shan Lathem	Vice Chairperson
Dick Bankhead	Board Member
Cynthia Johnson	Board Member
Kimberly Prosser	Board Member
Joy Rutherford	Board Member

ABSENT:

Jennifer Riggs	Board Member
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STAFF PRESENT:

Stockton Whitten, City Manager; Mike Blake, Mayor; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director/ Interim Planning and Zoning Director; Rip Dyal, Board Liaison; and JoAnna Zurinsky, Recording Secretary

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES:

City Manager Stockton Whitten briefly explained that the Agenda Order would need to be amended to allow the *Presentations* to go first, and then the *Updates of Sustainability Plan with Public Works*, and then *Setting Priorities* would then follow.

1. AGENDA: Meeting of April 6, 2023 (AMENDED)
2. MINUTES: Meeting of January 12, 2023

* **MOTION by Board Member Prosser; SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Lathem to amend the order of and approve the agenda of April 6, 2023 and to approve the minutes of January 12, 2023.**

AYES: Mervis, Bankhead, Johnson, Prosser, Rutherford

Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

III. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Remarks

Chairman Mervis gave a few brief remarks about the items on the agenda, what he hoped the Board might accomplish during tonight's meeting, and the importance of the Sustainability Board's place in the community. Chairman Mervis also summarized the standards the board works to establish in regards to meeting protocol.

2. Cocoa High Principal's Presentation

Board Member Bankhead introduced Cocoa High School Principal Catherine Stewart to those present. Ms. Stewart gave an informative presentation on Cocoa High School's Sustainability Statistics, with an emphasis on the graduate's future impact on the local economy and society. The presentation also included statistics and facts on graduation rates, subsequent college enrollment and technical education programs involving the CTE (Career and Technical Education) Program and the success rates of each available program offered, and Ms. Stewart further presented Cocoa High School Industry Certifications, outlined future goals, and summarized a plan to increase graduation rates and college and career readiness in conjunction with internships, the CTE program, and Elevate Brevard.

3. Family Promise of Brevard Presentation

Dr. Synthia Doaks (Director) of Family Promise of Brevard presented information on her non-profit organization, Elevate Brevard, (a sub-program of Family Promise of Brevard). Dr. Doaks explained the performance indicators and results of Elevate Brevard, which uses a collective impact approach to assist in post-secondary

education and sustainable employment initiatives leading to a stronger workforce and decreasing poverty levels and the working poor in Cocoa. Dr. Doaks outlined what the goals were for the program, and explained the five key performance indicators of the Elevate Brevard Program: Increased percentages on FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) applicants. FASFA allows students to apply for federal grants, work-study, and loans for college and vocational programs, thereby increasing the percentage of Cocoa High School graduates enrolling in college. The Elevate Brevard program also works to increase Cocoa High's CTE Pass Rates, and Post-Secondary Application Education percentages as well as matriculation and completion for the Cocoa (32922 ZIP Code) area.

4. Updates of Sustainability Plan with Public Works

City Manager Whitten introduced Mr. Bryant Smith, the City's Public Works Director, and asked everyone to refer to the Sustainability Draft Plan provided to them for the department and stated that Mr. Smith in attendance to review the plan, and answer any questions. Mr. Smith reviewed the examples of projects that Public Works has done to increase sustainability efforts. Examples given were, but not limited to: LED conversions on streetlight and office fixtures, shoreline fortification projects involving recycled concrete, future matching grant projects for the Storm Water division, and also outlined sustainability projects that the Public Works department has planned for the Indian River Lagoon.

5. Setting Priorities

At Chairman Mike Mervis' s request to City Manager Stockton Whitten, this item was tabled, citing the interest of time, and will be exclusive on the Agenda for the next meeting on July 6, 2023.

IV. NEXT MEETING DATE:

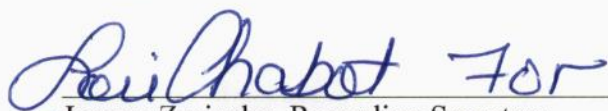
The next scheduled meeting for the Sustainability Advisory Board will be held on July 6, 2023 at 6pm in Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone St, Cocoa, FL 32922.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

* **The Sustainability Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.**


for Mike Mervis, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Joanna Zurinsky, Recording Secretary