

CITY OF COCOA
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 06, 2018

A regular meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Committee of the City of Cocoa was held on Thursday, December 6, 2018 in the Council Chambers at 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, as publicly noticed.

I. OPENING MATTERS:

Vice Chairperson Gilliam called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M. **Vice Chairperson Gilliam** led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board Secretary called the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Trina Gilliam	Vice Chairperson
Susan Hushla	Committee Member
Robert Musser	Committee Member
Gisele Neiman	Committee Member
Jennifer Riggs	Committee Member
Josephine Shim	Committee Member
Marlene Weiss	Committee Member
Raphel Costas	Committee Member
Paul Johnson	Committee Member
Lorraine Koss	Council Liaison

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Trina Gilliam	Vice Chairperson
Susan Hushla	Committee Member
Robert Musser	Committee Member
Gisele Neiman	Committee Member
Jennifer Riggs	Committee Member
Josephine Shim	Committee Member
Marlene Weiss	Committee Member
Paul Johnson	Committee Member
Lorraine Koss	Council Liaison

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Raphel Costas	Committee Member
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OTHERS PRESENT:

Dodie Selig	Planning and Zoning Manager
Torri Edwards	Recording Secretary

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Committee member Shim requested that a miscellaneous section be added to future agendas.

AGENDA: Regular Meeting of December 6, 2018

MOTION by Committee member Shim; SECONDED by Committee member Johnson to approve the Agenda with amendments for the December 6, 2018 regular meeting.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

MINUTES: Special meeting of November 13, 2018

MOTION by Vice Chairperson Gilliam; SECONDED by Committee member Riggs to approve the Minutes with amendments for the November 13, 2018 special meeting.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

III. OLD BUSINESS:

Committee member Musser inquired whether the recommendations to adopt Keep Brevard Beautiful programs were presented to the City Council. **Ms. Selig** replied that she is not aware of the recommendation on the council agenda. **Councilwoman Koss** stated that she will take over the charge of the resolution to support KBB to council.

Committee member Riggs asked whether the request to post documents on the SAC website has been granted. **Ms. Selig** replied that she will look into that request.

Committee member Weiss noted that the boy scout that volunteered to help build the community garden spoke to Charlene Neuterman and is requesting additional guidance on how to get involved. **Ms. Selig** stated that she will speak with Ms. Neuterman and find out more information about the community garden.

Larry Koss, of 2115 North Indian River Drive, volunteered to be a mentor for the boy scout. **Vice Chairperson Gilliam** suggested that members of the committee help with the community garden once the project date is determined. **Councilwoman Koss** noted that she could connect the boy scout with a church in her neighborhood that may be interested in building a community garden.

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN:

Ms. Selig opened the discussion for nominations.

Nomination made by **Committee member Riggs**; SECONDED by **Committee member Johnson** to elect **Vice Chairperson Gilliam** as Chairperson.

Nomination made by **Vice Chairperson Gilliam** to elect **Committee member Johnson** as Chairperson.

Vice Chairperson Gilliam was elected as Chairperson with seven (7) votes. Committee member Johnson received one (1) vote.

Nomination made by **Committee member Hushla** to elect **Committee member Riggs** as Vice Chairperson.

Nomination made by **Committee member Johnson** to elect **Committee member Musser** as Vice Chairperson.

Committee member Riggs was elected as Vice Chairperson with six (6) votes. **Committee member Musser** received two (2) votes.

V. PRESENTATION BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON RESEARCH TOPICS AND FINDINGS:

• Climate & Energy-Riggs

Vice Chairperson Riggs provided the committee with a handout and explained the process for the research on Climate & Energy. She listed climate impacts anticipated to effect Cocoa as increase stormwater capacity and effectiveness, stormwater management, minimize exposure to flood, increase protection from wind storm, increase ability to withstand wind and structures and increase shade canopy.

Vice Chairperson Riggs discussed recommendations for CE-1 Climate Adaptation that included research on Mud Lake and clean up storm water ponds, use trees and plants in harder structures for stormwater management, flood study, create a living shore on every linear foot along Waterfront Park and Lee Wenner Park, protect the sea wall by softening the angle, use pocket parks to increase green spaces and require green spaces and park areas in affordable housing and new developments.

Councilman Koss requested that staff provide a list of city owned property in Cocoa Hills.

Vice Chairperson Riggs recommendations for CE-2 are to reduce or eliminate and simplify solar permitting fees, increase funding options for solar, convert major municipal buildings to solar energy, require affordable housing to have a maximum of solar panels for anticipated average energy use in the summer, identify and certify that suppliers and installers to lower barriers and reassure customers and promote a solar co-op.

MOTION by Vice Chairperson Riggs; SECONDED by Committee member Neiman to make a recommendation to City Council that the Council hold a workshop on the upcoming solar co-op and educate residence and contractors on the solar co-op and PACE.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

Vice Chairperson Riggs continued the recommendations for CE-3 Greening the Energy Supply. The recommendations discussed were establish vocational training to cross-train solar technicians and investigate availability natural gas to Cocoa. **Committee member Johnson** noted that natural gas is the worst to burn due to the number of leaks.

Vice Chairperson Riggs discussed recommendations for CE-4 Energy Efficiency that included considering transitioning city fleet vehicles to electric, transition police to 25% bicycle beat and transition police fleet to electric vehicles. **Committee member Johnson** stated that a police vehicle needs to be more powerful than the current electric vehicles available.

Vice Chairperson Riggs continued recommendation for CE-4 that included promoting energy audits, create building codes for high-efficiency construction, aggressively pursue proposed Tesla charging station on Highway 524, investigate bus access in Cocoa, create comfortable bus stops and create bike trails that connect all areas of Cocoa.

MOTION by Chairperson Gilliam; SECONDED by Committee member Johnson to table the presentations on Health and Safety and Natural Systems until the next meeting.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

- Health & Safety-Weiss (Tabled)
- Natural Systems-Hushla (Tabled)

VI. Discussion of Next Steps and Committee Member Assignments:

Committee member Musser stated he will keep the committee updated on the TPO plans for bike trails.

VII. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Jennifer Bevenour, of 309 Sundial Court, discussed her financial struggle living in Cocoa.

Mr. Koss shared three (3) ideas with the committee: education on trees, education on septic pumps and build more efficient homes and make it profitable for the builders. This is an opportunity for members of the public to come forward and address this Committee on any matter on the agenda and general sustainability/resiliency issues.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Committee member Riggs announced that she read an article about a Tesla charging station being built on Highway 524.

MOTION by Committee member Shim; SECONDED by Committee member Johnson to delay the next meeting till January 10, 2019.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

The Brevard Sustainability Working Group generally meets on the 4th Monday of each month, from 12:00 pm-1:30 pm at the UF/IFAS office-3695 Lake Dr. Cocoa. The link from the June meeting is provided for your review.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/120107742750384130>

IX. RESOURCES:

- City of Cocoa Comprehensive Plan <https://www.cocoafl.org/790/Comprehensive-Plan>
- STAR Communities <http://www.starcommunities.org>
- 100 Resilient Cities <http://100resilientcities.org/resources/#section-2>

- City of Satellite Beach Sustainability Plan <http://www.satellitebeach.org/Residents-Visitors/City%20Documents/City%20Sustainability%20Plan%20SB%20Draft%20For%20Public%20Comment.pdf>

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Chairperson Gilliam; seconded by Committee member Johnson to adjourn.

AYES: Gilliam, Hushla, Musser, Neiman, Riggs, Shim, Weiss, Johnson

MOTION CARRIED (8-0)

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Approved on this 10 day of January, 2018.⁹



Trina Gilliam, Chairperson



Torri Edwards, Board Secretary

NATURAL SYSTEMS - Purpose: Design and maintain a network of green infrastructure features that integrate with the built environment to conserve ecosystem functions and provide associated benefits to human populations.

NS-5 Water in the Environment

OBJECTIVE NS-5 Water in the Environment: Protect and restore the biological, chemical and hydrological integrity of water in the natural environment.

Protecting and restoring the health of our local waterways through ongoing assessment, public education and dedicated restoration efforts.

1. Assessments. Communicate and collaborate with local agencies and environmental groups in the assessment of watershed health and vulnerability assessments of local waterways:

- A. Assist local agencies and environmental groups in obtaining information on water quality indicators including nitrogen, phosphorus, turbidity and chlorophyll-a.
- B. Assist local agencies and environmental groups in obtaining habitat data including the presence (or lack of) sea grass and viability of oyster habitats.

2. Community Education. Work with local agencies and environmental groups in providing education opportunities to the public regarding health of waterways:

- A. Fertilizer impacts, bans and types (i.e. slow release and no phosphorus), grass clippings harm and incentivize natural lawn care practices.
- B. Sanitary sewer lines and septic tanks impacts and the need for inspection.
- C. Drain-to-waterways public education.
- D. Opportunities for public involvement in restoration measures.

3. Waterway Restoration. The City of Cocoa has many sustainability policies and practices in place for the protection and restoration of the local waterways. However, it is not a quick and easy process and will require the ongoing and evolving efforts of the City and community working together:

- A. Participate in habitat restoration programs on public lands to filter/improve IRL water quality.
- B. Remove muck from navigable waterways with lagoon sales tax.
- C. Stormwater runoff to IRL Treatment and Prevention including:

- I. Evaluate City's impervious footprint and create incentives, programs and projects that reduce pavement/building footprints (increase green areas, use permeable pavements, etc.) and reroute rainwater into the ground as close to where it falls as possible. This will reduce overall stormwater volume to lagoon and recharge the community's shallow water aquifer. Excess freshwater input to lagoon is a pollutant, reduces aquifer recharge and enables saltwater intrusion into groundwater resources. New development and City public projects should use low impact design/development (LID) as a sustainable approach to community development as well as protecting the IRL.
- II. Evaluate and modify, if necessary, the City's street sweeping program to reduce debris, trash and leaf litter entering the public storm sewer system that flows to the IRL. Street sweeping is a key preventative measure at reducing gross pollutant to the lagoon and varies seasonally with rain and wind. An effective street sweeping program reduces storm drain maintenance and the eventual need for dredging.
- III. Work with the City's [Stormwater Utility/Public Works department???) to support programs and projects that reduce pollutant runoff to the IRL and minimize storm runoff volume to the lagoon. Emphasis should be on green/sustainable approaches to stormwater management for long-term lagoon health with minimal maintenance requirements. Stormwater capital projects for lagoon improvement/protection should be designed for ease in maintenance to assure functionality. Active stormwater treatment such as aeration, diffusion, bioactive sorptive media (BAM) should be included/added to stormwater treatment projects to improve the nutrient reduction effectiveness.
- IV. Encourage residential, commercial and City stormwater reuse (rainwater harvesting, cisterns) and stormwater improvements that are community assets such as stormwater pond parks and native landscape bioretention sidewalks and trails. Create a logo/kiosk signage/strategy to educate the public of various lagoon protection strategies.
- V. Update the City's Stormwater Master Plan on a regular basis to adapt to progress made, new technologies available and assure that stormwater infrastructure and improvements are resilient and will be functional in future sea level rise and climate change conditions.

D. Continuation of Cocoa Watershed-related Sustainability Initiatives¹ to include:

- I. Installation of additional 2nd generation nutrient-removal baffle boxes to improve runoff quality to the IRL.
 - II. Exploring options such as a treatment basin within the IRL to remove excess nutrients.
 - III. Undertaking studies to determine the effectiveness of existing solar-powered mixer at Bracco Pond in consideration of adding additional mixers at other City owned stormwater ponds and lakes to improve water quality.
 - IV. City Rain Barrel Rebate Program.
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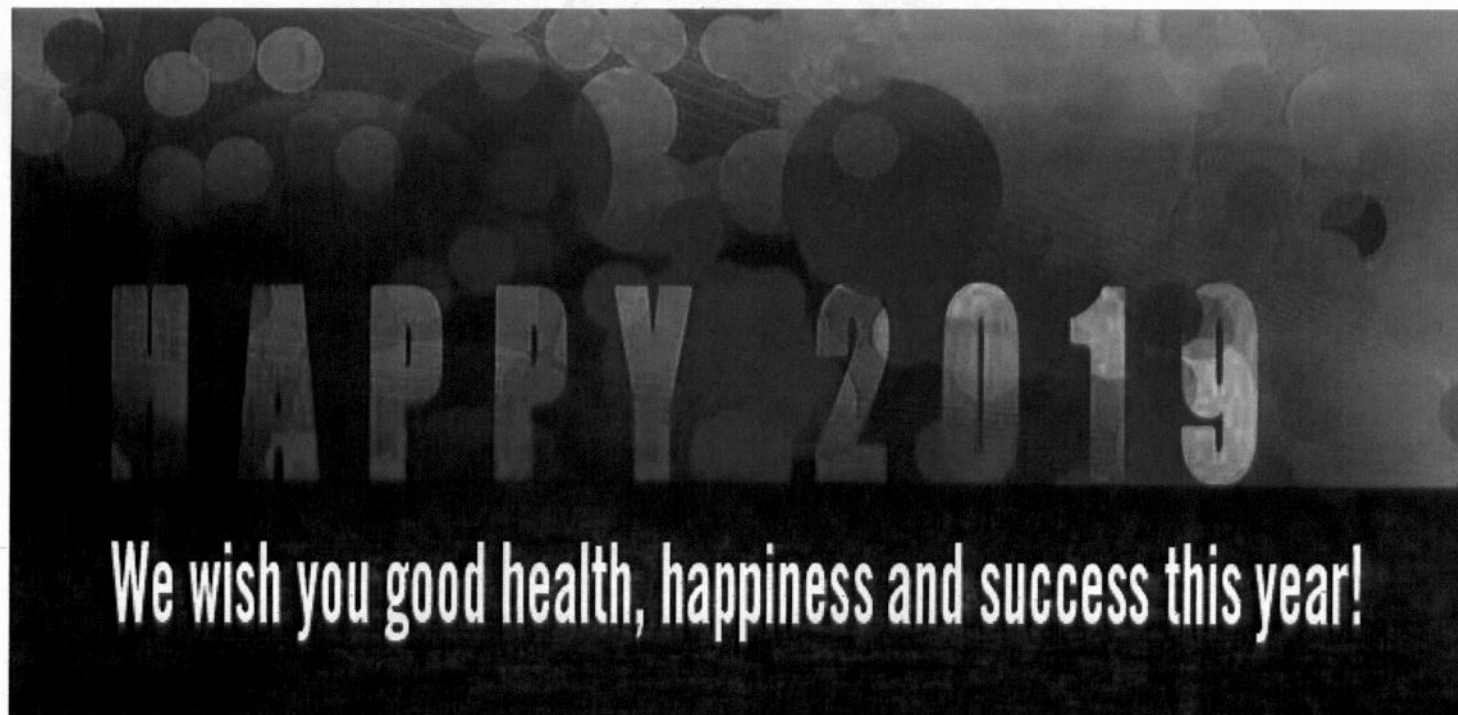
Kadi Carver

From: Jo Shim <shimjo2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 10:19 AM
To: Kadi Carver
Subject: Fw: United Way Mayor's Challenge

Dear Kadi,
Below please find information about the 2019 Mayor's Challenge.
If you could forward this information to other members of the Sustainability Advisory Committee I would be very grateful.
Thank you,
Jo

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Rob Rains <rrains@uwbrevard.org>
To: Ms. Shim <shimjo2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 12:00:50 AM EST
Subject: Our Community Report - See what your support has made possible!



2018 Community Report

Thanks to your support, United Way is funding critical human service programs that make a difference. Additionally, your United Way is working to address Brevard's most pressing unmet needs, those impacted by natural disasters, helping kids to achieve early-grade reading success, and families and individuals to improve their financial situation.

To learn more about how your support has strengthened our community and changed Community Report. **Click here to read the report.**



Want to improve your health?

Join the 2019 Health First Mayors' Fitness Challenge.

Click here to learn more.



United Way of Brevard | Changing Lives and Strengthening Communities

To unsubscribe, click [HERE](#).

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