

**CITY GREEN TASK FORCE
MEETING January 21, 2010
Approved Minutes**

Members Present:

Harvey Hathaway
Ira Raab
Louise Reed
Janet Schreiber
Carol Shein
Al Vazquez, Chair

Staff and Commissioners Present:

Penni Redford
Suzanne Schluter

Call to Order/Sign In/Changes to Agenda

- Meeting was called to order at 4:08 PM.

Minutes

- *Ira Raab made a motion to put the approval of the January 14, minutes on the agenda for the next meeting. Louise Reed seconded the motion. All were in favor.*

REMARKS BY CHAIRPERSON

- At the next meeting we'll be hearing from both of the subcommittees. Then formal meetings will be suspended while we work on our document.

Unfinished Business

- Carol Shein mentioned that the company she'd mentioned before offering natural fertilizers for golf courses is no longer in business. She found another company and forwarded the information to Al Vazquez and Penni Redford.

New Business

- **Brownfields**
 - Al Vazquez, CGTF Chairperson, gave the attached presentation about brownfields for the Task Force's information after his attendance at the New Orleans Brownfield Conference. Discussion included:
 - "Brownfields are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties protects the environment, reduces blight, and takes development pressures off greenspaces and working lands." - From the EPA brownfields website.
 - Question: How much money would be available once an area has been determined to be a brownfield? Answer: There are multiple sources of Federal grant money available to investigate, remediate, and develop brownfields into productive use (grant dollars vary).

- Neil Melick mentioned that the City has received some funds, generally given per project, for investigation, not mitigation. Some properties have already been cleaned up.
 - If an area has been declared a brownfield, it must be investigated before development can take place. This allows for some federal funds to help with the investigation and, if necessary and appropriate, the mitigation of the area.
- **The Green Educational Landscape**
 - Steve Kairis, Evergreen BioConcepts, Inc., gave the attached presentation of the Green Educational Landscape. Some of the main points were:
 - There are three co-dependent cogs to the system, none of which should be underestimated: Educational opportunities, green jobs, and renewable energy financing.
 - It is important to know what you're educating for and who you are educating, as there are different modalities which are better suited to different situations.
 - Green Collar vs. Green Tech Jobs. Green Collar Examples: Solar & PV Installations, Solar Community Installation Electrician, Power Systems Operator, Engineering Intern. Green Tech Examples: PV Solar Cell Designer, Solar Operations Engineer, Solar Energy Engineer, Solar Commercial Engineer, Smart Grid Engineer
 - Discussion included:
 - Question: How do you get green education going? Answer: Start with meetings.
 - Neil Melick mentioned that the City is talking about education and working on bringing green companies to the area. Hopefully West Palm Beach will become a central location for green education and jobs.
 - Florida has not been a leader in green jobs and green education in part due to the lack of incentives.

Public Comments

- David London: There will be a presentation by Award Winning Author Edwin Black, January 27, at PBCC, 4-6PM.
- David London brought a couple of copies of the article regarding point-of-use water filtration that he had mentioned at the last meeting.

Future Meetings

- Next meeting: February 4, 2009, 4-6 PM, Flagler Gallery

Adjourn

- ***A motion was made to adjourn and seconded.*** Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.