

**CITY GREEN TASK FORCE
MEETING JUNE 19, 2008
Approved Minutes**

Members Present:

Steve Corson
John DeCarion
Everett Fennell
Phillip Massa
Michelle Parenti
Linda Portner
Myles Schack
Steven Scherer
Al Vazquez

Others Present:

Patrick Painter
Penni Redford
Peter Robbins

Minutes

- April and May meeting minutes approved.
- Minutes from Grassy Waters Preserve Work session will be sent by email.

Remarks Steven Scherer, CGTF Chair

- Today's meeting is being taped by WPBTV and will run Friday evening and 9AM this coming Sunday.
- Jim Clark and Peter Robbins presented three PSA's /programs currently running on WPBTV or other stations: 1) CGTF and Recycling (TV25), 2) CGTF work session at GWP with general information on CGTF, goals and Roebuck Road (WPBTV), 3) PSA describing CGTF with meeting time and information (WPBTV).

Unfinished Business

- **Recommendation Roebuck Road:** Pat Painter said recommendation was approved: 'The City Green Task Force recommends to Mayor Frankel that the City of west Palm Beach urge Palm Beach County to seek alternatives to the proposed construction of the Roebuck Road extension so as to preserve and protect the City's natural resources and sensitive surface water supply, and to save critical tax dollars for necessary projects.'
- **CGTF Logo:** Peter Robbins presented revisions both with and without water element; group consensus was to add water with slight white

outline around foot; a black and white logo is also needed showing contrast; will make revisions and resubmit. Kellen Ives from City Community Events assisted with the development of the logo.

- **Question from Commissioner Muoio:** Pat Painter has been following up with the Solid Waste Authority and group on electronic waste; extremely large issue with multiple ramifications.
- **Mayor's Conference:** Steve Scherer met with the Mayor; she shared some interests for the task force to address, he will send them out for review; issues: estimating our carbon footprint, late fall sustainability workshop and summit for City, more organization of sustainability within the City.
- **Intercoastal Island Proposal:** The CGTF expressed their support, for the Intercoastal Island Proposal, South Cove Restoration Project as follows: The City Green Task Force is in support of the Intercoastal Island Proposal, South Cove Restoration Project, as presented on April 28, 2008, and subject to the project manager furnishing a design description, periodic updates and notification of any proposed changes. The motion was presented by Al Vazquez and seconded by Michelle Parenti.
- **Roebuck Road:** Pat Painter stated that the County is continuing with plans to build Roebuck Road; they may not have the funds to build due to the negative vote on tax increases; there may be permit issues to use help stop the construction; the City is continuing in its efforts to oppose the construction.

'Recycling' Presentations

- **WPB Public Works:** John Alford and staff presented information of recycling effort within their areas: see 'Recycling in West Palm Beach June 19, 2008' presentation handout. Discussion included 1) saves \$50,000 on concrete/asphalt by not placing in landfill with goal to increase recycling and decrease overall landfill use 2) last year focused on multifamily with 30% increase on recycling; 3) recycling will be implemented during Fourth on Flagler, 4) business recycling cardboard and paper (10 paper pick up locations), 5) plans for recycling at new City Center are same as current.
- **Solid Waste Authority:** Gary King presented information, handout 'Start Recycling in your Office' and answered questions on a range of topics including: 1) recycling of construction concrete, 2) hazardous waste recycling with discussion of ways to encourage more participation and ease, 3) no current plans for recycling polystyrene plastic but more businesses are changing to recyclable take out containers, 4) business recycling cardboard information distributed through Down Town Development Authority and SWA website and fliers, 5) Recycling of Bar/Lounge materials. Gary stated that the City

does a great job of recycling, better than many; he invited the CGTF to tour the recycling facility at SWA.

- **Community Events:** Mary Pinak presented information and a handout 'Community Events Recycling Efforts' and answered questions on a variety of events such as Clematis by Night, Sunday at the Meyer, West Palm Beach Green Market, 4th on Flagler, Kaleidoscope as well as non City produced events such as Sunfest, Boat Show, Irish Fest, etc. They are working with Public Works to increase recycling and have 15 new recycling bins ordered with more planned, storage space is an issue; very successful recycling efforts for Kaleidoscope with 50 recycling boxes which will also be used at 4th on Flagler; mainly focused on plastic (cups etc.); not aware of any large scale, obvious efforts by private events to recycle; private events agreements state that contractors will 'do best effort at recycling', cost is main driver in making this happen. Questions/discussion included ways to defray costs through increased fees, grants, listing additional charge specifically for recycling to highlight issue.
- **Sunfest:** Paul Jameson added that there was a major effort at one time to recycle everything with left over food going to food banks, cardboard, plastic, glass, event down to food scraps going to pig farms, looked at waste reduction, use of recycled products to support Sunfest activities and car pooling to event, recycling must be easy. Over time recycling was not continued as a priority but would like to re-instate; offered to meet with Mary to look at ways to work together on this process.
- **Summary:** 1) Agreed that there is a need to change cultures and Al Vazquez suggested establishing performance measures, 2) Steve Scherer asked CGTF members to send additional questions/comments to the presenters, Peter Robins will provide contact information. He also asked the presenters to give concerns and suggestions back to the CGTF for further actions.

Initiatives

- **Initiatives list:** 1) John DeCarion will coordinate Green Building and Fleet fuel utilization, 2) Al Vazquez will review initiatives list and respond back with interest.
- **Initiative Status Reports:**
 - 1) Michelle Parenti: provided an update on Green Product Utilization/Procurement and Education: plastic bag use/issues, an email was sent out on this. Proposes banning plastic bag use within City, Steve Scherer will follow up with Mayor on this; educate the community regarding creation of Environmental Action Teams, additional information of successful environmental action teams at <http://www.enactwi.org/index.html>

- 2) Al Vazquez suggested reviewing other Citys efforts/actions,
- 3) Pat Painter suggested tying incentives to efforts instead of mandates,
- 4) Penni Redford shared that GWP had cloth bags printed and are giving them to volunteers to encourage reduction in plastic bag use, will bring bags to next meeting and may be able to have more printed and include city Green logo; Peter Robbins added that the City Library is also using cloth bags for books.
- 5) Everett Fennell: met with FPL to introduce them to the CGTF, had good results/interest; discussed conservation benchmarks for energy use, fleet and lessons learned; very responsive to work with us and asked Steve Scherer to discuss with the Mayor. Everett to try to set up presentation from FLP to CGTF; John DeCarion discussed FLP 'Brown out' program.

New Business

1. Establish work session date/time.
2. Next regularly scheduled meeting: Commission Chambers, July 17, 8:00 AM.

Meeting adjourned.

Presenter contact information:

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