

City of New Port Richey Environmental Committee
Minutes for November 23, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:14 PM

Vox Pop - None.

In attendance: Committee Chair Dell deChant, Barbara Sullo, Audrey Voss, alternate Cindy Cadle.
Excused Absence: Co-Chair Rose Mohr, Kacey Atkinson, Secretary Jon Tietz, Kira Atkinson, alternate Amber Blais, and City Liaison Doreen Summers.

Chair notes that members are asked to contact the Chair in advance of the meeting if they will not be able to attend.

Approval of the minutes from October. approve unanimously.

Additional Agenda Items. None added.

City Liaison Report – No report

Business of the Committee – Ongoing

(note: Vox Pop allowed prior to all items. Included in minutes only when acted upon)

Urban Farming Program: Brief report (deChant) and discussion of successful opening of Grand Gardens

Library Seed Lending Program: Brief discussion of status of seeds. 1,000 Milkweed seeds to be donated.

Lexicon of Sustainability: Note that the Lexicon is available for checkout at the library by anyone.

Business of the Committee – New Projects or limited duration

Quarterly Events: Discussion of events and calendar dates. Note: Two events are hosted by Environmental Committee (Arbor Day and Okra Occasion) and two events are hosted by local/regional NFPs (Loquat Festival by Ecology Florida and Fall Planting Event by Grand Gardens/Nature Coast Real Food Project). Calendar 2016:

January 15 Arbor Day (Host ENV COM)

March 26 Loquat Festival (Host Ecology Florida)

July 25 Okra Occasion (Host ENV COM)

October 1 Grow Gathering at Grand Gardens (Host Grand Gardens/NCRFP)

Barb volunteered to contact Doreen with the dates for the City Calendar.

Pasco County Food Policy Council: Brief Report on PFPC. At next meeting, FPC will begin drafting proposal for Urban Ag Ordinance – with focus on Community Gardens (public and private), Market Gardens, Urban Farms, Hobby Farms, and subcategories such as roof top gardens.

Business of the Committee – New Items

Annual Report to Council (December 17) – Reviewed presentation and assignments, noted necessary edits, discussed merits of including improvements in the agriculture ordinance for third year.

Tietz will prepare the PP, deChant and Atkinsons will do presentation. Resolved to ask Tietz to present first proposal (review of fertilizer and pesticide ordinance).

Arbor Day Event (January 17, 2016) – Brief comments by deChant: Committee will select site, develop program for the event and PR, select the tree, and manage the event. Parks & Recreation will select location for planting, contact Genesis School, arrange setup, get tree from PW, and treats for youth.

Location, Sims Park, January 17, 2016., 11:00 AM, 27th Annual Commemoration

Hickory to be planted

Committee will develop program, and send PR

Parks & Recreation will contact Genesis School, arrange setup [mic, banner, etc], gets tree from PW and select location at Sims Park, and gets treats for youth.

Business of Committee – Tabled or Postponed Items (for reference only)*

None

Other Items – Announcement of organic food drive by Green Commerce Association and many of its member organizations.

Adjournment. Without objection the committee stands adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Dell deChant

Chair/Acting Secretary

Next Meeting

December 28, 2015, 6:00 PM

4th Monday of Month

NPR Public Library