

City of New Port Richey Environmental Committee
Minutes for December 28, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM

Vox Pop - None.

In attendance: Committee Chair Dell deChant, Co-Chair Rose Mohr, Barbara Sullo, Audrey Voss,
Excused Absence: Alternate Cindy Cadle. Kacey Atkinson, Secretary Jon Tietz, Kira Atkinson, 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 November approved unanimously.

Additional Agenda Items. None added.

City Liaison Report – No report - Liaison (absent) is asked to verify that committee has use of the library space for meetings in 2016.

Business of the Committee – Ongoing

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

Urban Farming Program: Audrey Voss moved to approve renewal of CG permit for garden at 6112 Illinois Ave. Approved unanimously, with one recusal.

* Voss will notify Doreen and other appropriate offices of renewal, and notify CG facilitator of approval.

Library Seed Lending Program: Brief discussion of status of seeds.

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)

Pasco County Food Policy Council: Brief Report on PFPC. FPC has begun drafting Urban Ag Ordinance – with focus on Community Gardens (public and private), Market Gardens, Urban Farms,

Hobby Farms, and subcategories such as roof top gardens. deChant noted that he is working with Pasco County planning dept. (especially Todd Engala) on the ordinance.

Business of the Committee – New Items

Annual Report to Council (December 17) .

deChant and Sullo noted that the report was well received, both expressed interest in the Council taking action on the proposals, agreeing that action is needed, and Council has been slow to act on our proposals in the past.

1. Jon Tietz (absent) was asked to respond to Council's request to clarify proposal for modification of fertilizer policies (esp. "native plant zone")

2. Kacey and Kira Atkinson (absent) were asked to develop list of invasive trees and preferred trees for public and private installation

3. deChant was asked to develop list of all environmental/sustainability groups and projects active in the city

Arbor Day Event (January 15, 2016) - Third discussions of event (committee does program, PR, location, and MC; P&R does planning, contacts Genesis School, contacts Garden Club, arranges setup [mic, banner, etc], gets tree from PW, and gets treats for youth)

* Doreen: is asked to verify that the banner will be present at the event.

<http://www.arborday.org/states/state.cfm?state=FL&treecities=9999#treeCities>

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

None

Other Items – None

Adjournment. Without objection the committee stands adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Dell deChant
Chair/Acting Secretary

Next Meeting

January 25, 2016, 6:00 PM

4th Monday of Month

NPR Public Library

Liaison is asked to verify that committee has use of the library space for meetings in 2016.

Submitted,

Dell deChant, Chair
In absence of committee secretary