

**City of New Port Richey Environmental Committee
Minutes for April 25, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.

1. **Vox Pop** - None.
2. **In attendance:** Present were Committee Chair Dell deChant, Audrey Voss, alternate Cindy Cadle, Secretary Jon Tietz, Barbara Sullo and City Liaison Doreen Summers. Kira Atkinson, Kacey Atkinson, Barbara Sullo, and Vice Chair Rose Mohr were absent. Guests present were Rob Oman.
3. **Vox Pop.** None.
4. **Approval of the minutes from February.** Approval of the minutes was moved to later in the meeting to allow them to be procured. Doreen also said that there is still a vacancy for an alternate position on the Environmental Committee.

Business of the Committee - Ongoing

5. **Vox Pop.** None.
6. **City Liaison Report.** Doreen said that there is a work session with the City Council on May 3rd at 5 PM on the Urban Agriculture ordinance. Dell wanted to clarify that the Environmental Committee is not being granted an official presence, but is asked to attend to provide answers to questions in the discussion.
7. **Vox Pop.** None.
8. **Urban Farming Program.** Audrey Voss said that there is nothing new to report. Dell asked Jon whether anything new had occurred at the Montana Avenue property, and Jon said that nothing new had occurred.
9. **Vox Pop.**
10. **Library Seed Lending Program** - Dell said that a couple of gardeners used seeds from the library to plant there.
11. **Lexicon of Sustainability.** Cindy Cadle said that there is nothing to report.
12. **Discussion of Fall Quarterly Program.** Dell said that the Loquat Festival was another huge success. Dell and Jon estimated that more than 800 people were in attendance. More than 300 cans of Loquat jams and jellies were sold. The committee discussed holding a 2nd annual Okra Occasion, as well as a "Grow Gathering" at Grand Gardens in October.
13. **Vox Pop.**
14. **Pasco County Food Policy Council.** Dell said the "Garden and Urban Farm Ordinance" is currently in the County's legal department, the last step before it comes before the County Commission. Dell said the ordinance is similar to New Port Richey's but has more specific items for community gardens versus home gardens.
15. **Vox Pop.**
16. **Arbor Day.** Dell suggested turning over the planning of the Arbor Day festivities to the Parks and Recreation Department. The celebration is scheduled for January 15, 2016.
17. **Discussion of Annual Report to Council.**
 - a. Dell said that he would like Jon to use the part of the presentation about fertilizer policies for the City and take the portion about "native plant zone" and to highlight

- it and clarify it.
- b. Dell wants the language to say that the recommendations are to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s recommendation as a requirement. Changing “recommended” to “required.”
 - c. Jon said he wanted to suggest mangrove reforestation for the next annual report.
 - d. **List of all environmental and sustainability groups and projects active in the city:** No action and moved to the next meeting.
 - e. Recommended Trees List:

Bald Cypress	Chinese Lantern	Citrus (all)	Crepe Myrtle	Dahoon Holly
Drake Elm	Winged Elm	Hickory	Magnolia	Oak (all)
Florida Plum	Palms (approved species)	Pecan	Pines (all)	Red Cedar (Southern)
Red Maple	Sweet Bay	Sweet Gum	Sycamore	Tulip Poplar
Wax Myrtle	Gumbo Limbo	Mango	Papaya	Loquat Tree
Florida Prince Peach	Fig	Maranga	Avacado	Jamaican
Cherry	Eastern Red Bud			

18. Urban Agriculture Ordinance. Dell wanted to review a letter from Mary Moran in the City Manager’s Weekly Report. Dell asked that any committee members who are available attend the meeting on May 3rd.

Additional Items Discussed.

19. Adjournment. Without objection the committee stands adjourned at 7:05 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 PM on May 23rd at the New Port Richey Public Library.