

**City of New Port Richey Environmental Committee  
Minutes for March 25, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 4:11 pm.

1. **Vox Pop** - None.
2. **In attendance:** Present were Committee Chair Dell deChant, Secretary Jon Tietz, Cindy Cadle, Barbara Sullo, Vice Chair Rose Mohr, and City Liaison Barret Doe. Two guests were present, Rex Phelps, and Penelope Anderson. Barbara Sullo, Vice Chair Rose Mohr, Kacey Atkinson, and Kira Atkinson were absent.
3. **Vox Pop.** None.
4. **Approval of the minutes from January.** Without objection the minutes from January were approved.

**Business of the Committee - Ongoing**

5. **Vox Pop.** None.
6. **Facebook Page Noted.** Cindy Cadle said that she had come across a Facebook page called [Non-toxic Communities](#) that talks about improving and keeping toxins out of populations. Jon said that he had heard about a problem at the Gulf Harbors Association and their purchase of a playground which has come up with a higher than normal amount of arsenic contamination. Rex offered that he thought the Association should look for a “cattle pit” where previous landowners may have used arsenic to cleanse cows of parasites.
7. **Vox Pop.** None.
8. **Community Gardens Ordinance for the County.** Dell said that he had heard from the County that the ordinance he has discussed with them has been approved to be brought before the County Commission. Dell said he has also received a Community Food System Assessment which was provided to the County for free and reviews food acquisition and creation for Pasco County and makes recommendations as to what needs. Dell said that report would be made public soon.
9. **Vox Pop.** None.
10. **City Liaison Report.** Barret Doe said that Barbara and Kacey need to submit their applications for renewal of their terms on the committee.
11. **Vox Pop.** None.
12. **Report on Green City Initiative Charette - June 14, 4:00 PM.** Barret said that he would like to set up a second meeting sometime in June. The Committee discussed June 14th at 4:00 PM as a tentative date.
13. **Vox Pop.** None.
14. **Update on part-time Garden Facilitator.** Barret said that no movement had been made on this proposal.
15. **Vox Pop.** None.
16. **Update on part-time arborist.** Barret said that the employee did not pass and will be re-testing in May.
17. **Vox Pop.** None.

- 18. Butterfly Garden at Grey Preserve.** Barret said that no response had been received from Cathy Tull or the Compassionate Friends of Pasco County on the project, but that he had heard that there were some personal issues that were in the way. Barret said that they hadn't forgotten about the project and would be looking to continue soon. Barret said that he is still waiting on a blueprint for the project from them.
- 19. Vox Pop.** None.
- 20. Update on Status of Committee's Recommendations on Landscaping Modifications.** Barret reported that the initiation of the invitation to bid is upcoming on the City Council agenda. April 18th is the scheduled date to award the bid. Jon asked about the process and whether there was some misunderstanding about the status of each of the stages and the flexibility that should have been made known at the time that the Committee was reviewing recommendations made by the Genesis Group about the types of trees that were being chosen and the expenditures being made.
- 21. Vox Pop.** None.
- 22. Update on Parks Master Plan Steering Committee.** There is a work session for May 2nd to see the draft of the Master Plan for the City parks from the steering committee.
- 23. Vox Pop.** None.
- 24. Urban Agriculture Permits.** Jon reported that one of the forms is complete and he will update the Committee when the rest are finished.
- 25. Vox Pop.** None.
- 26. Seed Lending Library Project.** No update on this project.
- 27. Quarterly Events.** Dell said that he would like to tentatively schedule the Okra Occasion for July 24th. Dell asked Barret to secure a date for the event.
- 28. Additional Items.** The Loquat Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 8th, 2017. Dell is inviting all of the Committee members to attend.

**Additional Items Discussed.**

- 29. Adjournment.** Without objection the committee stands adjourned at 5:31 PM. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 4 PM at the New Port Richey Public Library.