

# ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

## CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

April 04, 2023

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was called to order at 6:09 P.M. by Chair Tewari, Tuesday, April 04, 2023, in The Frank Art Gallery.

**Present:** Chair Tewari; Members Cordova, Stephens, Tripathi, Smith and Naigur

**Absent:** Vice Chair Marcos; Members Fancher, Rimarachin, Johnson

**Also Present:** City Staff Liaison Joseph Yaciuk, City Staff Liaison Cole Williams, City Staff Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needelman and Board Secretary Nicole Lafrance

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### MINUTES:

On a motion by Member Tripathi, seconded by Member Stephens, to approve the March 07, 2023 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

### EXCUSED ABSENCES:

On a motion by Member Cordova, seconded by Member Smith, to excuse the absence of Member Fancher and Johnson, passed unanimously.

### REPORT OF LIAISON:

Liaison Juliana Salazar-Rosario opened up the meeting by going over new permits including a new Chick-Fil-A, 47 new tree removals and 25 new solar panel permits.

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk went on to discuss some topics that were discussed at the March 15 Commission meeting, including a partnership with other Broward Cities to find a consultant for management of biosolids. Chair Tewari spoke on the problems with biosolids and the disposal of these wastes and the possibility of making good use of them. Member Stephens raised the question of health concerns of these wastes, to which Chair Tewari responded the consultant would be looking at all these concerns and they would be classified into different grades which can be used.

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk also mentioned a topic that would be on tonight's Commission Meeting Agenda for the possibility of having an agreement with FLP to convert existing City lighting to LED lighting, which would save the City money.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Liaison Joseph Yaciuk discussed the idea of a Sustainability Coordinator position and comments that were brought up by the Members when a draft position was emailed. Member Tripathi had an opinion about the readability of the position title, and the name being too long. Member Tripathi also wanted to know who this person would report to, Liaison Yaciuk replied that would be up to HR and the duties of the role. Member Cordova asked if there were any existing positions within the example cities for a Sustainability Coordinator. Member Naigur responded that the examples of the position she provided were open positions and example salaries and responsibilities. Member Stephens asked if the City of Pembroke Pines has had a position like this before, which Member Naigur said it would be something new. Liaison Yaciuk mentioned whether they would want this recommendation to go on the Annual Report. Member Cordova thinks it would be a good start to getting it approved.

Member Naigur brought up a previous recommendation made from the Board and wanted to know if they could get any updates or feedback. Liaison Yaciuk said he would try to follow up with this request. Chair Tewari brought up this same issue and wanted to know when they make a recommendation what happens next. Liaison Yaciuk mentioned that possibly the Board would want to bring this up at Board Night and get feedback. Liaison Yaciuk went on to discuss the steps and process of how a new position would be created. Member Naigur wanted to know if there was an opportunity to bring this up with other boards, City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned that it has happened in the past where two boards had a joint meeting.

Liaison Yaciuk mentioned that the Annual Report was sent out to the members and would like comments and recommendations for the final draft. Member Cordova asked when the vote would be to approve the Annual Report, to which Liaison Yaciuk informed would be in May. Member Naiger asked if the position of the Sustainability Coordinator could be added to the Annual Report. Liaison

Yaciuk mentioned they would go over and review the Annual Report at the next meeting and vote for the approval.

Member Stephens requested to Chair Tewari if it would be possible for her to speak at and be on the agenda for their next meeting about her volunteer work for clean water. City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned to be on the agenda she suggested they have a vote. On a motion by Member Naigur seconded by member Tripathi to allow Member Stephens 5 minutes during the next meeting to speak, passed unanimously.

Member Cordova asked for an update on the legislation in which City Assistant Attorney Needleman mentioned she would provide this update at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Tewari adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nicole Lafrance  
Board Secretary

APPROVED: