



THE VILLAGE OF
NORTH PALM BEACH
Village Manager's Office

"THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE UNDER THE SUN"

Environmental Committee

MINUTES

Anchorage Park

Monday, June 7, 2021

6:00 pm

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Marcus called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. Roll Call:
 - Present: Karen Marcus, Mary Phillips, Shawn Woods, Lisa Interlandi, Camille Carroll, Kendra Zellner, Ellen Allen
 - Also Present: Andy Lukasik, Village Manager; Jeremy Hubsch, Community Development Director; Darryl Aubrey, Mayor; Ronaldo Diaz, Lake Worth Waterkeeper
3. The Minutes of the May 3, 2021 regular meeting were approved.
4. Public Comments: no public comments:
 - a. Public in Attendance:
 - i. Kim Pascullini is interested in getting involved in local government.
 - ii. Sheryne Brekus is interested in an update to the electric charging station discussion.
5. Annual Appointment of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair – Chairperson Marcus and Vice-Chair Interlandi were reappointed.
6. Lake Worth Waterkeeper:
 - a. Lisa Interlandi introduced Ronaldo Diaz from Lake Worth Waterkeeper. He discussed their efforts to protect and restore the Lake Worth Lagoon and its surrounding waters.
 - i. Lake Worth Waterkeeper currently performs water quality testing at Lakeside Park.
 - ii. The Lake Worth Lagoon used to be categorized as a fresh water lake however, it's now considered a coastal estuary and by federal definition, not considered a northern estuary of the Great Everglades. Because of that change, in terms of laws and policies, it is excluded from a lot of important decisions which includes the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual which will be completed this summer. The end product of the manual is the Lake Okeechobee Regulations Schedule which will detail lake management and its effects on the Lake Worth Lagoon.
 - iii. The Lake Worth Lagoon has been abused and ignored for a long time so, Lisa and Ronaldo are building a coalition to comment on the Lake Okeechobee Regulations Schedule, draft resolutions and letters and encouraged the Village's involvement. The

regulations schedule discussions are coming to an end therefore, timing is of the essence.

- b. Lisa Interlandi and Ronaldo Diaz will attend a Town of Palm Beach meeting on June 8. Discussions will include Lake Worth Lagoon algae blooms and the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule. Lisa will provide details at the next meeting.
 - i. Miscellaneous Topics:
 - 1. Oyster Reefs:
 - a. Ronaldo Diaz explained that in the past, oyster reefs in the lagoon have struggled however, recent installations have been more successful by locating them in shallow water with smaller rocks as opposed to boulders.
 - b. The committee suggested promoting under-the-dock oyster reefs and will contact DERM for their input.
 - 2. Earman River Water Quality – it was mentioned that the northern end of the Lake Worth Lagoon and Lakeside Park water quality is better than in the central and southern areas because of the mangroves and sea grass. However, the habitat is fragile and requires preservation.
 - 3. Earman River Shoreline Hardening Proposal:
 - a. The committee noted that they will propose natural shorelines because they protect water quality and are less expensive than hard shorelines.
 - b. Ronaldo Diaz mentioned that utilization of less rip rap is preferred.
 - c. Lisa Interlandi recommended proposing Anchorage Park as a good shoreline improvement candidate.
 - d. It was mentioned that Village consultant Katherine Murray could participate in the planning as well.

7. Discussion Items:

- a. Balloon and Sky Lantern Ordinance:
 - i. Andy Lukasik stated that the ordinance was passed on 1st Reading at the May 27 Council Meeting and is up for 2nd Reading and adoption at the June 10 Council Meeting. The ordinance does not specifically mention water balloons, only balloons in general.
 - ii. Chairperson Marcus noted that the Village Fire Chief has the authority to enforce the ordinance in regards to sky lanterns.
 - iii. The committee mentioned that confetti debris is an issue in the parks (specifically in and around the pavilions) and is considering adding it to the ordinance. They also suggested that we discourage people from using it and provide some environmentally friendly options for them to consider. Andy Lukasik suggested we provide the information to people when they reserve the pavilions.
 - iv. Andy Lukasik suggested that perhaps Parks & Recreation can promote utilization of water sponges instead of water balloons.
 - v. Vice Mayor Searcy mentioned at a Council Meeting that bags of balloons state that they are biodegradable and would like a response from the committee.
 - vi. One committee member mentioned that they are biodegradable if disposed of properly into a trash receptacle. However, when not disposed of properly and left in and around park properties, they can degrade faster and make their way into our waterways.
 - vii. One committee member mentioned that there are two Village residents who offer to provide games for parties.

- viii. The committee suggested perhaps Parks & Recreation could recommend alternatives to water balloons such as sidewalk chalk, corn hole and wet sponge fights.
- b. Natural Shoreline Protection:
 - i. Town of Jupiter Ordinance:
 - 1. Andy Lukasik mentioned that the Jupiter Ordinance established some parameters regarding the use of seawalls and where and when they can be located in order to stabilize the shoreline.
 - 2. Andy Lukasik mentioned that the seawalls were required to have protective measures along with Mangroves and/or other vegetation.
 - 3. Andy Lukasik noted that there are some good provisions in the ordinance that suit our needs as it relates to the Earman River, which would be a priority.
 - ii. Education:
 - 1. Chairperson Marcus recommended educating residents on the benefits of a natural shoreline.
 - iii. Incentives:
 - 1. The committee suggested offering resident incentives to encourage the utilization of natural shorelines.
 - iv. FEMA Flood Map:
 - 1. Andy Lukasik noted that the updated FEMA flood map increased the areas in the Village which will require flood insurance. Some areas of the community that weren't susceptible to rising flood water levels are now susceptible.
 - v. "Living, Breathing Seawalls":
 - 1. Chairperson Marcus mentioned an international company that makes living, breathing seawalls which utilize landscaping and Mangroves inside the wall. She will research for discussion at the next meeting.
 - vi. Policy Development:
 - 1. Chairperson Marcus suggested we develop policy for the Earman River.
 - 2. Andy Lukasik noted that he and staff will start developing for Village Council, Environmental and Waterways Committees' review.
- c. Existing Projects/Programs Updates:
 - i. Ban on Plastics:
 - 1. Business Promotion – incentives for elimination of single use plastics
 - a. Farmer's Table:
 - i. Andy Lukasik mentioned that Village staff are having difficulty connecting with owner, Joey Giannuzzi and will continue to reach-out.
 - b. The Collective Hair Studio:
 - i. Andy Lukasik mentioned that the Collective Hair Studio was featured in the May newsletter.
 - c. Draft House:
 - i. Chairperson Marcus mentioned that all of their take-out containers and utensils are recyclable.
 - ii. Andy Lukasik stated that he will have Ed Cunningham contact them regarding their recycling strategy.
 - d. Publix:
 - i. Shawn Woods discussed a business that is attempting to provide stores with free paper bags. There would be an

advertisement on the bag unrelated to the store. Winn Dixie and Albertsons are interested however, Publix corporate is not.

- e. BurgerFi Headquarters:
 - i. Mary Phillips discussed BurgerFi's sustainability program.
 - Use of a sustainable cup with a #1 plastic lid which is the best for recycling.
 - Paper straws.
 - Food trays include a picture and text explaining their sustainability program.
 - Tables and chairs are made from recycled materials.
 - ii. Mary Phillips added that their PR firm contacted her and is interested in doing an interview. She will give their contact information to Jeremy Hubsch.
- f. Doris's Market:
 - i. Chairperson Marcus and one other committee member volunteered to meet with the store manager. They will take previously featured newsletter articles with them for examples of free advertising/promotion.
- g. Encouragement Options:
 - i. Jeremy Hubsch suggested that the Village could offer participating businesses an "Eco-Friendly" window sticker. This would help attract eco-friendly patrons to their business.
 - ii. Kendra Zellner suggested the committee revisit her draft letter which encourages businesses to become more environmentally friendly. Her letter was emailed to the committee on March 9, 2020 and therefore, may require updating.
- ii. Residential Code – Zoning in Progress for 6 months:
 - 1. Andy Lukasik explained that based upon feedback and requests from Council, staff used a moratorium or zoning in progress to address immediate concerns regarding development of single family homes while we develop a longer-term strategy to manage the character of housing within single family residential areas. A five to seven member Ad Hoc Committee which will include architects, planners, realtors and landscape designers, will work on permanent changes to present to Council at the July 24 Council Meeting.
 - a. Landscaping Requirements:
 - i. 40% for two story homes
 - ii. 35% for one story homes
 - iii. 50% of front yard to be landscaped. Contemplating some changes to allow circular driveways on collector roads.
 - b. Height: 30' maximum
 - c. First story can be maximum square footage allowed by code.
 - d. Second story maximum square footage is limited to 75% of the first floor area.
- iii. Urban Garden:
 - 1. Osborne Park Location:
 - a. Andy Lukasik mentioned that Public Works Director Chuck Huff is working on the water sources and cost to add a meter. Our best option

will be Seacoast Water Utility. Andy will provide an update at the next meeting.

- b. Chairperson Marcus reiterated that the committee needs to receive Council approval on the concept and location in order to move forward and complete the project by the October 1 opening.
 - c. Andy Lukasik requested a design plan from the committee in order to determine costs.
 - d. Two committee members offered to contact the Abacoa Community Garden representative for input on the design plan.
 - e. Chairperson Marcus recommended the garden be half the size of the Abacoa Community Garden with a combination of above ground and in ground beds.
 - f. Chairperson Marcus recommended staff take regular and drone photos of the Abacoa Community Garden for reference.
 - g. Chairperson Marcus recommended that Public Works Director Chuck Huff visit the Abacoa Community Garden to determine water and power requirements.
 - h. Lisa Interlandi suggested the committee take a look at the Riviera Beach Community Garden on Singer Island. The garden is on the right hand side after you go over the Blue Heron Bridge. One committee member will contact Riviera Beach for their design and planning details.
 - i. Andy Lukasik offered to contact neighboring property owners for their input on a buffer.
 - j. Lisa Interlandi recommended fencing and landscaping for the buffer.
 - k. Chairperson Marcus recommended contacting the Village Garden Club for possible partnering and/or involvement. Shawn Woods offered to contact them.
 - l. Chairperson Marcus suggested the utilization of NextDoor for promotion and solicitation of volunteers.
 - m. One committee member suggested joining a Master Gardener Program which can advise on subsidies and grants. She will contact Mounts Botanical Garden for details on the program.
 - n. Andy Lukasik recommended the committee have the design plan ready for discussion at the next meeting in order to finalize and present to Council at the July 22 Council Meeting.
- iv. Speaker Series:
- 1. Arbor Day, July 10 at 10:00am:
 - a. Chairperson Marcus mentioned that she is waiting to hear back from Joe Hanley regarding speaking on tree pruning.
- v. Education – “Go Green”:
- 1. Electrify America:
 - a. Andy Lukasik mentioned that he submitted an online information request and is waiting for a response.
 - 2. FPL EVolution Program:
 - a. Andy Lukasik met with FPL to discuss possible locations for the “Type 2” electrical charging stations. Type 2 will take longer to charge than the “quick charge”.

- b. From an operational perspective, staff would prefer to separate the stations as opposed to locating them all in one area. However, locating them in one area would be cost effective for FPL so, they are reviewing their costs to see if they can accommodate our request.
 - vi. Anchorage Park Clean-Up Events, 8:00am – 10:00am:
 - 1. June 26 Regular Clean-Up.
 - 2. July 17 Trash/Fishing Derby in conjunction with the Library Summer Camp Program.
 - a. The committee recommended recruiting sponsors and having prize categories.
 - b. Lisa Interlandi suggested it be called a tournament.
 - c. One committee member suggested there be a category for the most confetti collected.
 - d. Miscellaneous:
 - i. Back-Up Speaker for July 10:
 - 1. One committee member mentioned that she knows someone the committee could consider if Joe Hanley isn't available.
 - ii. Lyche Mites:
 - 1. Ellen Allen mentioned that she has mites on her Lyche tree. The Department of Agriculture is treating her tree over a four (4) month period to promote defoliation.
 - 2. Ellen Allen suggested perhaps we could put a Lyche mite article in the newsletter to increase awareness and explain that the Department of Agriculture will come out to the property and treat them. If left untreated, the mites can spread to nearby Lyche trees and eventually the tree can die.
 - 3. Andy Lukasik mentioned that he will ask Communications Manager Ed Cunningham to include information on our website.
 - iii. Styrofoam:
 - 1. Lisa Interlandi mentioned that residents are still placing Styrofoam in their recycling bins and suggested we send them a sticker or postcard explaining that Styrofoam is not a recyclable material. She suggested further discussion at the next meeting.
8. Next meetings: the next meeting will be on July 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the Anchorage Park Building.
9. Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.