



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA
324 EAST PINE STREET
2ND FLOOR MEDIA ROOM**

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024
AT 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MINUTES

1. April 2024 Meeting Minutes
2. April 2024 Earth Day Event Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION

1. Chair's Report on BOC Presentation
2. Discussion of Earth Day Event
3. Communication Goals
4. Vulnerability Assessment and Action Plan Update

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Tree Removal Report 2) Potential Climate Action Plan Update

STAFF COMMENTS

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is open to the public. Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The City of Tarpon Springs is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for access for the disabled. Anyone needing assistance regarding this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (727) 938-3711, fax a written request to (727) 942-5619, or email a written request to cityclerk@ctsfl.us at least two days prior to the meeting. For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Code Enforcement Division at (727) 937-0017 or TarponCode@tspd.us

MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS
April 19, 2024

THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MET IN THE HERITAGE MUSEUM, 100 BEEKMAN LANE, TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON FRIDAY, April 19, 2024, AT 5:00 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

DENISE MANNINO	CHAIRPERSON
DORY LARSEN	MEMBER

ALSO PRESENT:	COSTA VATIKIOTIS	MAYOR
	JOHN KOULIANOS	COMMISSIONER
	THOMAS KIGER	DIRECTOR -PUBLIC SERVICES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Thomas Kiger called roll.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

3. A. MEET AND GREET CITY STAFF

Public Services staff met and engaged with various members of the public in an open house event format. The primary points of discussion were about the City Sustainability Plan and the history of sustainability in the City.

3. B. SUSTAINABILITY PLAN PRESENTATION - THOMAS KIGER:

City staff provided a short presentation on the City Sustainability Plan. This included the original creation of the Sustainability Committee, creation of a Sustainability Coordinator Position, and the development of the plan by staff and the Committee. Various historic sustainability initiatives were also highlighted, as well as a focus on community involvement. Staff also thanked and acknowledged the Committee members and members of the Board of Commissioners in attendance.

STAFF COMMENTS:

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

The Committee members provided general comments on encouraging participation in high school students on the committee.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

DENISE MANNINO
CHAIRPERSON

THOMAS KIGER
DIRECTOR –
PUBLIC SERVICES

CITY CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's office for the required retention period.

MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS
April 18, 2024

THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MET IN THE CITY HALL MEDIA ROOM, 324 E. PINE STREET, TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON THURSDAY, April 18, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

DENISE MANNINO	CHAIRPERSON
DR. CAROL MICKETT	MEMBER
DORY LARSEN	MEMBER
SIOBHAN NEHIN	ALTERNATE #1

ALSO PRESENT: THOMAS KIGER DIRECTOR -PUBLIC SERVICES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Denise Mannino called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Thomas Kiger called roll.

MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENCE OF ROBIN SAENGER:

MOTION:	DR. CAROL MICKETT
SECOND:	SIOBHAN NEHIN

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENCE OF PELAGIA VARVARIS:

MOTION:	DR. CAROL MICKETT
SECOND:	SIOBHAN NEHIN

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE MARCH 2024 MINUTES:

MOTION: DR. CAROL MICKETT
SECOND: SIOBHAN NEHIN

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

3. A. FY25 SUSTAINABILITY BUDGET- THOMAS KIGER

Thomas went over the general budgetary framework for the city, following the Florida budgetary standards. There are three categories to it: personnel costs, operating budget, and capital outlays. The personnel costs are all draft currently. The new position for the sustainability coordinator is split 50/50 between the Enterprise Fund, for water and sewer, and the General Fund. The overall budget is about 58% more than last year, which is a good base line. The Committee discussed at the Solar Feasibility Study and other items listed on the budget.

3. B. PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY EV/HYBRID VEHICLE ASSESSMENT PROCESS - THOMAS KIGER:

Planning for vehicle replacement, staff have developed a draft assessment methods and will develop a more formal procedure over time. There is a need to be more efficient with our energy, dollars, and fuel. A standardized method to assess vehicles will be put into place, the 6 questions of the method was discussed and explained. A developed interim cost effectiveness tool and cost benefit analysis was created to assess payback period and to make sure electrification is cost effective. Fleet will be heavily involved with a committee of staff as well to review the vehicles. Dory Larsen discussed the DRIVE tool and how it could help this project. A discussion about money and other issues with EVs came up. Available federal funding for vehicle electrification was discussed.

3. C. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL CERTIFICATION DISCUSSION – THOMAS KIGER:

Thomas Kiger discussed that the Florida Green Building Council operates a certification program for local governments. Tarpon Springs is at currently at the silver level, and we have been working on renewal for a couple months. The cost is \$4,000 for 5 years, staff have discussed not renewing it and just focusing on the City Sustainability Plan as the primary driver for sustainability moving forward. The cost for the renewal expense has already been reallocated into the budget to make that switch.

3. D. CREATING A COMMUNICATION PLAN PRESENTATION- THOMAS KIGER:

Thomas presented on Creating a Communication Plan for Environmental Initiatives, talking about the goals and priorities that we want to achieve and show the public. The new intern has been creating newsletters for this next month and this summer, look out for those being posted soon. The was discussion on the Earth Day event on April 19th, and the use of social media engagement to promote the event. The committee made plans to find what the communication goals will be. Each member plans to submit their top three ideas. Dory Larson promoted the idea of having more engagement with students in the community and increasing knowledge on sustainability since they are our future. Another plan of action will be looking at the social media websites for the city and how they can use the communication plan on these platforms.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Planned items for the next agenda included the report and debriefing on the Community engagement ideas, provide Chair's report from the BOC meeting on Tuesday April 23rd, Chair's report from the Earth Day event on April 19th, an update on the City's Vulnerability Assessment, and potential for discussion on tree removal and climate action plan.

STAFF COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

The Committee members provided general comments on encouraging participation in high school students on the committee.

Adjournment:

MOTION: DORY LARSEN
SECOND: DR. CAROL MICKETT

To adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

DENISE MANNINO
CHAIRPERSON

THOMAS KIGER
DIRECTOR –
PUBLIC SERVICES

CITY CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's office for the required retention period.



City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

Sustainability Committee

324 E Pine Street

Tarpon Spring, Florida 34689

<http://www.ctsfl.us/agenda.htm>

GOALS FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNICATION PLAN

1. Education about the Net Zero Canopy loss. – **2024 Action Item**
2. GHG reduction target and why it's so important. - **2024 Action Item**
3. Encourage Florida native plants - Florida friendly lawns - **Supports a 2024 Action Item**
4. How to compost.
5. How to plant a tree and ensure it will grow.
6. The ins and outs of electric cars: why it's fun and easy to have one.
7. Pesticide use and its impact on our Florida environment. (Roundup- chemical fertilizers)
8. Education of above items and general environmental awareness for children.
9. Tarpon Sustainable Home/Business Tour.
10. Create a Sustainability Quarterly update to keep residents engaged, piggybacking it with Utility bills. (Goal - get the residents involved and excited about joining the conversation.)

Note: Newsletters are underway for May and August.

11. Initiate a Sustainability-Merchant partnership, to introduce the sustainability plan to the Merchants Association and Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce and receive their feedback on barriers to participation they might be experiencing. (Goal - get the businesses onboard with Recycling and using compostable containers).
12. Use Sustainability as a way of building community connections, inspiring the sense of 'belonging' while working together on volunteer projects to keep Tarpon Springs natural environment healthy and beautiful. (Goal - increase public awareness while doing Beach and Park Clean Up projects together for purpose and pleasure!)
13. Water Conservation – Staff recommendation

FY24 and FY25 Action Items

Action Number	Action	Action Category	Estimated Costs		Timeframe	Strategic Plan	
			Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Source		Aligns with Strategic Plan Goals?	Project Implementation Timeframe
1	Net Zero Canopy Loss Policy		\$	O&M	SHORT		2024 - 2027
5	Ordinance requiring control of invasive species on City property		\$	O&M	SHORT		2024 - 2027
6	Land Use Regulations that establish appropriate wetland, stream and shoreline buffer widths		\$	O&M	SHORT		2024 - 2027
14	Seawall Ordinance		\$	O&M, Grant, Capital	SHORT		2024 - 2027
16	Climate Action Plan		\$\$\$	O&M, Grant	SHORT		2024 - 2027
18	GHG Reduction Target		\$	O&M	SHORT		2024 - 2027
35	Evaluate family-friendly workplace policies for local government employees		\$\$	O&M	MEDIUM		2024 - 2030
15	Improve facilities and infrastructure		\$\$\$\$	O&M, Grant, Capital	LONG		2025 - 2035
20	Solar feasibility study for City facilities		\$\$\$	O&M, Grant	SHORT		2025 - 2028
29	Proactive green infrastructure practices for new developments		\$	O&M	SHORT		2025 - 2028
3	Guideline with required break times		\$	O&M	SHORT		2025 - 2028
7	Connectivity to wildlife corridors		\$\$\$	O&M, Grant	LONG		2025 - 2035
11	Park and/or Open Space Plan		\$\$	O&M, Grant	SHORT		2025-2028
31	Focus market demand for green jobs, technology, products, and services.		\$	O&M	SHORT		2025 - 2028
48	Adopt a "Climate in All Policies" or "Sustainability in All Policies" statement		\$	O&M	SHORT		2025 - 2028