

**CITY OF PENSACOLA
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Thursday, March 7, 2019~2:00 p.m.

Vince Whibbs, Sr. Conference Room

1st Floor, City Hall

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Quorum
2. Oath of Office for New Member
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes—February 7, 2019
4. Old Business
 - a) Review of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report
5. New Business
6. Reports and Announcements
7. Board Member Comments
8. Public Comments—Open Forum
9. Adjourn

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board is April 4, 2019, unless changed.

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CITY OF PENSACOLA
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Members Present: Neil Richards, Chair, Kyle Kopytchak, Gloria Horning, Bob Bennett
Blase Butts

Members Absent: Steve Elliott, Vice Chair, Michael Lynch, Calvin Avant

Others Present: See attached sign-in sheet

1. Call to Order/Quorum: The meeting was called to order by Chair Richards. A quorum was established.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes—January 3, 2019

Motion made by Member Kopytchak to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Horning and was unanimously carried.

3. Old Business

- a) Review of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report

Chair Richards opened discussion on the review of the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report. An offer was made by Member Bennett to facilitate the review process. He suggested preparing summary points for each section for the Board to review and discuss. Once all sections have been reviewed, then bring in public comment prior to the Board making any resolution on what should be done.

Member Horning indicated that she had come prepared to comment at the last meeting and did. She has further comments that she's taken from the Task Force's findings and recommendations on the last 2 pages of the report and what could be done in the long run. She is prepared to do a power point presentation on them.

Member Butts asked how many recommendations the Environmental Advisory Board would make. Would they make recommendations on what is possible in the short term, what could be done now as well as the long term.

Chair Richards indicated that there is so much in the document and such a wide listing of topics that the EAB needs to have very specific, attainable items to recommend to the City Council and as the year progresses, can forward additional items. If too much is sent at one time, it might get bogged down.

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Member Kopytchak indicated that he thought the Board was going to discuss the process for the review of the report at a specific meeting and to give public notice of that meeting. He would be in favor of having Member Bennett mediate that meeting.

Chair Richards stated that the City Council has referred the Report to the EAB for recommendations of action items they can deal with one on one.

Member Bennett suggested that Member Horning make her presentation, and then the Board could further debate the process.

Member Horning reviewed her power point presentation. There has to be some way to measure outcomes. Need to look at vulnerable assessments and measurability. Measurability is how much electricity you are using whether in buildings or environment, coal, gas, reusables. She reviewed the parameters of the score card—the local government would be how much electricity they were using and then minus or plus whatever the case might be in how much they stopped using. Communitywide initiatives—solar, rain barrels, eliminating a car, getting better insulation in homes. Building policies—how much electricity is being used in the government buildings and other buildings. The building policy is already a Florida statute in bringing down electricity and gas house emissions that are put out. Energy and water utilities, what is the best way that is being used. Transportation is very important. Everyone wants a more walkable, bikeable community, however, not everyone is able to walk or bike. The number one issue in the communities surveyed was updating their mass transit.

Capturing data would include green house data from buildings—use of LEED, review cost per square feet, percentage of change per year, smart street lighting, fleet purchasing—Florida Statute 286.29—the most fuel efficient for the job. Grant opportunities are available through the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Technologies (REET) Grant Program as well as the Silver Grant Program with the Army Corp of Engineers for flood resilience and risk reduction.

As the result of the survey that was shared at the January EAB meeting, things that need to be addressed include managed retreat/relocation, the new standards of FEMA—not how high, but how close to the water. FEMA is also looking at one rebuild and then you are out, because people keep rebuilding in places where it is going to flood. Most people are concerned with immediate threats of flooding, storm surge/hurricane, sea level rise, and climate change and the immediate threats to their life, property, health, feelings of security, and the effects on insurance coverage/prices.

Need to look at the future and act now and address concerns. Relocation is the least attractive option to people seeking solutions to flooding, followed by individual property

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buyouts, building levees and dams to block the flow of flood waters and elevating homes. The most popular options from the survey were to improve the drainage capacity infrastructure of the neighborhood, protecting the green spaces and expanding areas of wetlands, and introduce programs and legislation that would reduce the burning of fossil fuels and slow the pace of global warming.

Need to educate the community and assist the community in moving forward, especially the disenfranchised communities. Need to protect the environment and natural defenses. Stop over development of the areas that would lower protection and cause more damage to the community, property, and lives.

These are things in the measurements that need to be looked at in long term to see where the line is. Where do we stop building and start protecting.

Chair Richards mentioned that in the introduction of the Task Force's report, the goal is to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions the City contributes to the environment. Are there specific action items that the Board can recommend to the City Council.

Member Horning indicated that her first recommendation is the need for an assessment, to find the data.

Member Butts also expressed the need to conduct an energy audit of all city departments down to site specific and mechanical equipment. Whenever grants are submitted, they require data. It is one of the most critical things that needs to be done.

Member Bennett indicated that EPA has a process to measure this. All the formulas are there. There is no problem, just fill in the blank.

Member Butts inquired as to whether there was a city employee who acted as a coordinator to oversee anything to do with what the Climate Change Task Force came up with.

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Member Carrie Stevenson stated that was one of the recommendations the Task Force made was to hire a Sustainability Coordinator.

Member Horning stated that there were several organizations that she is part of that give free scientists to collect the data. They did the Florida survey for free. You have to have the data and then look for grants. There has to be a score card for what is being done and what needs to be addressed.

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Member Bennett agreed with Member Butts that there needs to be measurements established. They are known and there are only a few. Electricity is the most common and the one that drives most everything. There has to be a baseline. You have to have cooperation with Gulf Power and the City of Pensacola to collect the data.

Further discussion occurred on the process of completing an inventory, what's involved to complete the data, and the time it would take to complete.

Task Force Member Stevenson clarified the intent of the recommendation. The City can only control the use the city owned buildings, facilities, and vehicles so the GHG emissions inventory would just be for City operations. Then possibly for some incentives for residents to get on board. The City government can't control what every individual does.

Chair Richards envisions the office of sustainability giving a monthly report to the City Council, similar to other monthly reports given, on what the benchmark was and how the improvements have been done.

The Board further discussed the merits of an energy manager or office of sustainability and the cost savings to the City of that position. Also, to establish a baseline, to complete the inventory of city-wide GHG emissions.

Ms. Beverly Perry informed the Board that the City sometime during 2012 – 2014 started an energy survey with Siemens on efficiency of city buildings; however the contract was canceled. She wasn't sure if the survey was ever completed.

Member Kopytchak stated that's where you start, see what already exists.

Chair Richards asked if there was a motion to present to City Council to proceed focusing on a baseline of energy usage for each building.

Member Horning stated that an energy audit is the simplest way in communicating first, that the Environmental Advisory Board recommends, as the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force did that there is a need for the data. How to collect the data could be in the Environmental Advisory Board's court to do some research to find that. Climate Change is not just about Green House Gas. It's also about sea level rise. The City's GHG is not making the sea level rise.

Member Bennett also pointed out that the Task Force's report contains a lot of recommendations about flooding, which has nothing to do with GHG. It is rife with

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flooding, it is rife with what happens to communities when flooding comes up and it is a real situation for Pensacola. Sea level is going to come up here in the City and the City ought to be looking at it. The biggest thing the City is facing is flooding.

Member Horning agreed. That is why she brought up managed retreat.

Member Kopytchak stated he thought it was too early for a recommendation, that the Board did not have enough facts to know what to recommend. The City Council was given a presentation by the Task Force and its back to the Environmental Advisory Board to discuss it and the Board has just now started to review.

Discussion occurred on the next steps for the Board. Understanding what the grants are and what data to collect would allow the Board to then make recommendations on achievable data. Also need to consider the recommendations that will be forthcoming from the transition team with projects that will cost the City money. Grants go to the priority issues, that's why there are grants. The Federal and State governments have already decided on what the priorities are. The Board could take action to try and identify grants.

Chair Richards called for public comment.

City Council Member Ann Hill stated that she read the report but did not absorb a lot of it because she does not have a science background. She is eager to take whatever the Board recommends to the City Council. A simple victory was made with the use of paper cups instead of Styrofoam. If someone recommended replacing lights with LED's, would that be a simple recommendation. As bulbs need to be replaced, replace them with LED bulbs. Those are the kind of little things that Council could take action on.

Mr. Brunie Emmanuel suggested to the Board, looking at page 15 of the Report, that the Board recommend 1) to reestablish and fund the City of Pensacola Office of Sustainability so that there is someone to coordinate this; 2) to conduct an energy audit; and 3) conduct a vulnerability assessment. All the rest of the recommendations would come under the responsibility of the person in the Office of Sustainability.

Christian Wagley stated that the Board did not need to get everything settled today. The Climate Task Force looked at both adaptation and mitigation. The Council would like to see items from both the adaptation side as well as the mitigation side. The inventory would be a place to start. He further commented on the Siemens contract and that the city had taken that over, replacing some of the light fixtures. There was money budgeted in the Local Option Sales Tax, however that money was moved to the ST Aerospace project.

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Additional input to the Transition Team needs to be given to him by February 15. Five priority recommendations can be advanced to the Mayor, two being short term and he is still working on those. He felt like a couple of them would be climate/energy related.

Robert M. Wilson suggested a possible resource for the Board would be the University of West Florida Academy of Senior Professionals. There are a number of interesting retired professors who live in Pensacola. They spend a lot of time helping local communities deal with various issues. It does not require you to look for money. It is basically retired people who are doing it because it is the right thing to do. They might be able to help get the data to get the grants.

Member Horning made a motion to table any suggestions to City Council until all of the Board Members get on board and give suggestions as members Butts, Bennett and Horning have on specifics. There was no second.

Chair Richards interpreted Member Horning's motion for the Board to take no action on a recommendation to the City Council.

Beverly Perry indicated that the sustainability person could advise the Mayor on which organizations to join, which was a recommendation of the Task Force as well as follow up with getting advice from local people and the UWF people. Also consideration needs to be given to commit to meet a 30% renewable energy target by 2030 for city-owned facilities and operations, with a goal of 100% renewable by 2040.

Member Butts also pointed out that one of his recommendations was to join various initiatives and organizations that are applicable here. Further, he suggested writing a resolution to the Florida legislature to change Florida Statutes on how solar power is generated. Florida is one of four states that does not allow purchase lease agreements.

Member Bennet stated that they just allowed it for TESLA and that there is a signature campaign underway that already has about 500,000 signatures to get it on the ballot in 2020 to change that renewable structure and open up competitive purchasing.

Member Butts suggested that the City Council add their voice to that so that renewable solar could be done in the City.

Chair Richards asked if Member Butts had the details to present in the form of a motion. He's trying to stay in front of City Council, letting them know that the EAB is spending time on the report and making recommendations to them that they can accomplish in the short term.

There were no motions made by members of the Board.

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City Council Member Hill made a suggestion that once the EAB has some recommendations to possibly have a joint meeting with the City Council and EAB in a workshop.

Jennifer Glossinger suggested doing a baseline criteria that would identify the problem at hand and would help with grants. The coordinator position would be a very key position that can help initiate what needs to be done in the baseline criteria, that defines the priorities of how to solve the problems, what resources are available and how to move forward.

4. New Business

There was none.

5. Reports and Announcements

Chair Richards reported Science Hour presentation on coyotes would be February 7, 2019.

6. Board Member Comments

Member Bennett asked for an update on the placement of signs on 12th Avenue under the tree tunnel.

7. Public Comments—Open Forum

Chair Richards recognized Elizabeth Major from Santa Rosa County. She is working on Santa Rosa County's tree ordinance.

Member Butts reported on trees cut down on 12th and Summit.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

City of Pensacola Environmental Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, February 7, 2019
Whibbs Conference Room, 1st Floor
City Hall, 222 West Main Street
2 P.M.

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME (Please Print)	Agenda Item	Telephone Number	Address
Elizabeth Major		850-710-3601	1900 Reserve Blvd Eugene, OR 97403
Robert M. Wilson		478-2373	110 Turner, J.W. 2009 W.W. R. P.O.
BETTY A. WILSON		850 503 0962	2299 SCENIC HWY #12 PENSACOLA FL 32503
Chris Major		850 380 2950	2299 SCENIC HWY #12 PENSACOLA, FL 32503
Ann Hill		850 430 5096	222 W Main St Pensacola, FL 32502
Brucie Emmanuel		850 418 3492	112 W Gregory 02
Barbara Brecht		850.492.1251	5915 Kaiser Lane 32507
Mike Hayward		on file	
Christina Hagley		850 287 4601	-

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME (Please Print)	Agenda Item	Telephone Number	Address
JENNIFER GLOSSINGER		850-384-8894	2323 N. 15th AVE 32503
Bev Perry		850-347-1128	622 W. Belmont St,
Garnie Skene		475-5230	

Sign In Sheet

Examples of Scorecard Use

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| • Massachusetts – 85/100 | Ranking #1 |
| – Boston #1 | |
| • Florida – 35/100 | Ranking #23 |
| – Miami 22/100 | |
| – Tampa 33/100 | |
| – Jacksonville 41/100 | |
| – Orlando 53/100 | |

Score Card

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| • Local Government | 10 Points |
| • Communitywide Initiatives | 12 Points |
| • Building Policy | 28 Points |
| • Energy & Water Utilities | 20 Points |
| • Transportation | 30 Points |

Vulnerability Assessment

- Measurements are by percentage of
 - Electricity
 - Coal
 - Gas
 - Reusable

Energy Efficiency Score Card

Capturing Data

- Green House Data from Buildings
 - LEED
- Review cost per square feet
- Percentage of change per year
- Smart Street Lighting
- Fleet Purchasing – Florida Statue 286.29
 - The most fuel efficient for the job

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Technologies (REET) Grant Program

The REET Grant Program is a competitive grant program designed to provide funding to conduct demonstration, commercialization, research and development projects relating to renewable energy technologies and innovative technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency for vehicles and commercial buildings.

Silver Grant Program

A partnership with the Army Corp of Engineers and the City for Flood Resilience and Risk Reduction

The Survey Says

Climate Change and Retreat

- Managed retreat/relocation is the elephant in the room – difficult to discuss (financial, emotional and structural challenges)
- Un-managed retreat is already occurring (Katrina displaced more than 1M, Harvey, Sandy, Irma, Michael...)

Coastal flooding

- People are equally concerned about flooding (77%), storm surge/hurricane (72%), sea level rise (70%) and climate change (75%).
- Their concerns relate to immediate threats e.g. to their life, property, health, feelings of security, and the effects on insurance coverage/prices, versus broader threats on transport, tourism and property values.

The impacts affect people at all scales

- "As a victim of house and property flooding due, in part, to all of the above issues, I have been physically, emotionally and financially impacted."
- "Our home was damaged and my kitchen was destroyed. We were homeless for a year and a half due to Harvey flooding."
- "I am concerned that New Orleans will not exist in the very near future. I am also concerned that where I am from, Florida, will be gone one day."
- "I believe that climate change threatens the survival of the human species."

Retreat

- Relocation is the least attractive option for people seeking solutions to flooding (24% of people would not support this option)

This is followed by individual property buyouts (21%), and building levees and dams to block the flow of flood waters (18.7%), and elevating homes (16%).

The most popular options:

- Improving the drainage capacity of the neighborhood
- Protecting green spaces and expanding areas of wetlands
- Introducing programs and legislation that would reduce the burning of fossil fuels and slow the pace of global warming

Managed Retreat

- Un-managed retreat is already occurring (Katrina displaced more than 1M, Harvey, Sandy, Irma...)
- Managed retreat/relocation is the elephant in the room — difficult to discuss (financial, emotional and structural challenges)
- Flood survivors may be the best people to lead discussions
- Our goal, to have the discussion: "Is managed retreat right for us?"

Feedback

- "Research why the issues occurred"
- "Look at best practices that have worked."
- "All current and projected scientific data, accessible data and effective algorithms"
- "We need a paradigm to discuss each areas needs. A model that can be visualized better so people can see and discuss apples to apples."
- "To educate the community. Give options to the Community. Education is the most important part to assist the community to move forward".

Lastly

- "We have to protect our environment and natural defenses. **Stopover development** of these areas that would lower protection and cause more damage to the community, property, and lives."

Blase Butts

Recommendations to City Council for "Climate Mitigation & Adaptation Task Force"

1. **Institute a coordinator position to oversee membership in various initiatives, grant writing, website page, conduct an energy audit of all city departments down to site specific and mechanical equipment.** As improvements are made – higher efficient autos, heavy equipment, motors, windows, light bulbs etcetera document it. The data collected is the basis for grant submittal and awards
2. **Webpage on City Website to Communicate Progress/Milestones in a News Update format**
3. **Resolution to Florida Legislature to change rules governing alternative energy generation to;**
 - Allow purchase lease agreements
 - Allow small generators to sell power at market prices
 - Installation of new renewable energy sites

In most states, it's legal for property owners to sell home-generated solar power to others, including tenants. This is usually called a "power-purchase agreement" — your landlord, for example, might put some solar panels on top of your apartment building and charge a dirt-cheap rate to buy power from her or him, instead of from the local power company.

At present, according to Section 366.02, Florida Statutes, any private entity selling electricity in Florida is considered to be a "public utility" subject to regulation by the Florida Public Service Commission. In practice, this prevents the use of power purchase agreements (PPAs), a financing strategy used in many other states. Under a PPA, a developer installs a solar PV system on a property and sells the electricity generated by the system to the property owner. This sale generally takes the form of a long-term contract, which provides both the solar developer with a predictable income stream and the property owner with a fixed price for electricity. In many markets, this electricity price is lower than the retail rate of electricity offered by utilities, which provides a powerful financial incentive for participation

4. **Join various initiatives;** Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, Int'l Council for Local Environmental Initiatives etcetera
5. **Incorporate better site design, low impact development and green infrastructure principles into local codes and planning:** Stormwater, natural shorelines, watershed management, permeable surfaces, rebates/incentives, projected sea levels and storm surge impacts...