



City of Pensacola

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes

January 7, 2021

2:00 pm

Microsoft Teams/Hagler/Mason

Members Present: Neil Richards, Chair, Blase Butts, Michael Lynch, Alex Kozmon

Members Absent: Kyle Kopytchak, Katie Fox

Others Present: Council Executive Don Kraher, Sustainability Coordinator Mark Jackson, David Forte, Allen Vinson, Kelly Hagen, Christian Wagley

1. Call to Order/Quorum

The meeting was called to order by Chair Richards. Council Executive requested that Board Members as well as any public speakers keep their face coverings on during the meeting as well as when speaking from the podium. **A quorum was not present.**

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes—December 3, 2020
No vote taken due to lack of quorum.

3. Presentation—Bruce Beach Project—David Forte

David Forte, Capital Improvement Projects Manager and Allen Vinson with HDR made a brief power point presentation on the Bruce Beach Project (attached). Funding for this project is from CRA bond dollars in the amount of \$9 million. The project is divided into four phases, which will be roughly \$2 million per phase. He also reviewed the tree and vegetation project that was recently completed by the Audubon Society through a grant that they received. Once the pedestrian bridge is completed over Washer Women's Creek, additional trees and undercover vegetation will be planted. The consultant is currently completing a survey for the entire site and then they will move forward with designing phase one and hopefully phase one will be under construction this fall.

Member Butts inquired as to whether there had been any type of assessment of what is located in the water off of Bruce Beach, such as glass and pieces of metal.

Allen Vinson indicated that those were things that would be cleaned up as part of the construction contract.

Kelly Hagen, 705 South "I" Street inquired about whether an environmental assessment had been done on the site and voiced her concerns about possible contaminants on the site from the American Creosote superfund site as well as the industrial site to the west of the property. Her concern is if it is actually safe for people to be swimming.

Allen Vinson indicated that the fuel storage area has had a history which is now certified as being in compliance. The site did not have a history as a creosote site, it was a ship repair dock and then was the site of the first African American swimming pool in the area.

David Forte indicated that there will be another public workshop held on the Bruce Beach, bringing SCAPE back as a reviewing consultant to make sure that all aspects of the development plans are moving forward from the original SCAPE plan and are adhering as closely to the plan as previously proposed.

4. Updates from Sustainability Coordinator Mark Jackson

Mark Jackson reported that he is continuing to work on the update of the Tree Ordinance that will be going to the Planning Board on January 12 and will hopefully be getting an update from SustainaBase. Also discussed the recently completed Urban Forestry Strike Force team survey that was done through the state forestry service to assess tree damage in the City's parks. It assessed the number and species of trees that were lost due to Hurricane Sally. There were approximately 400 trees lost throughout the 93 parks that were surveyed as well as the 128 miles of right-of-way.

Chair Richards mentioned the installation of the new Solar tree located on the corner of Reus and Main Street. It was also mentioned that solar canopies are proposed for several locations in the City.

Council Executive also mentioned that the proposed amendments to the Tree ordinance, once reviewed by the Planning Board, would be brought forward to to the City Council and the EAB.

5. New Business
a) Goal Setting—2021

Council Executive suggested, since there wasn't a quorum present, the Board wait until the next meeting to review and set goals since the vacancies on the Board will

be filled and will provide an opportunity to provide a road map or plan for what the Board would like to accomplish and set goals and priorities. There are a lot of recommendations made in the Task Force Report as well as the Mayor's Transition Report that the Board could consider in setting their goals and priorities as well as making a recommendation to the Mayor and/or City Council.

b) Review of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report

Chair Richards inquired whether Board Members had any thoughts or ideas about the Task Force Report.

Member Kozmon suggested the Board take a deliberative approach as a group, go through the document, identifying what's in the Board's scope and how to prioritize what the Board wants to tackle and whether the Board wants any goals to purely come from the Report and be the only thing to focus on.

Member Butts mentioned obtaining greater citizen involvement and participation in helping obtain and reach some of the goals and recommendations. What can the public do?

Council Executive indicated that education was one of the things the Task Force keyed on in their report. That is something the Environmental Advisory Board can discuss. What is the best way to do that? Maybe it could be an insert in the bill that the City sends out. Every resident is required to have sanitation service.

Member Lynch questioned the timeline for reviewing and making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council. He suggested that a list be made of what has already been accomplished since the report was submitted.

6. Old Business

Nothing discussed. Update on the IPM Plan will be given at the next meeting.

7. Board Member Comments/Updates, Reports and Announcements

Member Butts indicated that Ocean Hour would be conducting a trash pick up at Chimney Park and Bay Bluffs Park on Saturday. Last month, they picked up over 400 pounds at the beaches. Also, Keep Pensacola Beautiful is involved with clean-up programs.

Member Kozmon mentioned that kind of information would be important for the preliminary work of some sort of community education, to be able to delineate what is already happening and how the community can help to reduce or mitigate that.

8. Public Comments—Open Forum

Kelly Hagen expressed interest in the organization responsible for the clean-ups and Member Butts provided email address: oceanhourfl.com.

Christian Wagley provided information on a program that will be held by zoom on January 12 at 6:30 p.m. dealing with investment opportunities in the climate era in decarbonizing your investment portfolio. Information can be found on 350 Pensacola or Healthy Gulf facebook page.

He also commented on the water testing done on bacteria levels in the bay. It is pretty much understood that you don't swim in the bay within 48 hours of a rain event.

Also, the 100% renewables by 2040 campaign is a primary focus for this year. He is excited to see the cooperation of the staff, Council and administration.

He also suggested that the Chairman consider periodically attending the City Council meeting to let them know what the Board is doing.

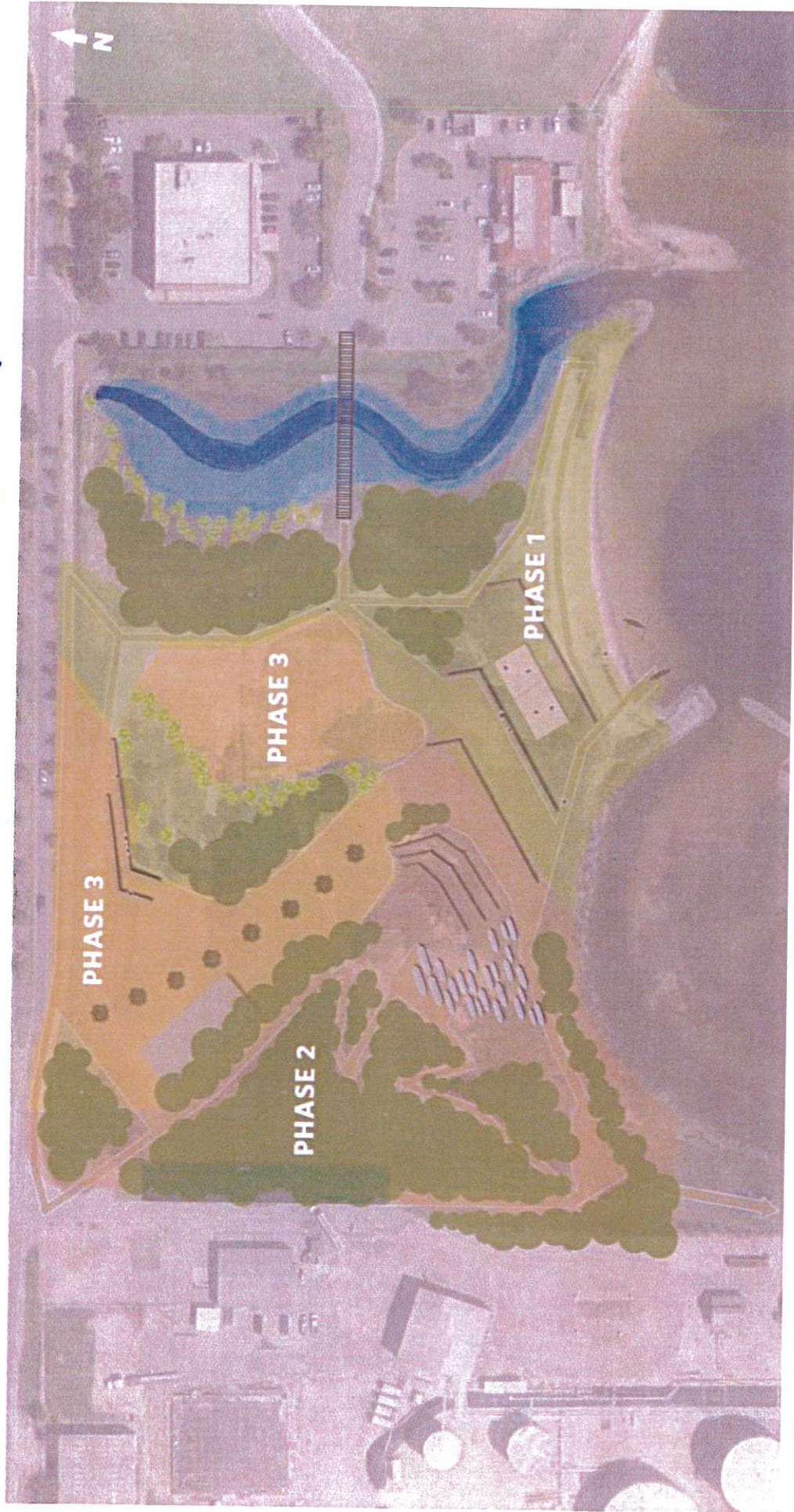
Council Executive reminded the Board that the Chairman or any Board Member attending would be commenting as an individual and not speaking on behalf of the Board unless they have been directed by the Board.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

BRUCE BEACH IMPROVEMENTS

Item 3
Power Point Presentation - EAB
January 7, 2021



❖ All Phases Feature: Accessible Connectivity - Landscape Diversity - Hardscapes & Seating

BRUCE BEACH | MASTER LAYOUT

PHASE 1 PHASE 2 PHASE 3

BRUCE BEACH IMPROVEMENTS

❖ Phase 1 Total Cost = \$1.99 Million

- Features:
 - Beach Terraces
 - Pedestrian Bridge
 - Kayak Launch

❖ Phase 2 Total Cost = \$1.96 Million

- Features:
 - Sitting Walls
 - Overlook & Mound Scramble
 - Exercise Equipment
 - Parking & Marsh Trail

❖ Phase 3 Total Cost = \$1.94 Million

- Features:
 - Entry Plaza
 - Learning Garden & Water Feature
 - Shade Structures & Cultural Exhibits

❖ Phase 4 Total Cost = \$1.98 Million

- Features:
 - Additional Cultural & Educational Exhibits
 - Additional Site Amenities & Structural Components



Native Trees & Plants for Native & Migratory Birds of Bruce Beach



Live Oak to be
Planted After
Footbridge is
Complete



Pensacola Bay

Washerwoman Creek

Pedestrian Bridge

Nick's Boathouse

Native Trees & Plants for Native & Migratory Birds at Bruce Beach

A projected sponsored and funded by Francis M. Weston Audubon Society, Gulf Power Foundation, Ascend Performance Materials, and Audubon Florida's "Plants for Birds" program and under a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Pensacola, Community Redevelopment Agency and Francis M. Weston Audubon Society.

**Planted by Francis M. Weston Audubon Society Volunteers 11/21/20 and 11/22/20:
Total of 150 trees & plants**

One (1) Sourwood Tree (*Oxydendrum arboretum*) (Donated by 7 Pines Native Plant Nursery)

Four (4) Live Oaks (*Quercus virginiana*)

Three (3) Sand Live Oaks (*Quercus geminata*)

Four (4) Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*)

Eight (8) Native Persimmon (*Dispyros virginiana*)

Eleven (11) Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)(Six trees donated by local Native Plant Grower)

Three (3) Chickasaw plums (*Prunus anguvstifolia*)

Six (6) Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*)

Fifteen (15) Oak Leaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)

Ten (10) American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)

Ten (10) Sweet Shrub (*Calycanthus flordia*)

Nine (9) Yaupon Holly, (*Ilex vomitoria*)

Four (4) Sweet Bay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)

Eight (8) Rusty Lyonia (*Lyonia ferruginea*)

Five (5) Saw Palmetto (*Serenoa reopens*)

Ten (10) False Rosemary Mint (*Conradina canescens*)

Ten (10) Dahoon Holly (*Ilex cassine*) (Six trees donated by local Native Plant Grower

Seven (7) Spider Lily (*Hymenocallis latifolia*)

Twenty-two (22) Frogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*) (Twelve (12)-donated)

Three (3) Winged Zumac (*Rhus copallinum*)

Five (5) Inkberry Holly (*Ilex glabra*)

Five (5) Summer Sweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Five (5) Possum Haw (*Ilex decidua*)

Five (5) Scarlet Hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*)

To Be Planted After Pedestrian Bridge Installation: Total of 18 trees & plants.

Six (6) Sand Live Oaks (*Quercus geminata*)

Six (6) 12'-16" Plug Black Willow (*Salix nigra*) (When natives can be sourced)

Two (2) Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*)

Two (2) Yaupon Holly, (*Ilex vomitoria*)

Two (2) Saw Palmetto (*Serenoa repens*)

Two (2) Inkberry Holly (*Ilex glabra*)

Seeds

Native Florida Milkweed (*Asclepias humistrata*) Bulk Seeds (Donated by Escambia County Master Gardeners)

Standing Cypress (*Ipomopsis rubra*) Bulk Seeds (To be planted Spring 2021) Swamp

Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*) - Bulk Seeds (To be planted Spring 2021)