CITY OF TITUSVILLE
TITUSVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING
August 13, 2014
Council Chamber at City Hall
555 S. Washington Avenue Titusville, FL 32796
5:30 PM

Notice

All persons who anticipate speaking on any Public Hearing item must fill out an Oath Card to be heard on that agenda item and sign the oath contained thereon. These cards are located on the table near the entrance to the Council Chamber or may be obtained from the Recording Secretary. This meeting will be conducted in accordance to the procedures adopted in Resolution #24-1997

Those speaking in favor of a request will be heard first, those opposed will be heard second, and those who wish to make a public comment on the item will speak third. The applicant may make a brief rebuttal if necessary. A representative from either side, for or against, may cross-examine a witness.

Anyone who speaks is considered a witness. If you have photographs, sketches, or documents that you desire for the Commission to consider, they must be submitted into evidence and will be retained by the City. Please submit such exhibits to the Recording Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   A. July 9, 2014
      Approve Minutes from July 9, 2014
6. OLD BUSINESS
   A. Indian River Lagoon
      Leesa Souto, Ph.D., with the Marine Resources Council, will present the results of the Lagoon Action Assembly held in May. No action is required. This is an informational item only.
   B. Project Planning and Prioritization 2014/2015
      Review a draft update to the list of planning projects for the 2014/2015 year.
7. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Election of Officers
      Elect a new Chairman.

8. REPORTS
   A. Chairman’s Report
   B. Committee Reports

9. PETITIONS AND REQUESTS FROM PUBLIC PRESENT

10. ADJOURNMENT

Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Titusville Environmental Commission 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 desires to accommodate persons with disabilities. Accordingly, any physically handicapped person, pursuant to Chapter 286.26 Florida Statutes, should at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, submit a written request to the chairperson of the meeting that the physically handicapped person desires to attend.
City of Titusville
"Gateway to Nature and Space"

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Titusville Environmental Commission Members
From: Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director
Subject: July 9, 2014

Department/Office:

Recommended Action:
Approve Minutes from July 9, 2014

Summary Explanation & Background:

Alternatives:

Item Budgeted:

Source/use of funds/Budget Book Page:

Strategic Plan:

Strategic Plan Impact:

ATTACHMENTS:

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The Titusville Environmental Commission (TEC) of the City of Titusville, Florida, met in regular session in the Council Chamber at City Hall, located at 555 South Washington Avenue on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 5:30pm.

Chairman Pettit called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were, Member Conklin, Member Chavier, Member Lackey, Member Tucker and Member Myjak. Member Chamberlain and Vice Chairman Yount were absent. Staff present was Principal Planner Brad Parrish, Stormwater Utility Administrator Sandra Reller, Stormwater Project Manager Jennifer Majka and Recording Secretary Laurie Dargie.

Member Chavier moved for approval of the May 14, 2014 minutes. Member Tucker seconded the motion; there was a unanimous voice vote in favor.

Old Business
None

New Business

Indian River Lagoon
Mr. Parrish said at the last meeting the Commission asked many questions as to what the City of Titusville is doing in regards to the Indian River Lagoon. Mr. Parrish said the Commission also decided to postpone the idea of having a forum to discuss the Indian River Lagoon until additional information could be received. Mr. Parrish said that Stormwater Utility Administrator Sandra Reller and Stormwater Project Manager Jennifer Majka are here tonight to speak to the Commission. Mr. Parrish said that he has Leesa Souto, PH.D., with Marine Resources Council scheduled to speak at a future meeting and speak to the Commission about the results of the Lagoon Action Assembly that they held in May 2014. Mr. Parrish said that the presentation from Leesa Souta might be an online presentation in the City’s Round Room for her convenience. Mr. Parrish said he spoke to Virginia Barker with the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department about attending the September 2014 meeting to give a presentation that she shared with the Marine Resources Council in May 2014.

Stormwater Utility Administrator Sandra Reller came to speak to the Commission. Ms. Reller said that she would recommend that the Commission take the time to read the memorandum from the Water Resources Administrator Lorraine Guise, which is included in tonight’s agenda packets. Ms. Reller said it is a comprehensive update as to where the City is and what the City has done. Ms. Reller said the City is working on the last project for the BMAP 1, which is Draa Field. Ms. Reller
said the City is ahead of schedule on completing BMAP 1. Ms. Reller said that updates on Draa Field will be coming really soon. Ms. Reller said that the City is already looking ahead to prepare for BMAP 2. Ms. Reller said that one of the first things that the City will be working on is a watershed-loading map. Ms. Reller said the purpose is to find out where the biggest loadings are coming from so that the City can concentrate the projects on areas that will give the City the best reduction. Ms. Reller said the City is also planning for more baffle boxes, floating wetland islands, bio retention swales instead of curbs and gutters and developing an aquatic vegetation removal program rather than just spraying. Ms. Reller said the City receives credit for the removal of the vegetation. Ms. Reller said that many innovative ideas are coming out and the City has a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to find out how the City can receive credits for the new technologies. Ms. Reller said that the City currently receives credits for ponds and baffle boxes etc. and wants to find out how credits can be received with the new technologies. Ms. Reller said that the City wants to get the most for its money. Ms. Reller said that the Indian River Lagoon is a work in progress but the City is definitely working on it.

Stormwater Project Manager Jennifer Majka came to speak to the Commission. Ms. Majka said that City Council gave direction at the March 2014 meeting to have Staff bring back a preliminary plan for the living shorelines. Ms. Majka said that she will be giving the preliminary plan on July 22, 2014 to City Council if any of the Commission members would like to attend. Ms. Majka said that the City has also applied for a grant through the University of Central Florida (UCF) to do a demonstration site to show what living shorelines do for the community.

Chairman Pettit asked about the plan for mechanical removal of vegetation in ditches etc. Ms. Reller said the City does want to come up with ideas for removal of the vegetation and said right now the City does some dredging and spraying. Ms. Reller said that the goal is to do a mixture of all and also include biological removal by using fish. Chairman Pettit said that he is concerned about the spray that the City is using. Chairman Pettit said he would like to see the City cease all spraying of chemicals. Chairman Pettit said that the City is contributing to the problem by spraying. Ms. Reller said that right now there are so many blooms in the area that if they do not spray the blooms it will get out of control and start killing the fish etc. Ms. Reller said that in her opinion before spraying can be stopped a plan needs to be in place to reduce the nutrients. Ms. Reller said that the sprays are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Ms. Reller said that mechanical removal is the best but it takes a lot of extra processing because it has to be weighed and then dried, and stored or used etc.

Chairman Pettit told Ms. Reller thank you for the basin maps. Ms. Reller said that the studies that were done were more for water quantity than water quality. Ms. Reller said that some water quality studies were done but not much at this time.

Member Tucker asked for more explanation regarding bio-sorption media. Ms. Reller said that she is not an expert on this subject matter but can get with Lorraine Guise and answer it at a later time.

Member Chavier asked if the City is tracking the progress on the projects that are taking place. Ms. Reller said an example of tracking one project is that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) sends a report each month showing how much debris is swept off the streets each month. Ms. Reller said that the stormwater website is being updated to show what is currently taking place in the department. Member Chavier said that he would like to know if reporting is taking place to show the current status of the Indian River Lagoon so that in a couple years when updated reports are given the City has reports to compare progress such as are the sea grasses doing better etc. Chairman Pettit said
that the Saint Johns River Water Management does do a form of sea grass reporting by getting into the water and taking measurements of the sea grass beds. Chairman Pettit said that aerials are also taken to help show where the variations are taking place in the sea grass. Chairman Pettit said that the clarity has been much better in the Indian River Lagoon more recently. Chairman Pettit said that he does see a new species of algae. Chairman Pettit said that maybe this new algae is absorbing a lot of the nutrients causing some of the water clarity. Chairman Pettit said that this raises many questions. Ms. Reller said that 2013 was a measuring year for the sea grasses and once that report comes out it can be compared to the 2011 sea grass reports.

Member Chavier asked what is happening to the biomass that is currently being cleaned up. Ms. Reller said that right now it is going into a storage facility. Ms. Reller said it is dredged, dried out and they have a contained area with dirt that it is put with. Ms. Reller said that the vegetation is never reused but the dirt is sometimes used. Ms. Reller said that the intent in the future is to find useful ways of reusing the biomass but she does not know what that will be at this time.

Member Conklin asked if defoliants are being used in the ditches etc. Ms. Reller said yes. Member Conklin asked if you can take harvested biomass with the moisture extraction and put it to good use. Ms. Reller said yes. Member Conklin said that the nitrogen and phosphorous is not killing the sea grasses but the decay of leaves etc. which prevents sunlight to get to the sea grasses kills it. Chairman Pettit said that the nitrogen and phosphorous helps set up the environment to cause damage to the sea grasses. Member Conklin said that the plan should be to put fresh water back into the Indian River Lagoon.

Member Myjak said that no studies have been done to measure all the pollutants that are going into the Indian River Lagoon and the focus has mainly been put on two pollutants. Member Myjak asked what models are being talked about regarding the BMAP. Ms. Reller said that Lorraine Guise is the expert on this material. Ms. Reller said that the TMDL model is being used. Member Myjak said that the model is wrong because the turbidity changes from year to year with the seasons. Member Myjak said in his opinion the City is creating the nutrients for the “perfect storm” by using roundup in the ditches and getting mixed with the algae when it gets flushed into the Indian River Lagoon. Member Myjak said that if it is not being looked at, it cannot be measured, and if it isn’t being measured then it cannot be understood and cannot be controlled. Member Myjak said that if funding can be found then it would be good for the City to try and partner with other entities and schools to do much more in depth research and studies. Ms. Reller said that the City is already partnering with UCF regarding the living shorelines.

Member Chavier said that a continuous measuring program should be done. Member Chavier said a list should be made and kept up every 6 months as to anything and everything going into the Indian River Lagoon. Chairman Pettit said that other entities might already have studies that have this information. Chairman Pettit said that some of these questions might be answered when the Commission meets with Leesa Souto and Virginia Barker.

Member Conklin said that he is going to continue to advocate that the stormwater really needs to be redirected so that it does not flow into the Indian River Lagoon. Chairman Pettit said that using a basin by basin approach would help determine the problem. Member Myjak said the water should be run through a Reverse Osmosis (RO) System instead of running it into the Indian River Lagoon.

Mr. Parrish said he will send any information regarding updates to the Titusville Environmental Commission.
Member Chavier said that he would like to keep this topic in the public’s eye. Member Chavier would like Staff to report back in maybe 6 months and give updates as to what has transpired since this meeting. Mr. Parrish asked Member Chavier what kind of updates is he looking for. Member Chavier said the sea grass report, oyster report, etc. Member Chavier said that if these things are not tracked no one will know what is helping or hurting the Indian River Lagoon.

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Project Planning and Prioritization 2014/2015
Chairman Pettit said it seemed that the Commission just recently discussed this topic. The Commission members turned to page 35 of the agenda packet to review the ongoing projects list and strategic ordinance/report list. Chairman Pettit said that the Fertilizer Ordinance has been complete. Member Myjak said he thought some work could be done regarding the Littoral Zone. Member Chavier said that he recalls that if the Littoral Zone was restored the buffer would be only 10 foot instead of 20 foot. Member Chavier said that because it could not be resolved between the 10 foot and 20 foot buffer, the Littoral Zone portion was not complete.

Chairman Pettit said he would like to have the Living Shoreline be added to the list. Chairman Pettit suggested removing the Fertilizer Ordinance from the list and adding Living Shoreline Initiative.

Chairman Pettit said that a Green Building/City Ordinance was already written several years also. Chairman Pettit would like an update at the next meeting regarding the status of the Green Building/City Ordinance.

Member Myjak asked if the Green City initiative was a walking city. Member Lackey said that was part of it.

Mr. Parrish said he would suggest scaling down the topics and targeting certain subject matters that can be accomplished within a year. Mr. Parrish said for an example on Green City/Building targeting retrofitting building utilities, such as lighting fixtures etc. Member Conklin said that in many ways the City of Titusville is already a Green City. Member Conklin said the City has a rebate program for those implementing low volume flushing toilets. Member Conklin said that one thing that has not been done in City Hall or other municipal buildings is using LED lights. Member Conklin said that the same excuse is given every time a suggestion is made and the excuse is the City doesn’t have any money. Member Conklin said the savings will be so much more than the upfront cost.

Member Lackey said that Peggy Busacca came several months ago and told the Commission to scale the topics down so that the Commission can work towards completing two or three items before the end of the year is complete. Member Lackey said that she thinks that Green City is a broad topic and if the Commission isn’t very specific about what the target goal is that the Commission wants to accomplish, nothing will be accomplished. Chairman Pettit agreed with Member Lackey. Mr. Parrish said that there is nothing wrong with long-term goals on specific topics but the Commission will accomplish more by having specific goals.

Chairman Pettit said that the Commission has accomplished a lot. Chairman Pettit said the tree inventory was completed and a new software is available now to produce maps. Chairman Pettit suggested that the Tree Planting Program name should be changed to the Urban Forestry Program. Member Chavier disagrees with changing the name because the Tree Planting Program is not
complete. Member Chavier said that even though the tree survey is done it has not been used. Member Chavier said that when it comes to Earth Day and Arbor Day the overall study should be looked at to see where the trees should be planted. Member Chavier said he would like to see more tree planting by the City of Titusville and not just on two days a year. Member Chavier said that he would like to see an ordinance that requires canopy trees.

Member Myjak suggested the name be changed to Urban Reforestation Program. Member Myjak said it upsets him when a developer comes in and grates all the trees that exist down and plants 2-inch caliber trees in place of all the canopy trees. Member Myjak said that something needs to be done to encourage the developers to keep trees 6 inches and bigger in caliber on the property. Member Conklin agrees that the number of trees being taken down is not acceptable.

Chairman Pettit asked the Commission if they want Urban Reforestation on the list. Member Myjak said yes with actual results to show within a year. Mr. Parrish said he will come up with a draft list of the items that the Commission has discussed and provide it to the Commission at the next meeting.

Chairman Pettit suggested three items for the 2014/2015 list, which are Indian River Lagoon, Living Shorelines and Urban Reforestation. Member Myjak asked what is the Commission looking to accomplish regarding the Indian River Lagoon other than the Living Shorelines. Chairman Pettit said they are kind of the same but a more comprehensive look needs to go into the Indian River Lagoon per discussion earlier in the meeting. Member Myjak said that he would like to see stormwater to potable water as a priority.

Mr. Parrish said that the Commission has two upcoming presentations at future meetings and can always refine the specific goal of the Indian River Lagoon after the presentations.

Member Lackey said that Ms. Reller said that the Living Shorelines was going to be a more hands on community project and the Commission can get involved with that.

Member Conklin said he is not comfortable with taking a 12 month cycle and not addressing any Green City approaches. Member Conklin said that even approaching the smallest of buildings and making changes to be more Green would satisfy him. Chairman Pettit said that the Commission is making a major priority list but it does not limit what the Commission can do throughout the year as different things come up. Member Conklin said that he just wants to voice his opinion that Green City is a big priority to him.

Member Myjak asked if the Titusville Environmental Commission could meet twice a month rather than once a month. Chairman Pettit asked Mr. Parrish to check and see if the Commission could maybe meet twice a month.

Member Lackey said that Green City does not have to be removed from the list. Member Chavier said that he met with Afi Fancon about Green City and they determined that it is a very complicated issue and requires very in depth studies. Chairman Pettit said that the Commission spent a year writing the Green City Ordinance and it was submitted to City Council and the Commission was never given an update as to the status of the Green City Ordinance. Chairman Pettit asked for an update on the Green City Ordinance. Chairman Pettit said that the Ordinance was never adopted but the Commission does not know what happened to it.

Member Chavier said it would have been nice to have had an opportunity to ask the developer of the
new Publix site what trees and vegetation are going to be left on the property. Chairman Pettit said that a large amount of that Publix site has been set aside for conservation use and might be used for one of the City’s trails.

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Semi-Annual Report

Member Conklin made a motion to accept the Semi-Annual Report. Member Chavier seconded the motion; there was a unanimous voice vote in favor.

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Reports

Chairman Pettit said that due to an illness in his family he is finding it hard to concentrate on things that need to be done. Chairman Pettit said that he would like to remain on the Commission but would like to step down as the Chairman. Chairman Pettit requested that an Election of Officers be put on the next meeting’s agenda.

Member Myjak said he attended the Marine Resources Council meeting regarding the Indian River Lagoon. Member Myjak said he was disappointed with the results of the meeting. Member Myjak said that nothing in there top five priorities in his opinion were going to make any significant changes for the Indian River Lagoon. Member Myjak said no clear outcome was decided on to help save the Indian River Lagoon. Member Myjak said that there was information given regarding the Chesapeake Bay studies and the Clean Water Act, which might be beneficial to the Indian River Lagoon.

XXX

Petitions and Requests from Public Present

None

XXX

Adjournment was at 7:30 p.m
City of Titusville
"Gateway to Nature and Space"

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Titusville Environmental Commission Members
From: Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director
Subject: Indian River Lagoon
Department/Office: Planning and Growth Management

Recommended Action:
Leesa Souto, Ph.D., with the Marine Resources Council, will present the results of the Lagoon Action Assembly held in May. No action is required. This is an informational item only.

Summary Explanation & Background:
At the TEC's meeting in May, a proposed forum to discuss issues related to the Indian River Lagoon was delayed to allow Commissioners time to meet with experts and hear presentations. At the July meeting Sandra Reller, Stormwater Utility Administrator, and Jennifer Majka, Stormwater Project Manager, from the Water Resources Department, briefed the Commission on City projects and initiatives that are currently underway to improve the health of the Lagoon.

Virginia Barker with the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department will give a presentation at the September 10th meeting. She will present "Developing a Restoration Strategy for the Lagoon", a presentation she gave at the Marine Resources Council in May.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Livable Shorelines presentation given by staff at the City Council's July 22nd meeting.

Alternatives:

Item Budgeted:

Source/use of funds/Budget Book Page:

Strategic Plan:

Strategic Plan Impact:

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Living Shorelines Plan

City of Titusville

Coordinating Entities

Water Resources & Planning Departments

University of Central Florida

Brevard Zoo

Fire & Development Services Departments
Before

After

Preliminary Plan

Historical Shoreline Maps
Existing Shoreline Profiles
Wave Action Analysis
Living Shorelines Plan
Maps

- Provided by St. John's Water Management District

Profiles

- Potentially funded by Grant
- Alternative – City funded Consultant

Analysis

- Provided by St. John's Water Management District

Plan

- City funded Consultant
  *includes public input

Coastal Shoreline Profile & Living Shoreline Treatments Example
Cost Estimates

- Shoreline Profiles: $11,500
- Demo Site: $19,500
- Plan Consultant: $5,000

Grant Opportunity

Shoreline Profile | Public Outreach & Education | Demonstration Site – Main St.

Awarded October 3rd, 2014
Coastal Resiliency

Using nature to reduce risks from disasters

Balancing safety, cost efficiency, people, property and natural resources

Coordinating Emergency Management, Development Services and Planning
City of Titusville
"Gateway to Nature and Space"

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Titusville Environmental Commission Members
From: Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director
Subject: Project Planning and Prioritization 2014/2015
Department/Office: Planning and Growth Management

Recommended Action:
Review a draft update to the list of planning projects for the 2014/2015 year.

Summary Explanation & Background:
Pursuant to Section 31-121 of the Code the TEC is tasked with the study of general environmental conditions in and surrounding the City of Titusville and make specific recommendations to the City Council regarding the environmental effects of existing conditions, future public and private development projects, and subjects of particular environmental/water resource concern, in order to improve information available to the City Council in their decision making role. The Commission may study any subject of environmental/water resources interest or concern and report its finding and recommendations to the City Council, City staff, Titusville Planning and Zoning Commission, or any other duly authorized City committee. The Commission may also devote its efforts to encouraging the public toward conservation of resources and any aspect that affects the Titusville citizens' ability to safe, pleasant and productive use of the environment.

At the July meeting the TEC discussed updates to its list of projects for the upcoming year and requested staff submit a revised draft. The following is a draft list of projects for your review.

Ongoing Projects
1. Participate in Environmental Festivals
   1. Arbor Day
   2. Environmental Award

Strategic Ordinance/Report
1. Indian River Lagoon
2. Living Shoreline
3. Urban Reforestation Program
4. Green Building

Alternatives:
1. Approve the draft list of projects as written.
2. Approve the draft list of projects with changes.
3. Do not approve the draft list of projects.

**Item Budgeted:**

**Source/use of funds/Budget Book Page:**

**Strategic Plan:**

**Strategic Plan Impact:**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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REPORT TO COUNCIL

To:     Titusville Environmental Commission Members
From:   Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director
Subject: Election of Officers
Department/Office: Planning and Growth Management

Recommended Action:

Elect a new Chairman.

Summary Explanation & Background:

Member Pettit will be stepping down as Chairman of the TEC. Unless the Commission chooses to elect new officers, Vice-Chair Yount may serve the remainder of the term as chairman until the November election.

Alternatives:

1. Elect a new Chairman.
2. Elect new officers
3. Do not elect new officers

Item Budgeted:

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City of Titusville
"Gateway to Nature and Space"

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Titusville Environmental Commission Members
From: Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director
Subject: Chairman's Report

Department/Office: Planning and Growth Management

Recommended Action:

Summary Explanation & Background:

Alternatives:

Item Budgeted:

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Strategic Plan Impact:

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To: Titusville Environmental Commission Members  
From: Peggy Busacca, Planning and Growth Management Director  
Subject: Committee Reports  
Department/Office: Planning and Growth Management  

Recommended Action:

Summary Explanation & Background:

Alternatives:

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