



IRL COUNCIL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting of November 7, 2019

1:30 PM

Sebastian City Hall Council Chambers, 1225 Main Street, Sebastian, FL

Attendance: Jessy Wayles, Mike Coneen, Doug Patterson, Keith Winsten, Graham Cox, Heather Stapleton, Cynthia VandeVoorde Hall, Greg Braun

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (Frank Catino, Chair)
Meeting called to order at 1:42 p.m.

Agenda Item 2. Introductions and Public Comments (Frank Catino, Chair)

1. Duane DeFreese introduced the EPA guests:
 - Jeaneanne Gettle, Water Division Director, EPA, offered gratitude for the work the group has been doing to help improve the Indian River Lagoon as a whole.
 - César Zapata, Acting Chief, Air Enforcement Branch, EPA, spoke on the accomplishments of the partners of the Lagoon and how impressed he is at the accomplishments and commitment of everyone to accomplish the goal of restoring the Lagoon.
 - Natalie Ellington, Chief, Coastal and Estuaries Section, Water Division, EPA, commented on the partnership between the EPA and IRL partners and thanked everyone for their participation.
 - Jennifer DiMaio, Environmental Scientist, Oceans, Coastal and Estuaries Section, EPA, advised that she has enjoyed working with ~~anyone~~ everyone and is excited to continue the mission.
2. Discussion ~~was had regarding~~ focused on the Small Grants Program, including lessons learned from other Estuary Programs and utilizing their experiences to further our program. The program is young and fluid, giving us a unique opportunity to mold our program.
3. Discussion was had ~~regarding~~ ^[KH1] regarding concerns of communities spraying chemicals into canals to control vegetation.
4. Discussion was had regarding additional funding available to communities for continued improvements to the Lagoon and the importance of showcasing successes already achieved.
5. Discussion was had on Trash Free Waters programs and their successes across the country. Additionally, EPA's support of the programs ~~s~~ is making it a priority.

6. Discussion was had on what can be done to improve the permitting process to get ~~the~~ already funded projects moving forward.
7. Discussion was had regarding harmful algae blooms, causes, effects and solutions. Duane shared observations that he made during the recent aerial and boat tours the last several days with EPA.
8. Duane shared a summary of the Mercury presentation that was given at the last STEM Meeting.

Agenda Item 3. Agenda Revisions (Frank Catino, Chair)

None

Agenda Item 4. Minutes Approval (Frank Catino, Chair)

Requested Action: Motion to approve Minutes of the August 8, 2019 meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HEATHER STAPLETON , SECONDED BY JESSY WAYLES TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 8, 2019 MEETING, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 5. Old Business

None

Agenda Item 6. New Business

- a. EPA comments and discussion (occurred under Agenda Item 2).
- b. FY 2019-2020 RFP Small Grants (Kathy Hill)

Requested Actions: Review small grants RFP

~~+~~ D-discussion ~~started~~began with results and lessons learned during last year's process. The contract for the Small Grants has been modified to make it more user friendly. The RFP was reviewed as a group, discussion was had on the CAC's role in the selection process and it was agreed by all that the entire group-CAC would act as the selection committee as was done last year. The group agreed that January 25 would be the return date for proposals, one the NEP received them they will send them out to the committee for review prior to the meeting scheduled on February 6.

Agenda Item 7. Executive Director Report (Duane De Freese & Kathy Hill)

- IRL Calendar is at the printer
- Annual report is in progress
- Reviewed active projects process and progress
- Multi-year communication plan development and partnership alignment with all counties
- CCMP has been fully adopted
- RFPs will be released in November 2019
- One Lagoon monitoring plan development as begun
- One Lagoon habitat restoration plan development has begun
- State of the Lagoon plan development has begun
- GIS mapping

- Climate ready estuary plan
- IRL Boaters Guide
- Introduction of Kaylene Wheeler, Special Project Coordinator
- Quarterly newsletters
- Enhanced social media presence
- Myths and Mystery Series
- Monthly Update to all conference meeting
- Vital Signs Videos
- Expanding the audio story
- Project list from Tetra Tech
- Ron Jon sponsorship of calendar
- Car Stickers development
- Maine Technology Society Tech Surge Event
- IRLNEP 30th anniversary (5 years for the new IRL Council) in 2020
- 25th anniversary of the first biodiversity conference held at Harbor Branch
- Smithsonian biodiversity website will be revamped with assistance from the IRLNEP
- One Lagoon Video

Agenda Item 8. Final Comments

- Shore conference will be held in Daytona Beach on November 15
- IRLNEP adoption of the IRL Envirothon
- IRL Day Saturday, November 9, at Front Street Park in Melbourne

Agenda Item 9. Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 3:32 p.m.