

**Climate Change Task Force Meeting
Thursday, August 18, 2016, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

**Broward County Library / Young at Art Museum
751 SW 121st Ave, Multi-purpose Room
Davie, FL 33325**

SUMMARY MINUTES

Members Present

Adornato, John
Barmoha, Guy
Braun, Rod
Bush, Lois
Cavros, George
Faske, Barry
Fleischer, Randy
Furr, Commissioner Beam
Gottlieb, Lee
Heimlich, Barry
Hutka, Tom
Kaltman, Adrienne
Larson, Dylan
Miakisz, Joe
Perrin, Scott
Pisula, John
Samaro, Hector
Sifuentes, Dorothy
Young, Doug

County Staff

Castillo, McHenley
Horwitz, Jill
Kashar, Carrie
Lee, Albert

Members Absent

Cosio Carballo, Isabel
Kornahrens, Rob
Lambert, Julie
Sniezek, Henry
Welch, Sandra

I. Welcome

Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr welcomed the Task Force members, and guests.

II. Roll Call

Roll was called. Seventeen (17) members were present and seven (7) were absent during the roll call. A quorum was present. Two (2) members arrived after the roll call.

III. Call to Order

Commissioner Beam Furr, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM.

IV. Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2016*

Guy Barmoha motioned to accept the minutes of the May 18, 2016 meeting as published, and Barry Faske seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Sunset Review Recommendation

Commissioner Furr provided a brief summary of the member attendance recommendation from the Sunset Review of the Climate Change Task Force. Changes include:

- Staff will inform members of unexcused absence violations
- The automatic two (2) absence removal rule will not apply

VI. Annual Customer Service Survey

Carrie Kashar distributed and explained the annual customer service survey for the Climate Change Task Force. Members took a few minutes to fill out the anonymous surveys, and the surveys were collected by staff.

VII. Public Comments and Announcements

George Cavros commented on the Amendment 4 August 30, 2016 ballot proposal. Amendment 4 exempts certain solar energy-related equipment from property taxes, thus lowering energy costs, providing a cleaner environment, and building a sustainable energy supply. Commissioner Furr mentioned that Broward County had already expressed its support for the amendment. Berry Heimlich suggested the task force express a statement of position in support of Amendment 4. Commissioner Furr motioned for a vote and the task force voted unanimously in support of Amendment 4.

VIII. Solar Demonstration Project Tour

Yumina Myers from the Young At Art Museum provided task force members a

walking tour of the new solar parking canopy and the interactive solar art exhibit inside the museum.

IX. Presentations and Discussion

a. PACE Program Overview

Carrie Kashar presented an overview of the new Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program in Broward County. PACE is an innovative financing program to fund energy efficiency, renewable energy, and wind resistance projects for residential and commercial properties. The cost of eligible projects are included into the annual property tax assessment and repaid through property tax bills. Nonpayment is treated the same as nonpayment of property taxes.

Qualified improvements generally include:

- renewable energy systems
- building insulation
- energy efficient lighting, heating, and air conditioning
- wind impact windows, doors, and roofing
- hurricane mitigation (e.g. storm shutters)

Broward County's PACE program includes numerous consumer protection provisions and currently has agreements with four PACE providers, who manage financing, assessments, and program administration. Additional information about the PACE program can be found on Broward County's [PACE webpage](#).

Commissioner Furr opened the floor for discussion. Questions were raised about education and outreach of the PACE program to low-income homeowners. A suggestion was to target outreach to groups involved in community gardens.

b. Municipal Green Initiatives Survey

Jill Horwitz presented a summary of the 2015 Municipal Green Initiatives Survey. The survey is issued every two years, covering 17 issues. The results are based on the perceived status of the city in these issues.

- Water Conservation – increased involvement, lack of tracking
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions – increased measurement, lack of progress in meeting goals
- Urban Tree Canopy – general increase in programs
- Energy Efficiency – increase in most upgrades and retrofits
- Energy Conservation – efficient equipment, electric vehicle charging stations, and alternative fuel vehicles were top actions
- Renewable Energy – solar panels, geothermal, wind turbines, and

- capital improvement prioritization were top actions
- Energy Education – general decrease in programs and incentives
- Transportation – general increase in alternative transportation improvements
- Built Environment – increase in green construction incentives, 50% have green building guidelines
- Waste Reduction – no significant change, challenges from multi-family residential, offices, and public events
- Resilience Planning – top issue of concern and most recent investments are in flooding and stormwater management, additional resources needed for funding and technical workshops

Commissioner Furr opened the floor for discussion. A question was raised about LEED standards versus other green building standards, such as Green Globes, over concern over the perceived cost and difficulties of achieving LEED certification. Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) standards focuses on Florida-specific issues, such as heat and humidity. Both LEED and FGBC are widely accepted standards in Florida. Additional design/construction costs for green buildings depend on the experience of the developer. Although green building standards can be meet without certification, third-party certification is important to ensure the building is constructed and functions as specified.

c. Siemens City Performance Tool

Hector Samario and two representatives from Siemens, Allison Taylor and Julia Thayne, introduced the City Performance Tool (CPT), which analyzes the economic and environmental impacts of various technologies in the building, energy, and transportation sectors. CPT is currently being offered for free to cities/counties. Allison introduced the task force to the products, services, and climate actions that Siemens are involved in. Julia explained that CPT analyzes the following indicators:

- Environmental indicators
 - Greenhouse gases (GHG)
 - Particulate matter 10 microns or less (PM10)
 - Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Economic indicators
 - Jobs
 - Capital expenditures
 - Operating expenditures

The timeframe of a typical CPT project is about six months and the software model utilizes 350 data inputs, with 25 inputs deemed critical. The project develops in four parts: data collection, environmental baseline development, infrastructure technology impacts, and infrastructure strategy scenarios. Julia presented a summary of CPT results from Vienna, Austria.

Q&A and discussion ensued. Siemens is funding the CPT through an internal initiative from its headquarters. A comment was made that other County departments should be consulted prior to endorsing use of the CPT. In addition, the County is currently considering companies for an energy savings contract (ESCO) which somewhat overlaps some of the CPT analysis. State law may require a competitive selection process before the CPT project is initiated, if it is related to an ESCO. Commissioner Furr requested that additional information about these issues be presented to the task force. Randy Fleischer made a motion to bring this topic back at a future meeting. Lee Gottlieb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Climate Change Action Plan Progress Report

Carrie Kashar updated the task force on implementation of the Broward County Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). Carrie mentioned an initial effort to relate the measures in the STAR program to specific CCAP implementation strategies. As of August 2016, Broward County has fully addressed three (3) CCAP actions, partially addressed 54 actions, and not addressed 39 actions. The sections that show the most progress are policy and water supply. The least CCAP progress is in energy resources and the built environment.

Carrie presented an overview of recent program implementation related to:

- Dark skies map and draft ordinance
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant for habitat corridors
- Meetings about new saltwater monitoring wells and locations
- Electric vehicle infrastructure gap analysis
- Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)
- North Fork Volunteer Action Day

X. Status of Ongoing Programs

a. Climate, Energy & Sustainability Program Updates

Carrie Kashar mentioned that the Broward County Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division won a 2016 award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its Renewable Energy Action Plan, where the Young at Art solar canopy was listed as a pilot project. EPCRD also won a NACo for its 3D flooding visualization tool and a National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) award for its King Tide photo collection.

Carrie reminded task force members to provide comments on the draft Broward County Communitywide GHG Inventory 2011-2014 and highlighted outreach initiatives with municipalities and Port Everglades on their respective GHG inventories. Energy Sense programs are progressing related to PACE, electric vehicle infrastructure, and developing case studies. Carrie asked task force members to send any ideas for energy-related case studies. Jill Horwitz participated on STAR steering committee to develop STAR version 2.0 and

added light pollution to the Green Infrastructure Map Series.

Carrie highlighted upcoming Sustainability Stewards events and the Seal of Sustainability program, which certified five (5) additional projects since May 2016, for a total of 29 sustainability projects.

Commissioner Furr opened the floor for questions. Barry Heimlich suggested that task force members without a sponsor to attend the annual Climate Leadership Summit be offered a discounted registration fee as a token of appreciation for their time and effort on the task force.

XI. Adjournment*

Guy Barmoha announced a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Barry Faske. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 3:56 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2016