

# City of Melbourne



Leisure Services Department  
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**CITY OF MELBOURNE, FLORIDA  
MINUTES  
BEAUTIFICATION & ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
June 9, 2010  
Melbourne City Hall – Council Chamber  
900 East Strawbridge Avenue  
Melbourne, Florida**

A meeting of the Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee was held at the Melbourne City Hall, 900 E. Strawbridge Avenue, this date, called to order by Chairman Betty Moore at 8:30 a.m.

1. **All present gave the Pledge of Allegiance.**

2. **The following members and staff were:**

<b>Present:</b>	Betty Moore	Chairman
	Celeste Henry	Vice-Chairman
	Darlene Smith	Member
	Ronald Strandjord	Member
	Alexis Johnsten	Member
	Leanne Hensley	Member
	Dennis Meehan	Member
	Mary Ann Bowman	Leisure Services Director
	Jeff Dawson	Parks Administrator
	Barbara Smith	Secretary

**Absent:** Tom Belanger Member

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES -- May 12, 2010**

Motioned by Henry /Strandjord to approve the May 12, 2010 minutes.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**3. “We Noticed Award”**

Celeste Henry mentioned the new plantings on Babcock St. by the DRS building; it is much improved and very attractive. She also pointed out that the New Vision Nursery area in downtown Eau Gallie off of Montreal is underway in plantings, renovation, etc. She stated that both these areas would be good to watch down the road once they are completed and plants have been established. Leanne Hensley mentioned the Law Firm who has done improvement to both the building and landscaping that is located on the corner of McQuaid and Strawbridge. Jeff Dawson will take pictures for the board to review at their next meeting.

**4. Goals**

Chairman Moore opened up discussion regarding goals for the board to focus on this year. Jennifer Wilster distributed to the board a list of environmental goals she thought the board might want to consider. She recommended providing incentives/promotions for “Adopt-a-Road” teams, encourage small businesses to recycle, work with the police dept. on stronger litter enforcement, assist with notification of watering restrictions, devise a plan for location of 15 solar compactors with recycling units, develop in parks and downtown areas dog waste stations and observe areas with the most litter and post signs. Mr. Dawson advised that currently there are dog litter stations at Jimmy Moore, Ballard and Crane Parks.

Ron Strandjord recommended that the board consider the whole picture including buildings for the “We Noticed Award”. Leanne Hensley stated she would like to focus on more environmental issues such as composting. Ms. Henry agreed with Mr. Stranjord regarding the “We Noticed Award” being given to beautification of buildings since some buildings do not have the ability to landscape. Alexis Johnsten stated she liked the idea of concentrating on litter enforcement. Dennis Meehan would like for the board to incorporate Ms. Wilster’s environmental goals and would recommend that she annually update the board on environmental issues. He would also like to see the board more involved with the Scenic Highway Program.

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Ms. Henry suggested looking into the criteria for wind power. Mary Ann Bowman suggested that at a future meeting they could ask Engineering to come and speak regarding runoffs, storm drains, etc.

Ms. Moore informed the board that she and Ms. Henry attended the last Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway meeting and was told that there is \$10,000 available for native planting along the corridor from the state. They are looking into applying for the funds however the deadline is August 24<sup>th</sup> therefore they will inquire if they could get an extension on the date. They would like to see something done on Eau Gallie Blvd. on the east side of the causeway. They are aware that the County and DOT maintain it therefore permitting would be required. Ms. Hensley stated she would mention it to the Design Committee to see if they had a recommendation.

Chairman Moore asked for some input regarding a dedication ceremony for the new entranceway signs on Post and U.S. 1. Ms. Hensley suggested more of a focus on new projects. Ms. Moore agreed but also feels that it took a lot of time to get the signs done and feels they should be recognized. Ms. Henry likes the idea. Discussion followed.

Ms. Johnsten asked if the board needed to make a motion to adopt the goals. Ms. Moore stated she would like the board members to review what has been suggested and discuss at the next meeting before they adopt them. Ms. Hensley reminded the board that the next meeting was not until August. Ms. Bowman stated that if they wanted to hold a special meeting in July they could make a motion to do so. Ms. Johnsten advised she would be on vacation and Mr. Meehan stated he would not support the motion since the board had already voted not to meet in July.

Motioned by Hensley/Henry to meet July 14<sup>th</sup> to finalize the board's goals.

MOTION PASSED.

AYE: Moore, Henry, Strandjord, Smith, Johnston, Hensley

NAY: Meehan

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**5. Presentation – Jennifer Wilster**

Jennifer Wilster, the City's Environmental Community Outreach Manager, presented the highlights of the new waste management cart program for recycling and garbage. She covered the delivery and start date, the size of containers, the State of Florida's recycling goals, pick-up schedule, etc. Mr. Meehan inquired if there would be a change on what side of the road the cans are picked up on. Ms. Wilster stated that it will remain the same and that the current trucks will be retrofitted until the new trucks arrive in 2011. Ms. Henry inquired if the City would receive any compensation if more items are recycled and what would the gain be for the City. The response was that there would be no monetary gain for the City, however if more were recycled then it would save on landfill space and the cost for a new facility. All recycle materials are hauled off to Orange County. Chairman Moore asked if this new pick-up would cut down on the workers. Ms. Wilster stated no, that workers would be placed in other areas and not laid off.

Mr. Meehan expressed his gratitude on behalf of the board to Ms. Wilster for a very informative presentation.  
Discussion followed.

**6. Staff Report**

Mr. Dawson informed the board that the Eau Gallie Blvd. project has been completed, however someone stole the 12 coontie palms that were planted. Staff is in the process of replacing them. Oak trees have been planted on Post Rd. however due to the harsh winter, Geiger trees are not available. He recommended that Live Oaks be planted on all the medians in lieu of Geiger trees. The board agreed and was pleased with the current size and look of the recently planted Oak trees. Ms. Moore asked about the status of Sarno Rd. Mr. Dawson advised that they are waiting until all the resurfacing and drainage projects are completed. Mr. Dawson informed the board that he attended the pre-con meeting for the bathrooms at Pineapple Park and he believes they will start within the next two months.

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Mr. Meehan inquired if staff was able to come up with a method of removing the gum from sidewalks. Mr. Dawson advised that they have tried various methods however other than manually scraping it off with a putty knife, nothing works. He did say that they have put in for a pressure washer that includes a steam cleaner so perhaps that might work. Mr. Dawson advised the board that he had not been able to contact Mr. Tucker about the landscaping on his property located behind the south entranceway sign but will make an effort in the next couple of weeks. Ms. Bowman informed the board that the Engineering Dept. had determined going with LED lighting for the entranceway signs was the best way to go and that staff would install the lighting. Chairman Moore stated again that once the lighting is completed she would like the board to consider having a dedication of the signs.

**7. Petitions, Remonstrance's, and Communications**

Kevin Dodge, 17 Edgewood Dr. Melbourne, advised the board that he had made a presentation to City Council on the use of native plants and grass to save on City spending for water, fuel bills, equipment and plant material. Councilman LaRusso recommended that he go before the Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee. Mr. Dodge gave his presentation and passed out various publications for the board to review. Chairman Moore extended her appreciation for his presentation and advised that it was an educational process for the public since often times they think the native plants are weeds when they are not in bloom.  
Discussion followed.

**9. Adjournment**

Motioned by Henry/Hensley to adjourn.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.



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Barbara Smith, Recording Secretary