

#### **AGENDA**

# SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

- I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2024, REGULAR MEETING
- V. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS:
  - 1. Reforestation and Landscaping Projects
    - a. Mickler Boulevard
    - b. Parkette Planning/Green Infrastructure
    - c. Urban Forestry
    - d. Environmental Planning Projects
  - 2. Educational Programs
    - a. Environmentally Friendly Landscaping Recognition
    - b. Environmental Speaker and Film Series
    - c. Newsletter Topics
    - d. Environmental Education Materials
- VI. OTHER COMMITTEE MATTERS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

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**NOTE:** The agenda material containing background information for this meeting is available in pdf format on the City's website, http://www.staugbch.com, at no cost or on a CD upon request at the City Manager's office for a \$5 fee. Adobe Acrobat Reader will be needed to open the file.

**NOTICES:** In accordance with Florida Statute 286.0105: "If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this scheduled meeting or hearing, the person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose the person 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."

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#### MINUTES

# SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

# I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

Chair Krempasky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

# II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

# III. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Sandra Krempasky, Vice Chair Lana Bandy, and Member Karen Candler

Members Craig Thomson and George O'Brien were absent.

Also present: City Clerk Dariana Fitzgerald and Grounds Foreman Tom Large.

# IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2023, REGULAR MEETING

**Motion:** to approve the minutes of December 14, 2023. **Moved by**: Member Candler. **Seconded by**: Vice Chair Bandy. Motion passed unanimously.

# V. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS:

1. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2024

Chair Krempasky nominated Lana Bandy as Chair and Member Candler as Vice Chair.

**Motion:** to appoint Lana Bandy as Chair and Karen Candler as Vice Chair. **Moved by**: Chair Krempasky. **Seconded by**: Member Candler. Motion passed unanimously.

# 2. Reforestation and Landscaping Projects

# a. Mickler Boulevard

Foreman Large reported that he'd been speaking with Shayan Khatibi of Ruah Gardens to see if they could work out a maintenance schedule that would keep the costs lower than his original proposal of \$1400 per year. He stated that he is just waiting for spring to see what grows this year and will make a plan for any work that might need to be done after that.

Member Krempasky noted that projects in this area of Mickler Boulevard seem to be hard to maintain because of all the activity in the area and people disturbing the plantings. She

suggested watching and getting more of a handle on this project before moving forward with any others on Mickler.

# b. Parkette Planning/Green Infrastructure

Foreman Large reported that the pine straw put in the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Eco Garden by Southern Horticulture wasn't really thick enough, so he used the funds the Committee approved to buy fifteen bundles for about \$90 and plans to put it in on Monday. He also noted that he had the sign and post and plans to install that soon as well.

Member Krempasky reported that she had spoken with Engineering Director Jason Sparks about some educational flyers or brochures and incorporating information about the Eco Garden. She suggested having them available at Arbor Day or placing a 'Take One' box at the Eco Garden.

# c. Urban Forestry

Foreman Large reported that the water truck is up and running and that they still have a few trees and several plants remaining from Lowe's donation last year. He asked the Committee to think about possible spots and he can see if Public Works can work planting them into the upcoming schedule.

He stated that the holly tree planted near 18 Mickler Boulevard had died, but the palm trees around it were doing well, so they planted a palm in its spot and the nearby homeowner agreed to water it.

# d. Environmental Planning Projects

This item was not discussed.

# 3. Educational Programs

# a. Environmentally Friendly Landscaping Recognition

City Clerk Fitzgerald noted that no new applications had been received.

Member Krempasky stated that she would reach out the Commissioner George about applying.

Chair Bandy stated that it had been in the City's Newsletter this month, so maybe that would help.

# b. Environmental Speaker and Film Series

Chair Bandy reported that attendance was decreasing, that when the program started there would be about 40-50 people, but now it's more like 10. She stated that the Library is eager to continue, though. She noted that she didn't want to end the program, but asked the Committee if the effort they had been putting in was seeing results.

Member Krempasky suggested maybe reducing effort a bit, perhaps foregoing speakers if it becomes too difficult to find someone, for example. She also suggested possibly partnering up with the ECO Cinema group that meets at the Yacht Club or possibly experiments or other hand-on demonstrations.

Chair Bandy noted that the next scheduled dates were February 22<sup>nd</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, and October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Member Krempasky stated that the City of St. Augustine is doing Earth Day workshops, which they're calling Earth Month, but it's all during the day since their staff is not allowed to work after hours. She wasn't sure if we could borrow some of those programs, maybe see if St. Augustine staff would be willing to volunteer for us to help.

Chair Bandy mentioned that the Library contact, Leslie, would like to do something with rain barrels. She noted that the Library would likely have to charge about \$40 per person for materials for people to make their own to take home. Vice Chair Candler suggested speaking with the Boy Scouts, maybe they could earn a badge for it and help spread the word.

# c. Newsletter Topics

Chair Bandy stated that she could include February's film and asked for any other suggestions. Member Krempasky suggested photos of the Eco Garden maybe with the flyer. Foreman Large mentioned the glass recycling dumpster. He mentioned that last he saw, the dumpster was three-quarters full and that was just glass, no trash, so it's being used appropriately.

Chair Bandy asked how recycling was going in general. Foreman Large replied that it was going well for a while, but as time goes by people are slipping and starting to include more non-recyclable material again. Chair Bandy suggested doing an educational video, maybe see if Island Prep would like to be involved, but that might be better for March's newsletter to have more time to prepare.

## d. Environmental Education Materials

Member Krempasky suggested having the brochures at the library for people to take during the film presentations, as well as at Arbor Day. Chair Bandy agreed and stated that Member Thomson's idea of providing compiled information may be better suited to the Library as well, maybe a little reading area there since that's already a place people go to hang out and learn. Vice Chair Candler also suggested placing a pollinator box there with information on how it works and maybe photos of the ones on Mickler Boulevard.

# VI. OTHER COMMITTEE MATTERS

Chair Bandy noted that on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Library, the Master Gardeners will be handing out trees from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Member Krempasky reported that they have about \$4,000 for the plaza project with \$1,600 or \$1,800 to pay Ruah Gardens for maintenance. She noted that the Eco Garden only cost \$2,800, so that leaves a surplus of \$1,200 that could be used to buy trees and maybe another project if they could plan something out and work with Public Works on a schedule.

Foreman Large noted that there would be a beach cleanup on January 19 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. from the Pier down to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

City Clerk Fitzgerald stated that Events Coordinator Conlon and City staff are trying to do an Arbor Day event this year like we did in the past. Coordinator Conlon is trying to get in contact with past

vendors to see if they would return. Foreman Large encouraged the members to get in contact with Coordinator Conlon if they had any suggestions, would like to help, or could get in contact with people who may want to have a booth. City Clerk Fitzgerald noted that they are planning on a family-friendly event with activities for kids, as well as information for adults.

Vice Chair Candler suggested SEPAC having a table to provide information, like the brochures, along with photos of their projects. Member Krempasky asked about budget and noted that she used to pick up a cake for it. City Clerk Fitzgerald replied that any food was donated, and they have a minimal budget for this event, mostly we are hoping for donations and volunteers. Member Krempasky suggested something interactive, like a tree raffle or photo opportunity. Foreman Large mentioned that Smokey Bear had come in past years and people liked taking photos with him.

Foreman Large stated that he had contacted Ornamental Trees and Plants about trees and provided a list of their available options right now [Exhibit A]. He clarified that "cp" stands for "cubicle pack" and indicates how many are sold together, 40 or 60. He noted that last year we bought 160 Florida privet, 150 persimmon, and 160 red cedars. He suggested switching it up, so it's not the same options every year, and that in past years we've given away Shumard oaks, Southern magnolias, gum trees, cedar elms, and winged elms.

Foreman Large stated that Member Thomson noted some Public Works and other landscape companies weed eating too close to the trees and asked him to look around for options. He reported that he found these rubber mulch rings [Exhibit B] that could be placed around the base of the trees to prevent growth that would need to be trimmed. Member Krempasky stated that she might contact Finance Director Douylliez to see if the Landscape Fund could be used for something like this.

# VII. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

**Motion:** to Adjourn. **Moved by** Member Krempasky. **Seconded by** Vice Chair Candler. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST	Lana Bandy, Chair

Chair Bandy adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Dariana Fitzgerald, City Clerk



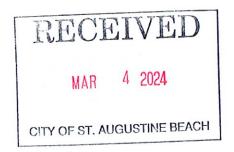
**Environmentally Friendly Landscaping Recognition Questionnaire** Resident/Business Owner / ere Sa Address 604 Poinsettia St. Address 604 Poinsettia St. St. Augustine Beach, Fla

Phone Number 6789380368 Email address to harriso 368 @gmail.com 32080 **Not Sure** Yes No Use of plants: Attachment Are there at least 75% native plants? Natives Are there any invasive plants on the property? Invasives Are there any pollinator plants? Pollinators Are there plants that provide habitat or food source for wildlife and beneficial insects? Are plants spaced appropriately for growth to maturity? Use of trees: Are there at least 75% native trees? Are the right trees planted in the right place? <u>Trees</u> Are the trees pruned and maintained? Attachment Overall landscaping: Attachment Are at least 7 different plant species being used? Are the plants layered vertically? Are the plants grouped by common water/light needs? Are the majority of plants in the ground? (not in planters or pots) Is ground cover being used as opposed to sod?

Percentage of impervious surface? \_\_\_\_\_%

	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Are plants placed away from the foundation?	1			
Are there wildlife shelters provided? (bird houses, bat houses, pollinator boxes)		V		
Is a source of water provided for wildlife?				
Is the overall health of plants being maintained?	1			
Stormwater Runoff:	1	/		
Does roof runoff drain onto landscaped areas?		<b>V</b>		
Is there a use of rain barrel or other type of water collection?				
Use of rain garden or vegetated swale?				
Use of mulch (to limit planting non-native grasses or sod):				
Is the mulch applied correctly? Using Mulch	V			
Is pine straw being used as mulch? Pine Straw		1		
Are leaves left under trees or collected and recycled?	1			
Use of fertilizer: Matanzas Riverkeeper blog				
Is fertilizer applied in summer months or when grass	1			
is actively growing?	<u>.</u>			
Is fertilizer applied by broadcast spreader or by hand?	1			
Are grass clippings left after mowing?	1			
Are weed and feed products used together?	1			
Is there a compost pile or bin on the premises?				
Use of irrigation: Irrigation in Florida				
Does the property have an irrigation system installed?	1			
Is system maintained seasonally and adjusted properly?	1			
Are sprinkler heads adjusted to cover landscaping? (not overspraying on impervious areas)	$\checkmark$			
Use of pesticides or herbicides:				
Is the least toxic method of pest control being used?	V			
Is it being used only on affected plants or lawn?				





# **Environmentally Friendly Landscaping Recognition Questionnaire**

Resident/Business Owner Guenter & Diana Hennig			
Address 131 Whispering Oaks Cicle, St. Aug	gustiv	ie,F	L 32080
Phone Number 904 217 4343 Email address gunne	erdi oo	5 Dgn	rail.com
v	Yes	No	Not Sure
Use of plants: Attachment			
Are there at least 75% native plants? Natives	V		
Are there any invasive plants on the property? Invasives			V
Are there any pollinator plants? Pollinators			V
Are there plants that provide habitat or food source for wildlife and beneficial insects?	9		
Are plants spaced appropriately for growth to maturity?			
Use of trees:			
Are there at least 75% native trees?	V		
Are the right trees planted in the right place? Trees			V
Are the trees pruned and maintained? Attachment		$\square$	
Overall landscaping: Attachment			
Are at least 7 different plant species being used?			
Are the plants layered vertically?			9
Are the plants grouped by common water/light needs?	<b>\</b>		
Are the majority of plants in the ground? (not in planters or pots)	J		
Is ground cover being used as opposed to sod?	4		
Percentage of impervious surface? 70-90%			

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Not Sure
Are plants placed away from the foundation?	V		
Are there wildlife shelters provided? (bird houses, bat houses, pollinator boxes)			
Is a source of water provided for wildlife?	V		
Is the overall health of plants being maintained?	4		
Stormwater Runoff:			
Does roof runoff drain onto landscaped areas?	~		
Is there a use of rain barrel or other type of water collection?	<b>∀</b>		
Use of rain garden or vegetated swale?			V
Use of mulch (to limit planting non-native grasses or sod):			
Is the mulch applied correctly? Using Mulch			4
Is pine straw being used as mulch? Pine Straw		~	
Are leaves left under trees or collected and recycled?	V		
Use of fertilizer: Matanzas Riverkeeper blog			
Is fertilizer applied in summer months or when grass is actively growing?			
Is fertilizer applied by broadcast spreader or by hand?			
Are grass clippings left after mowing?		D/	
Are weed and feed products used together?			
Is there a compost pile or bin on the premises?		Y	
Use of irrigation: Irrigation in Florida			
Does the property have an irrigation system installed?		V	
Is system maintained seasonally and adjusted properly?		V	
Are sprinkler heads adjusted to cover landscaping? (not overspraying on impervious areas)		V	
Use of pesticides or herbicides:	eggg acres suggestioned		
Is the least toxic method of pest control being used?			
Is it being used only on affected plants or lawn?	J'		
The second secon			

Owned property since zoos.

Sandra- I'm not sure that I meet all the requirements for the acceptable number of nature plants - but they are all floride friendly or they would not be alive! I welcome a six visit- Thanks! Vana

**Environmentally Friendly Landscaping Recognition Questionnaire** 

Resident/Business Owner Mana Royer			
Address 6 Willow Dr.			
Phone Number 904377 1600 Email address Nanage	rajer	oam	ail.com
Use of plants: Attachment	Yes	<u>No</u>	Not Sure
Are there at least 75% native plants? Natives	V		including DAKS r  sahal palms  - Regular puller
Are there any invasive plants on the property? Invasives	V		- le autent pulle
Are there any pollinator plants? Pollinators	1		- Acquiring f
Are there plants that provide habitat or food source for wildlife and beneficial insects?	V		
Are plants spaced appropriately for growth to maturity?			
Use of trees:			
Are there at least 75% native trees?	V		live OAK SABAL PALM
Are the right trees planted in the right place? <u>Trees</u>	1		probably
Are the trees pruned and maintained? Attachment			V seldon pruned
Overall landscaping: Attachment			
Are at least 7 different plant species being used?	/		
Are the plants layered vertically?			
Are the plants grouped by common water/light needs?			They survive, so
Are the majority of plants in the ground? (not in planters or pots)	V		
Is ground cover being used as opposed to sod?	1		
Percentage of impervious surface?	only		

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Not Sure
Are plants placed away from the foundation?	V		I depends on how
Are there wildlife shelters provided? (bird houses, bat houses, pollinator boxes)		~	
Is a source of water provided for wildlife?	1		
Is the overall health of plants being maintained?	V		by itself,
Stormwater Runoff:			
Does roof runoff drain onto landscaped areas?			
Is there a use of rain barrel or other type of water collection?	<b>/</b>		
Use of rain garden or vegetated swale?			
Use of mulch (to limit planting non-native grasses or sod):			
Is the mulch applied correctly? Using Mulch	1		10.11
Is pine straw being used as mulch? Pine Straw		.1	occasionally is
Are leaves left under trees or collected and recycled?	V		Jima II.
Use of fertilizer: Matanzas Riverkeeper blog			
Is fertilizer applied in summer months or when grass is actively growing?			No GRASS  No fertilizar  no grass  not used
Is fertilizer applied by broadcast spreader or by hand?❷♣			No ferrition
Are grass clippings left after mowing?			no grass
Are weed and feed products used together?			not used
Is there a compost pile or bin on the premises?	V		
Use of irrigation: <u>Irrigation in Florida</u>			por IN use
Does the property have an irrigation system installed? $P$			
Is system maintained seasonally and adjusted properly?	A		
Are sprinkler heads adjusted to cover landscaping?			
Use of pesticides or herbicides:			× 20
Is the least toxic method of pest control being used?			pestivides used
Is it being used only on affected plants or lawn?		***************************************	1 / ruseu

# **Dariana Fitzgerald**

**From:** craig thomson <craigthomsonaa@mac.com>

**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2024 10:06 AM

To: Dariana Fitzgerald Cc: Craig Thomson

**Subject:** Description of "Pride in our Plazas project"

**CAUTION:** This message originated from outside of your organization. Clicking on any link or opening any attachment may be harmful to your computer or the City. If you do not recognize the sender or expect the email, please verify the email address and any attachments before opening. If you have any questions or concerns about the content, please contact IT staff at IT@cityofsab.org.

### Dariana

Please forward the attached description of the "pride in our plazas" project, which was discussed during our SEPAC meeting last night to all committee members .

# Pride in our Plazas Project, for Beautification and Resiliency

This project proposes adding native trees, natural ground cover and eco-gardens to certain plazas within the city. The project will focus on resiliency by adding green infrastructure, sustainable urban forest and reducing yearly maintenance expense. The project is intended to increase public awareness of our sustainability goals, and increase community pride in maintaining our natural environment.

It also enlist the support of local neighborhood volunteers for the coordination and assistance in planting and maintenance of the designated public Plazas.

SEPAC can designate one or two Plazas a year for improvement, utilizing the 8th street eco-garden concept which was previously approved by our City Commission.

I am preparing a sustainable landscaping plan for N E corner Plaza at D St. and A1A /Beach Blvd. I will submit a conceptual drawing to Public Works for review and comment this month. I have also enlisted the support of several Coquina Gables neighborhood volunteers for the PRIDE In our Plazas Project.

Craig Thomson

Sent from my iPhone

# Dariana Fitzgerald

From:	craig thomson < craigthomsonaa@mac.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, March 13, 2024 5:39 PM
To:	Max Royle; Dariana Fitzgerald; Jason Sparks; Tom Large
Cc:	Craig Thomson; Longin Kaczmarsky
Subject:	Pride In Our Plazas Project, 2024 - Mar 13, 2024
Attachments:	Pride In Our Plazas Project 2024 - Mar 13 2024 - 5-29 PM.pdf
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attachment may be harmful t	inated from outside of your organization. Clicking on any link or opening any to your computer or the City. If you do not recognize the sender or expect the email, ss and any attachments before opening. If you have any questions or concerns about T staff at IT@cityofsab.org.
Tom	
	an to remodel the north east plaza at D street and A1A Beach Boulevard . neeting, this would be a SEPAC sponsored project for developing more sustainably asier maintenance
It would also provide needed by inappropriate weed whack	protection to the existing hardwood trees, and Sabal palms, which have been scarred king.
Please contact me if you wou	uld like to meet and discuss this at the site before our next meeting.
Best Craig Thomson 904 377 4623	
PS Dariana, would you please	e forward this landscaping plan onto other members of SEPAC.
Scanned with TurboScan.	
Sent from my iPhone	

