



# City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD  
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Advisory Board

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Monday, June 5, 2023

5:30 PM

City Hall Room 244

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### 1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Holland called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Powell notified the Board that Board Member Robinson requested to attend the meeting via Communications Media Technology (CMT).

Vice Chair Holland provided required notifications regarding conducting a hybrid meeting.

Board Member Robinson stated she will be attending the hybrid meeting via CMT due to attending a significant family obligation.

Vice Chair Holland requested a motion.

***A motion was made by Board Member Therrien, seconded by Board Member English, to approve Board Member Robinson's request to attend the Environmental Advisory Board Meeting via Communications Media Technology (CMT). The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.***

### 2. Roll Call

**Present** 4 - Vice Chair Holland, Board Member English, Board Member Therrien and Board Member Robinson  
**Absent** 1 - Board Member Hall

### Also Present:

Environmental Technician Jeremy Rogus, Assistant City Attorney Katlyn Coughlin, Planning Manager Lori Barnes, and Recording Secretary Matthew Powell

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board.

### 4. Public Comment

Barbara Lockhart: spoke to prioritizing native plantings and expressed support for environmental conservation.

### 5. Approval of Minutes

A. [23-0885](#) Approval of the May 1, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

***A motion was made by Board Member Therrien, seconded by Board Member English, to approve the Minutes as amended to include the attendance of Board***

*Member Hall. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

## 6. Presentations

**B.** [23-0748](#) Presentation: Sunshine Law Training (Office of the City Attorney)

Vice Chair Holland announced the item.

Ms. Coughlin provided a presentation including public meetings definition, open meeting requirements, penalties for violation, penalty examples, public records definition, identifying a public record, email and text messages, public records requests, public records retention, Florida Commission on ethics, prohibited conduct, prohibited relationships, voting and conflicts of interest, relatives, penalties, meeting procedures, quorum and motions, discussion, alternate members, and requesting information that is not a public record.

Discussion took place regarding relatives, requesting information, conflicts of interest, and memorandums.

**A.** [23-0741](#) Presentation: Warm Mineral Springs Comprehensive Plan Amendment (Planning and Zoning)

Vice Chair Holland announced the item.

Ms. Barnes provided a presentation including background, aerial view, current Comprehensive Plan standards, Activity Center 7 maximum density/intensity and limitations, park area versus future development area, Warm Mineral Springs (WMS) public-private partnership (P3) proposal, conceptual site plan, development intensity assumptions, Options 1 through 4 advantages and disadvantages, and recommendations.

Discussion took place regarding timeline relating to Board feedback, Activity Center 7a property ownership, conservation restrictions, dwelling units, acreage, Commission direction relating to recommendations, Seminole tribe contact process, development petition process, environmental survey status, parking requirements, future development area, concept plan, park designation versus Activity Center, rezoning relating to economic development, green space versus residential space, recommendations, P3 lease timeline, economic impacts, amenities, traffic impact analysis, Ortiz Boulevard impact, concurrency requirements, road impact fees, direction needed, pet restrictions, and eliminating Option 4.

Public comment:

Barbara Lockhart: spoke to invasive plantings and expressed support for environmental conservation.

***A motion was made by Board Member English, seconded by Board Member Therrien, to extend the time allotted for public comment. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.***

Discussion continued regarding tree canopy study, Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) rewrite, and conservation efforts.

***A motion was made by Board Member Therrien, seconded by Board Member English, to recommend Option 2 to City Commission.***

Discussion continued regarding conservation, Board ability to modify choice, Commission direction, and information required.

*The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

Discussion continued regarding meeting time limitation and prioritizing discussion.

*Without objection, Vice Chair Holland reordered the agenda to hear Item No. 23-0884 at this time.*

## 7. New Business

### B. [23-0884](#)

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Rescheduling the July 3, 2023 Board Meeting

Vice Chair Holland announced the item.

Discussion took place regarding Independence Day holiday.

*A motion was made by Board Member Therrien, seconded by Board Member English, to reschedule the July 3, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting to July 10, 2023.*

Discussion continued regarding staffing requirements and determining a date.

*The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

*A motion was made by Board Member English, seconded by Board Member Therrien, to postpone Item No. 23-0886 to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

Discussion continued regarding meeting time limitation and prioritizing discussion.

*Without objection, Vice Chair Holland reordered the agenda to hear Item No. 23-0926 at this time.*

### C. [23-0926](#)

Discussion and Possible Action regarding Environmental Advisory Board Memorandum to City Commission advising Commission to use tree fund Monies for the acquisition of properties for wildlife, habitat, and tree canopy conservation.

Vice Chair Holland announced the item.

Board Member English spoke to the item regarding submitting the memorandum.

*A motion was made by Board Member English, seconded by Board Member Therrien, to submit the Land Acquisition Memorandum to City Commission and the City Clerk. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

Public comment:

Barbara Lockhart: expressed support for conservation easement requirements and expressed support for renaming of funds to environmental restoration fund.

Discussion continued regarding amending the memorandum, tree fund usage, June 12, 2023 Joint Meeting with City Commission, and postponing unfinished business.

*A motion was made by Board Member Therrien, seconded by Board Member English, to postpone Item Nos. 23-0927, 23-0742, 23-0466, 23-0460, and 23-3596 to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

A. [23-0886](#) Election of Chair

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

## Presentations

C. [23-0927](#) Presentation from Parks and Recreation Department Personnel regarding native planting and pollinator plantings at City Parks and Recreation sites.

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

## 8. Unfinished Business

A. [23-0742](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Implementation of Additional Community Gardens (Lola Robinson)

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

B. [23-0466](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Finalizing the Board's Annual Report to the Commission (Jeremy Rogus)

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

C. [23-0460](#) Inviting a Representative from Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to Provide an Overview of their Board. (Jeremy Rogus)

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

D. [22-3596](#) Memo Regarding Pesticides Used in Sarasota County (Erin Hall)

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

E. [22-3263](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Feasibility of Gopher Tortoise Relocation on Public Land or Private Conservation Easements within the City of North Port

Chair Holland announced the item.

Discussion took place regarding the June 12, 2023 Joint Meeting with City Commission.

Public comment:

Barbara Lockhart: expressed opposition to gopher tortoise relocation and expressed support for environmental conservation.

***There was consensus to postpone Item Nos. 22-3263 and 22-3592 to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.***

F. [22-3592](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Recommendation that the City Commission Support the Native Plantings in Public Parks and Spaces (e.g. Bee Stations and Butterfly Gardens)

This item was postponed to the July 10, 2023 Environmental Advisory Board Meeting.

**9. Future Agenda Items**

Discussion took place regarding including the postponed items.

**10. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**11. Adjournment**

Vice Chair Holland adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Honey Holland, Vice Chair

These minutes were approved on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.