City of Clearwater

Main Library - Council Chambers 100 N. Osceola Avenue Clearwater, FL 33755



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 4:00 PM

Special Meeting

Main Library - Council Chambers

Environmental Advisory Board

<u>Roll Call</u>

Present 5 - Chair Jared Leone, Board Member Glenna Wentworth, Board Member Kelly Dobbin, Board Member Michael Rubino, and Board Member Jason Drizd

Also Present–Cassie Cordova – Sustainability Division Manager and Danielle DeBois – City Clerk Specialist

1. Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025 Special Environmental Advisory Board meeting.

Member Drizd moved to approve the minutes of February 19, 2025 Environmental Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Willam Jonson presented a national municipalities community survey with results emphasizing the importance of the work being done by the board.

4. New Business Items

4.1 Review presentation on ORCA litter robot.

Kaydeyn Mack and Aris Isaac presented on ORCA, a liter collection robot prototype for the beach, and was presented certificates for their work

4.2 Review presentation of Stevenson Creek Feasibility study.

Representative of First Line Coastal, Stacey Roberts presented a PowerPoint on the Stevenson Creek Feasibility Study. In response to questions, Ms. Roberts said there have been limited studies done in Stevenson Creek specifically for the data needed to institute a manatee zone however Citizen Science Study would be a cost-effective way to gather the needed data. Citizen Science is the public contributing to a research goal via coordinated documentation of required statistics.

Discussion ensued regarding aspects of the study showing the effects of highspeed boaters and routes to utilize a Citizen Science Study.

Board Member Dobbin motioned to draft a letter of support to City

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Council to pursue the local government level of manatee protection zone. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

An individual questioned an ordinance 9640-22 passed in 2022 for a slow speed zone in Stevenson Creek did not cover the sought coverage.

*It was said that the ordinance was for the bridge areas.***4.3** Review presentation by Stevenson Creek Advocacy Group.

Stevenson Creek Advisory group members Aimee Truckender and Sherry Day presented a PowerPoint on the Citizen Science being completed in Stevenson Creek.

5. Old Business Items: None

6. Director's Report

Sustainability Division Manager Cassie Cordova said progress was being made on the reimbursement grant for the electric vehicles. Ms. Cordova said there would be a solar celebration at the Morningside Recreation Center on June 10th at 9 a.m.

7. Board Members to be Heard

Mr. Leone said it is sea turtle nesting season and the restrictions on artificial light use on the beach is now in effect and gave updates on environment centered events in the city.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Attest:

Chair Environmental Advisory Board

Board Reporter