



City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
www.venicegov.com

Meeting Minutes Environmental Advisory Board

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

[21-5248](#)

Instructions on How to Watch and/or Participate in the Meeting

I. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was held this date in Council Chambers at City Hall. Chair Tom Jones called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present 6 - Ronald Courtney, George Davis, Nick Flerlage, Joy Bush, Tom Jones and Bruce Miller

Absent 2 - Michael Campbell and Serenaty Lumpkin

Also Present

Acting Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark; Information Technology Director Christophe St. Luce; Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia; Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone; and Recording Secretary/Office Assistant Mary Seville.

III. Approval of Minutes

[21-5112](#)

Minutes of the April 28, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Courtney, seconded by Mr. Flerlage, that the Minutes of April 28, 2021 and June 23, 2021 be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

[21-5249](#)

Minutes of the June 23, 2021 Regular Meeting

This item was approved under Item 21-5112.

IV. Audience Participation

Jackie Mineo, 233 Sovrano Road, spoke regarding the work of the Environmental Advisory Board, the proposed banning of the use of glyphosate (i.e. Roundup weed killer), and city policies. Ms. Mineo suggested that the board start out with a more achievable goal such as eliminating the use of glyphosate at playgrounds.

VI. Unfinished Business**21-5114****Discussion of the Environmental Land Development Regulations**

Mr. Clark spoke regarding the Land Development Regulations (LDRs) and noted the draft document is out for review to the public and advisory boards to provide comments through the end of September. He answered board questions regarding the time frame for the entire LDR process to be completed.

Mr. Jones recommended board members review the comments on the city website and bring their feedback to the October meeting.

Discussion took place regarding information in the LDRs regarding gopher tortoises, retention ponds, and benefits of green building.

21-5010**Request for Environmental Advisory Board to Recommend to City Council That Use of Glyphosate (i.e. Roundup weed killer) by City Staff or on City Property is Prohibited**

A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Davis to recommend to city council that the use of glyphosate on playgrounds be eliminated and that a task force be created to research the subject of glyphosate to include an Environmental Advisory Board member and a city staff member.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of glyphosate (i.e. Roundup weed killer) and whether to recommend banning it completely. The board also discussed reasons the city is using glyphosate, cost of labor, discontinuing use of glyphosate on playgrounds, notices to dog walkers in parks, and input from the public works director.

Ms. Bush offered to do further research on glyphosate, and Dr. Davis agreed to reach out to other cities for information.

Mr. Jones stated he will draft two motions for the board's consideration and action in October.

Mr. Flerlage left the meeting at 2:16 p.m. and did not return.

The motion was withdrawn.

21-5012**Recommend to Send Information on Pasta Straws to Venice Area Chamber of Commerce and Venice MainStreet for their Consideration and Distribution to Local Eateries (Mr. Courtney)**

Discussion took place regarding single use plastics for food service purposes and what substitute items are available that are more environmentally friendly. The board agreed to combine this agenda item with item 21-5251.

V. New Business[21-5250](#)

Welcome New Board Member Bruce Miller

The board welcomed Mr. Miller.

[21-5251](#)

Propose Resolution Limiting Polystyrene Food Service Articles at City Permitted Events and on All City Property (Mr. Courtney)

This subject was discussed as part of item 21-5012.

[21-5252](#)

Implementation of a Plastic Collection Center in Downtown Venice (Ms. Lumpkin)

This item was tabled until Ms. Lumpkin reports back.

[21-5253](#)

Recommend City Staff Send Information to Homeowner Associations on Floating Plant Islands for Retention Ponds on Behalf of the Board (Mr. Courtney)

Mr. Courtney described floating islands in retention ponds and their benefit to the environment.

VII. Future Agenda Items

The board identified glyphosate, single use plastics, and polystyrene as future agenda items.

The board will also discuss floating islands and decide whether to ask Mr. Jones to approach the city manager about providing information on this subject to homeowners associations in the city.

VIII. Board Discussion

Mr. Courtney stated that the next meeting will be his last with this board.

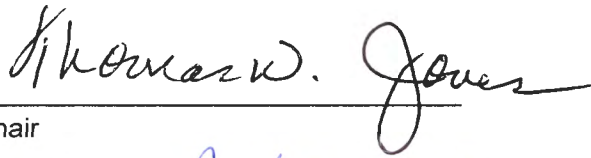
[21-5254](#)

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The board acknowledged that they did not have the opportunity to elect a chair and vice chair at this meeting while they had a quorum and agreed to move this item to the next agenda.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.


Chair


Recording Secretary
