

FEAB MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2021

8 a.m.

James P. Nix Center

Member Attendees: Gary Gover, Jim Horner, Jennifer Foutch, Amy Paulson, Ben Frater, Nigel Temple, Mike Shelton, Michelle Melton

Members not in attendance:

None

City of Fairhope: Mayor Sherry Sullivan; Kim Burmeister -Planning and Zoning Department; Dale Linder, Public Works

City Council: None

Honored Guests: Rick Speight, 123 Kurlane; Annette Sanders, 401 North Mobile Street

Minutes taken by Kim Burmeister

Gary called the meeting to order at 8 a.m.

Summary of meeting:

- 1. Stormwater Infrastructure Grant is being considered but has not been approved for funding yet.*
- 2. Potential new member, Rick Speight, will be considered by Council for FEAB membership Monday, October 25, 2021*
- 3. FEAB Member Jeanine Normand has resigned*
- 4. Passed: Motion to rescind Motion #1 from Sept. Meeting: Amend FEAB by-laws to allow for 11 instead of 9 members *Rescinded**
- 5. Fairhope Recycling program is back on-line, but contract with ECUA expires soon. This contract will be considered for renewal at Council meeting on October 25th.*
- 6. City has received GOMESA grant for Triangle Property; Auburn is being considered for Natural Resource Inventory and Park Management Plan*
- 7. Bluff, wetlands, City Parkland has been damaged and impacted by development on North Mobile Street by Fairhope Property Owner. Enforcement is pending (City, ADEM, USACOE). City needs better protection of wetlands and City of Fairhope forested / undeveloped park lands.*
- 8. Comp Plan community meetings are ongoing.*

FEAB Minutes:

Amy made a motion to approve FEAB Sept. minutes, approved unanimously

Agenda:

Amy presented an agenda for today's meeting.

AGENDA

THE CITY OF FAIRHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

OCTOBER 22, 2021

1. Acceptance of prior meeting minutes
2. Recycling Presentation / Discussion: Honored Guest, Dale Linder
3. Updates on Old Business
 - a. Motions from last month: Gary
 - i. FEAB Membership number – (can we rescind motion?)
 - ii. Rick Speight – approved?
 - iii. FEAB Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory Resolution
 - iv. FEAB Community Self-Assessment Resolution
 - b. Land Use Plan:
 - i. Ben and Mike – steering committee
 - ii. Amy, Gary, Michelle – focus group meeting
 - iii. Upcoming public meetings
 - iv. FEAB collective comment letter or Resolution?
 - c. Dyas Triangle:
 - i. Amy - response to Council comments on prohibitions
 - ii. Ben - grant award
 - iii. Natural Resources Inventory – Ben advocate?
 - d. City Council: Jennifer report on relevant previous / upcoming issues
 - e. Baldwin County Environmental Advisory Committee and EAC sub-committee (wetlands and neighborhoods): Kim
 - f. Watershed Management Plan: Kim
 - g. Community Resiliency Index: Mike report on next steps to engage rescoring / receipt of FEAB Resolution
 - h. Bike and Pedestrian Committee: Gary
 - i. Stormwater: Jim
 - j. Parking Committee: Nigel
4. New Business
 - a. FEAB Vacancy

Figure 1 Agenda by Amy

Stormwater Infrastructure Grant:

Mayor is on the Restore Council which will be reviewing grant / grants, including Fairhope's proposal for \$650K for a comprehensive stormwater infrastructure inventory. Mike questioned the need for a comprehensive inventory at this cost. Daphne has their stormwater infrastructure inventoried. Kim said this was initially done inhouse (Daphne) with a Trimble unit. Fairhope conducted a similar micro-inventory in 2012 but used a consultant to perform the inventory. Mayor said Daphne is also applying for a similar stormwater grant.

New Member Application and By-Law updates

Mike made a motion to rescind the motion from the Sept. FEAB meeting, which was a request to increase FEAB membership from 9 to 11 members. Jeanine Normand has resigned, so Rick Speight can be considered for membership without changing the by-laws on number of members. Jim 2nd the motion.

MOTION: RESCIND SEPT MOTION: BY-LAW MEMBERSHIP NUMBER INCREASE REQUEST FROM SEPT. - RESCINDED.

Recycling:

Dale Linder gave an update on Fairhope Recycling. It is back on-line as of two weeks ago, but contract with ECUA (Emerald Coast Utility Authority) is expiring, up for council consideration on October 25th. FEAB encouraged to attend. Recycling program includes three recycle trucks that run 5 days per week. There is about a 33% recycling rate in Fairhope. Most businesses recycle cardboard. Most Fairhope schools are recycling paper. Cardboard and aluminum are the only products that, if separated, would bring in a pay amount. Other materials cost money to recycle. Current contract with ECUA: City pays \$15 per ton to recycle but diverts the \$30 per ton garbage fee if this was in the waste stream. Recycling is co-mingled. If this contract is lost, Fairhope would logically only recycle fiber (cardboard and paper) and other materials would likely be placed with the waste stream.

Jennifer asked if the city had any plans to meter the waste stream which would encourage recycling. Mayor said this would require a retrofit of garbage trucks (to weigh garbage) but it has been discussed. Currently residents pay \$20 per month with no metering of garbage.

Dale said Fairhope has 10,800 residential and 800 commercial waste management accounts. Restaurants sell their used cooking oil. Fairhope has a free cooking oil recycling program for residents (free containers).

Kim mentioned Fairhope's unique 2 x /week garbage collection. County collection is one time per week. Dale said very few communities are doing this (2x / week).

Dale's handout:

Curbside Recycling:

Put these items in your blue recycling bins for easy weekly pick up by your Fairhope Recycle crew:



Food & Beverage Glass
any color



Paper
newspapers & inserts



Cardboard
cardboard, boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes, etc.)



Plastic
plastic bottles, plastics No. 1 & 2, plastic milk jugs: 2-Liters



Metal
tin and steel cans, lids, pet food cans (no plastic liner)



Aluminum
cans, lids, pet food cans (no plastic liner)

Figure 2 Recycle Hand Out Pg. 1

Recycling No-Nos

Please do not include these with your recyclables:

- No Plastic bags - Please check with your local grocery stores to see if they collect plastic bags for recycling.
- No Polystyrene products (Styrofoam®)
- No Pet food cans or bags
- No Ice cream cartons
- No Waxy/paper milk cartons
- No Aerosol cans
- No Juice boxes or bags
- No Garbage or yard waste
- No Garden hoses
- No Window blinds
- No Tarps
- No Bedding or linens
- No Carpeting or rugs
- No Construction materials
- No Tin foil or foil baking pans
- No Plastic chairs
- No Residential Medical Waste
- No Bubble Wrap
- No Food Waste
- No Propane Tanks
- No Plastic or metal hangers



No Wishcycling Please

Figure 3 Recycle Hand Out Page 2

Notes:

- 10,793 Sanitation Accounts in Fairhope
- 24,000 plus residents
- 723 Business accounts
- 46.00% Growth Rate: 2010-2021

Logistics:

- 3 Recycle Trucks
- Operating 5 Days per Week
- 1,500 accounts per week each
- 300-500 Accounts per day serviced
- 100 Tons per month average collection

Recycle Rates:

- 1/3 Committed recyclers
- 1/3 Occasional recyclers
- 1/3 non recyclers
- 100.00% Businesses recycle cardboard weekly

Recycle Processing:

- Emerald Coast Utility Authority
- Escambia / Santa Rosa County utilities
- Water / Sewer / Garbage / Recycling
- Materials Recycling Facility in Cantonment, Fl
- Fully Automated \$14,000,000 Facility
- Automatically sorts, processes, and bales materials for resale to worldwide vendors
- Single Steam Facility

Economics:

- Sliding scale on Commodity Values
- Flat Rate based on Contamination Rate: \$15.00 / Ton Current Rate
- BCSW: \$30.00 Ton as garbage
- 4 Vendors closed in last 7 years due to economic turmoil
- Commodity values depressed

Future Plans:

- Baldwin County Solid Waste planning MRF 2022-2024
- Funded by state COVID grants
- Co Operative: Municipalities share in cost of services and profits realized
- Keep business in Baldwin County
- Closer drive time / greater efficiencies

Figure 4 Recycle Hand Out Page 3

Land Use Plan:

Mayor said Comprehensive Land Use Plan meetings are on-going, most recent one was at Quail Creek. She encouraged FEAB to share the meeting agendas with friends, neighbors and on social media.

Protection of City Parks, bluff areas:

Local resident of North Mobile Street spoke about a recent violation on North Mobile Street, where a city permit was issued for the upper part of the property to be cleared, and property owner had site cleared all the way to the bay. Part of the property cleared was City Park property according to tax deeds. Park property transects part of North Mobile Street and is a wooded corridor. She expressed concern that this has been done and that the bluff will not be able to be restored as it was. Adjacent wetlands were also impacted. Mayor said Erik Cortinas oversees this project and is taking care of enforcement actions and monitoring. Kim said ADEM, USACOE is also involved in monitoring and possible enforcement for this property / property owner.

Ms. Sanders suggested Park signs be installed along City wooded corridors so that adjoining property owners are aware of Fairhope's desire to keep forested areas intact, especially city-owned property. Most Fairhope Parks are not forested; it is important to protect what we have. Mayor agreed and liked the idea of a standardized park sign. Kim mentioned the upcoming Eastern Shore Watershed Management Plan which will be studying this shoreline on North Mobile Street, as well as other areas along the Mobile Bay shoreline from Daphne to CR 1. She encouraged Ms. Sanders to become involved in this effort as well, when community meetings are available for the ESWMP.

Meeting adjourned at 9 a.m.

Next meeting is Friday, November 12th @ 3 p.m. @ Library Board Room

FEAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chairman:

Gary Gover govers@bellsouth.net (251) 990-8662

Members:

Ben Frater ben.frater@gmail.com (404) 314-8815

Mike Shelton yaupon3@gmail.com (251) 270-9042

Jim Horner none (251) 928-9722

Amy Paulson amy.paulson@yahoo.com (251) 654-7401

Nigel Temple 757nigel@gmail.com (757) 803-3589

Michelle Melton michelleleemeltonlee@gmail.com (423) 504-8253

Jennifer Foutch Foutch.jennifer@gmail.com (618) 318-0354

CITY CONTACTS:

Corey Martin, City Council

corey.martin@fairhopeal.gov

Kim Burmeister, Planning and Zoning Department

kim.burmeister@fairhopeal.gov

Christina LeJeune, Planning and Zoning Department

christina.lejeune@fairhopeal.gov

DRAFT