

**CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE  
KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 6, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Chair Taylor on January 6, 2016, at 3:05 p.m., at Port St. Lucie City Hall, Building B, Conference Room 201, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Sarah Taylor, Chair  
Jennifer Newell, Vice Chair  
John Colando  
Allison Macdonald

Members Not Present: Karol Albers  
Jolien Caraballo  
Ryan Collins  
Officer Fred Knaggs  
Darlene McLaughlin  
Maureen Puglisi

Others Present: Anna Marie Colonnese, Public Works  
Christina Daigle, Coordinator  
Denise M. French, Deputy City Clerk  
Calleigh N. Myers, Secretary

**3. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: Sarah Taylor, Chair**

Chair Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 7, 2015 and November 4, 2015**

**(Clerk's Note:** Since there was no quorum, the minutes were not approved and will be placed on the next Agenda.)

**5. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Ms. Macdonald noted that her name has changed from Lankow back to Macdonald. There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

**6. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

No one signed up to speak under this item.

**7. STAFF REPORT:**

- a. UPCOMING EVENTS**
  - Florida State Arbor Day**
  - Fourth Grade Foresters**

Ms. Daigle said, "For the Staff Report, we are using the same format we've been trying to do: Upcoming Events, Projects, Grants and Follow Up, and sometimes we'll throw other things in there. For Upcoming Events, as you know, January 15<sup>th</sup> is Florida State Arbor Day. We are going to do the same thing as last year with Fourth Grade Foresters, and go into some different schools. We are going to four schools this year. They will get tree seedlings, which is 50% funded by Waste Pro. We will give presentations to two of the schools we visit. Two members of the Botanical Gardens are coming out again to give the presentations. If anyone here is interested in going, I know Ms. Caraballo mentioned she wanted to try to attend some, let us know now or later, and we'll give you the times."

Ms. Daigle stated, "Typically, we go over to the Botanical Gardens. This year, I think what we're going to do is have a little celebration at one of the schools. The kids and the teachers will like that. I'm not sure if the Botanical Gardens is having their typical event or not." Ms. Macdonald asked, "Are you talking about Arbor Day?" Ms. Daigle answered in the affirmative. Vice Chair Newell said, "I hadn't heard otherwise. I would imagine they are still doing it." Ms. Daigle stated, "I don't think so." Vice Chair Newell asked, "Oh, they're not?" Ms. Daigle responded in the negative.

**- Adopt-a-Street Volunteer Appreciation BBQ**

Ms. Daigle continued, "In addition, one of the fun things coming up is the Adopt-A-Street Appreciation Barbecue for the volunteers. We are looking forward to that. What I'd like to do today is have an open discussion of what parks you're thinking about. I know that last year there were different opinions on where to do it. The last thing we brought up was trying to do it at different locations throughout the City over the years. What do you all think?" Ms. Macdonald inquired, "What day is it scheduled for?" Ms. Daigle replied, "February 20<sup>th</sup>, which is a Saturday." Chair Taylor asked, "Has it seriously been a year since we've had it?" Ms. Daigle answered in the affirmative. Chair Taylor stated, "I like Southbend." Mr. Colando said, "Last year was..." Ms. Colonnese interjected, "Was Southbend and the year before was Sandhill Crane Park." Ms. Colonnese noted, "What we talked about in the past was having it at different locations around the City to get people familiar with the different locations, and make it fairer for everybody." Ms. Macdonald suggested, "Whispering Pines Park." Vice Chair Newell stated, "That is exactly what I was going to say because it's on the west side."

Ms. Daigle stated, "Last year we had over 100 people come out so my thought is, if we have a good turnout again this year, then I don't think it's really dependent on the location, so moving it might be helpful to some people. It's nice to see that people are still willing to drive out to a different side of the City to be there." Ms. Macdonald said, "It

is showcasing. We have beautiful parks, and it is showcasing all of our parks instead of having it in the same location, and the same thing. I do like the different locations each year." Chair Taylor inquired, "What time is it?" Ms. Daigle replied, "We are still working at getting everything in the works." Ms. Colonnese stated, "Last year we started at 11:00 a.m., I want to say." Vice Chair Newell noted, "This says 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m."

Ms. Colonnese asked, "Do we have a second location just in case?" Ms. Macdonald said, "Don't you have anything..." Ms. Daigle answered, "We don't have anything reserved yet; I've got a lot of new projects." Vice Chair Newell said, "Let me look at our parks map to see what's on the west side." Chair Taylor asked, "The west side?" Ms. Macdonald responded, "There really isn't anything that has a large pavilion." Ms. Daigle noted, "Whispering Pines is nice, though." Vice Chair Newell concurred. Mr. Colando asked, "What about Swan, the one on..." Ms. Macdonald responded, "But it doesn't have a large pavilion. Only the community parks have the large pavilions; that would be Sportsman, Jessica Clinton, Sandhill Crane, and Lyngate." Vice Chair Newell added, "Charles Ray." Ms. Macdonald stated, "Charles Ray has a basketball court, and it's a great location, but it doesn't have tables and chairs." Ms. Colonnese inquired, "Didn't we have the employee picnic..." Ms. Macdonald interjected, "Public Works brought out the tables and chairs for that. Otherwise, it would be a good fallback, if there isn't anything available." Ms. Daigle asked, "There are small pavilions at Canal Park, right, Ms. Newell?" Vice Chair Newell replied in the affirmative and said, "That would be pretty, but it's not on the west side." Ms. Daigle stated, "There are two pavilions next to each other, but I don't think you can reserve them; I think they are first-come, first-served. We'd have to look into that." Vice Chair Newell said, "I'm not sure either."

Ms. Macdonald said, "If you had 100 people last year, you're going to need one of the larger parks." Vice Chair Newell suggested, "Like Veterans Park. Sorry, I mean Lyngate." Ms. Daigle asked, "Was it Sandhill Crane that we went to last year?" Ms. Macdonald answered, "No. The first year was Sandhill Crane, last year was Jessica Clinton." Vice Chair Newell said, "Lyngate has a lot of...because that's where Parks and Recreation was doing their..." Chair Taylor asked, "Is that the one on the water? The one with the big pavilion? Oh no, that's Rivergate." Vice Chair Newell said, "I think I said Rivergate or Veterans first, then Rivergate. Lyngate is good." Chair Taylor said, "It has a big pavilion." Ms. Daigle asked, "Whispering Pines or Lyngate?" Ms. Macdonald answered, "Whispering Pines. It's on the west side of town, it has a playground for the kids, and there are a lot of shady spots." Vice Chair Newell added, "There are bathrooms." Ms. Daigle said, "All right, we'll see if we can get it."

## **b. PROJECTS**

### **- KPSLB Committee By-Laws**

Ms. Daigle said, "I was curious and looked for our By-Laws. The ones I saw were vague, and I was having a hard time getting questions answered when I was working with the Legal Department. We're going to update them a little bit, and I'll bring them to you to see what you think. We either approve them or change them from there. I just wanted to let you know that we're working on this."

**- FDOT Adopt-a-Highway (I-95 off-ramps at Crosstown Parkway)**

Ms. Daigle stated, "We've been struggling with FDOT, both with our Adopt-a-Highway for Crosstown Parkway and Item 7c, our FDOT grant for litter prevention and litter control. We're working with Assistant City Attorney Brennan Keeler in the Legal Department. He is trying to get a government-friendly indemnification clause added because something is going on with a lawsuit that is happening with FDOT, and Assistant City Attorney Keeler wants to keep us safe from it happening to the City. We are not able to move forward unless we get that, but they don't want to add it. If we go higher up on the ladder, they might add it because they've added before for the Police Department. It's just a whole lot of back and forth. At this point, Assistant City Attorney Keeler has taken the reins, and he is trying to do it for us because I don't know half of what he is saying anyway. Those are two things we are working on."

**c. GRANTS**

**- FDOT Litter Control and Prevention Grant 2016 - Phase 2 of 5**

Ms. Daigle continued, "Right now, the grant is something I'm really, really trying to push for because we've got a couple of things we can pay for. The national conference is coming up, and can be paid for through that grant. Also, there are a couple of other invoices; the tree seedlings, we pay for half, we can get those paid for by the grant. The more we can utilize the grant for things instead of trying to find stuff: 'Hey, we have \$50,000. Let's buy stuff.' Let's first pad our budget if we can. We're in Phase 2 of 5; if we can get that clause added, we'll be sailing on a lot better."

**d. FOLLOW UP**

**- Event dates**

Holding up the events dates document, Ms. Daigle said, "We gave this to you before, but this is a better breakdown of what we've got going for the coming year. One thing that did change, and I did say it out loud at a couple of meetings, is that our Household Hazardous Waste Day was going to be on October 1<sup>st</sup>, but we had to change it to October 8<sup>th</sup>. I wanted to make sure that all the individuals and organizations we work with are available to make it happen."

Holding up the KPSLB Committee Meeting Schedule, Ms. Daigle stated, "As I mentioned before, this is what we're going to do for our meetings. I noticed towards the end of the year, last year and this year, we were cancelling because we didn't have a lot going on in November and December, as far as things we would bring up at the Committee meeting. This is really what brought up the By-Laws in the first place, because I was trying to figure out how many meetings we were supposed to have. I found in one section it said every other month, and another one said we had to have six or eight. I wanted to have it broken down to make sure we are doing what we're supposed to do, not that anybody will get on it for us. In yellow, those are the areas...If we were sticking to six meetings a year, what I tried to do is put them around the different events we have. So, today, January 6<sup>th</sup>, we are talking about up-coming events

that we have, such as the barbecue in February. We will have meetings in January, February, March and April. We will take a little break in May and June, then we'll be back in August, September and October. Is that looking all right?" The Committee agreed that it looked fine."

Ms. Daigle continued, "Assistant City Attorney Gilbert will be helping to make sure the By-Laws get squared away. We can always call additional or special meetings if we need them. If something comes up, like Crosstown Parkway kind of came up, we could have a separate meeting for anyone who is interested in coming. It doesn't necessarily have to be the whole committee."

**- Tree City USA signs (2 new locations)**

Ms. Daigle said, "For the eleventh year in a row, we have been named a Tree City. The City of Port St. Lucie wants to get some signs out east, as well. We're looking at doing Mariposa and Lennard like we did with the EWIP Project. That area has a lot of trees, and it would great if we put a sign out there, too. We'll take a picture and show you; maybe we can put it on the City's website when we get them out there. Somehow the one at Crosstown Parkway vanished. Traffic doesn't know what happened to it. Someone may have hit it, so we bought another one and had it replaced. Right now, you can see them at St. Lucie West Boulevard eastbound from I-95, from I-95 at Crosstown Parkway eastbound, and I-95 at Becker Road eastbound. We're looking to do one at Green River Parkway and over by Lennard and Mariposa. Little by little, we'll keep getting more. We'll be able to put the 11-year stickers on, which is an interesting process to watch me do because they are really high."

Ms. Daigle said, "This year we talked about engaging the committee and it seems that a lot of the members are cool to help out and do stuff. Depending on what the events are, we'll give you stuff if you're interested in doing it, and having you run with it and letting us know, so it's not just me talking the whole time. That way you'll feel happy and want to come see us."

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

There was nothing heard under this item.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

Vice Chair Newell said, "The post that I put on Facebook of our litter crew got maybe a 5,000-post reach. I should have printed them out, but every single comment was: 'Oh my gosh, thank you so much.' 'This is amazing.' 'You guys are doing a great job.' That was really nice. If you think of, let me know, because I find those kinds of things get the most reach on Facebook." Ms. Macdonald suggested, "You should let the guys know, too." Ms. Colonnese said, "Send out an email." Vice Chair Newell stated, "I'll send out a screen shot. But, just something like that, because I saw John on the road one day, I think I was going home and I'm like 'Gosh, what a great opportunity.' I wanted to swing around to take a picture, but I wanted both the guys together. You see these guys, just so you know who they are, what they're doing, just to bring some awareness, because it

really puts a face and a name to people, and residents like that. It's nice; it just kind of makes you feel like you're part of the community, like you're part of something."

Ms. Colonnese asked, "How about Whispering Pines Park when they have the yard sale once a month? I know it's not a person, but it's an event the City holds. It's important to the residents who are there because they are trying to sell stuff and make money. It's something the City puts on that I think is a real nice thing for the residents." Vice Chair Newell stated, "We promote that event because it's monthly, so there's a web posting, and we promote it every month on social media. I had Gus go out there for me and take pictures of people out there, so I've got some pictures that I use to promote it, but I haven't really done much with it." Ms. Macdonald said, "I know at one point they were very busy and were almost full. At some point, you don't want to promote too much if you're going to be turning people away. I don't know if that's the predicament or not, but it's a feel-good story, maybe." Ms. Colonnese stated, "I was thinking for the residents to go out and buy stuff, you know, like people who do yard sales. They make sure they go to that yard sale, so the people who are there selling it, it promotes it in that direction, too." Vice Chair Newell said, "I did it right before Christmas. I wrote, 'Hey, still looking for Christmas gifts. Stop by the Community Garage Sale.' But if anybody has any ideas or if you see something happening, something nice; it doesn't have to be a major event that's going on."

Ms. Colonnese said, "We signed up a group of two today from Newport Isles. They just came in and said they were at the Clean-Up Day. They are going to their board because they want the community to sign up. They are already doing it, but they want the kids to come. They want to teach the kids, 'Hey, look what you've accomplished.' They want to have hot dogs and soda for the kids afterwards. They want to, basically, teach them and do this every month. That is such a great story. You came to mind immediately." Vice Chair Newell stated, "Just get me a picture. It's better if you have a picture to go with it." Ms. Colonnese stated, "They just signed up today, and I thought about making a story out of it." Vice Chair Newell said, "Absolutely. Any of these just personal stories. As you know my community does not recycle. You should have seen my car, because I've been hoarding all of this recycling for weeks, over the Christmas holidays and everything. For two cents, I almost took a picture of it. I look like a crazy bag lady. But just anything like that. If you're doing something interesting in your own home, or you found something new to recycle, or you're doing something in your garden that you would have thrown away otherwise. You know what I mean, anything like that."

Vice Chair Newell continued, "The Hope's Closet thing blew up. I got so many calls about that, wanting to donate, wanting to help out. I think I probably referred eight or ten people to Hope's Closet because they still wanted to donate their clothing after seeing what we posted about Port St. Lucie donating clothing. Anything like that, let me know, and I'll do it." Mr. Colando asked, "How did that go?" Ms. Colonnese replied, "The percentage of kids' clothing was 30%." Ms. Daigle stated, "They were specifically asking for youth clothing, infant to a certain age, I think it was 13. I can't remember the numbers." Ms. Colonnese said, "Seventeen." Ms. Daigle said, "They ended up getting a lot of adult-style clothing anyway." Ms. Colonnese added, "They do send that to other organizations. There were dresses in there, almost like party dresses or work dresses."

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They donate those to a specific organization for people looking for jobs and that type of thing. Everything went somewhere and it was re-used.”

Ms. Macdonald said, “You did a very nice job on the Christmas tree video.” Vice Chair Newell said, “Oh, yes, the Christmas tree recycling video. That’s up now on our home page. It was 250 pounds of clothing. I almost said 1,700, but that was some other fundraiser. Then the Christmas tree recycling video was the idea, I think, from the City Manager.” Ms. Daigle noted, ‘Originally, it came from the Mayor.” Vice Chair Newell said, “From the Mayor, sorry. He asked that we do something on it, so that worked out nicely.” Chair Taylor asked, “People had to take their trees somewhere or it’s just Waste Pro picking up?” Vice Chair Newell responded, “Put it out with yard waste. It’s a reminder to put it out with the yard waste.” Ms. Macdonald noted, “Without tinsel, ornaments, or lights. It has to be bare, in its natural state.” Ms. Colonese stated, “I saw a lot of trees out there.” Ms. Daigle said, “They threw in there, too, that they are not supposed to be bagging their yard waste, because a lot of people still do that.” Chair Taylor inquired, “What about paper bags? Home Depot sells those paper bags. Can they do that?” Ms. Macdonald replied, “They don’t really want any kind of bag, I don’t think. We have a new contractor. It all goes into one big pile and it goes through a chipper.” Ms. Daigle stated, “I know plastic bags would be an issue. I can see where you’re coming from.” Ms. Macdonald said, “They want it containerized so Waste Pro can just pick it up and throw it in the back of the truck.”

**(Clerk’s Note:** Ms. Macdonald left the meeting at this time.)

Ms. Daigle said, “I will shoot emails out about the location of the barbecue. We’ll make sure to keep you all up-to-date. I think everybody in this room came out last year; that was cool. As things come up, we’ll let you know.

**a. Next Committee Meeting - February 3, 2016**

**10. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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Sarah Taylor, Chair

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Denise M. French, Deputy City Clerk