

**CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE
KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Vice Chair Newell on November 4, 2015, at 3:06 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: Jenny Newell, Vice Chair
Karol Albers
Jolien Caraballo (left at 3:40 p.m.)
John Colando
Darlene McLaughlin

Members Not Present: Sarah Taylor, Chair
Ryan Collins
Officer Fred Knaggs
Allison Lankow
Maureen Puglisi

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

3. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: JENNIFER NEWELL, VICE CHAIR

Vice Chair Newell noted, "We do not have a quorum today, but we will still discuss the Agenda items."

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 7, 2015

(Clerk's Note: The October 7, 2015, minutes were not available for approval.)

5. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

6. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

No one came forward to speak under this item.

7. STAFF REPORT:

Ms. Daigle stated, "What we are trying really, really hard to do is when things are brought to the table during Committee meetings, we want to do our very best to either solve them or look into them and find answers before the next Committee meeting. I think in the past it was always well-intentioned, but I think a lot of times they were put on the back burner because we have so many other things going on. There is a different section added on to the Agenda, which is 7d, Follow Up. That is something we'll touch on. It's not always the exact same things each month, like this month 7a is Upcoming Events, 7b is Projects, some things are going to change, but that is just one little addition we placed on the Agenda today.

a. UPCOMING EVENTS

- America Recycles Day (Clothing Drive for Hopes Closet)

Ms. Daigle said, "I want Ms. Colonnese to roll with this first one. She had the idea for America Recycles Day, and we'll see where we are at." Ms. Colonnese said, "We are partnering with Hope's Closet. We're going to have a clothing drive next week. It's really for the employees of the City; other people can participate, but because we are not sure how much clothing we will collect, we're going to start this year to see how it goes. We'll be collecting children's clothing, from newborn to 17 years old. Hope's Closet is an organization that takes in the clothing, and they have a boutique-style setting where the children can go in and pick out, I think, three outfits, jackets, a bathing suit. They also accept money for underclothing. These children have to be referred there; nobody can just walk in. We're going to do that next week. I've already sent the information to Human Resources, and they should be sending it out to all employees tomorrow. I put it on the America Recycles Day calendar, so they have it in order for the public to see it, also. We'll collect the clothing in three different locations: City Hall Building A, the Community Center and the Civic Center. I have copies of the flyers that will be going out to the employees. I'll have it where you can go to the website for GraceWay Village and Hope's Closet. They can make a monetary donation or they can volunteer. If anybody wants to sign up, they can go right to the website for Hope's Closet and participate in that way, too."

Vice Chair Newell asked, "Where is Hope's Closet located? In Port St. Lucie?" Ms. Colonnese replied, "In Fort Pierce, on Hartman Way or Hartman Road. I can get you more information." Vice Chair Newell inquired, "And this is just for employees; we're not inviting the public to bring in clothes?" Ms. Colonnese responded, "No, we just want to see how much we collect. It might get out of hand if all the residents were aware of this. We may collect so much that we're not ready for that type of participation. But, the information will be there, where other locations are for clothing drop-off. If you go to the website, they have Old Navy in Tradition and a couple of schools in Fort Pierce. The information will be there if the residents want to donate at other locations. The residents, if they hear about this, they can come to City Hall and drop it off. We're going to monitor the clothing. If we have to, we'll make a trip and drop some of it off." Vice Chair Newell said, "I think you'll be surprised because there have been so many fundraisers lately

with money. This will be nice. They have an option; they can donate without bringing out the wallet. It will be great.”

Ms. Caraballo inquired, “Is this going to be yearly?” Ms. Colonnese responded, “If it works out and we all like what happens, yes, it could be. They do clothing drives throughout the year.” Ms. Daigle added, “I think it is just a different option, a different twist on America Recycles Day. We may go with different avenues each year, but I think that it would be something we would be interested in promoting for them each year, and holding campaigns and drives for them. As Ms. Colonnese said, the kids are referred by different agencies, such as Social Services agencies and the school district, so these kids are definitely in need. One thing our contact at Hope’s Closet said was that they are not just looking for clothing, they are looking for kids’ style clothing, newborn to 17 years old. That’s one of the fears of inundation with clothing if you put it out to the public. People don’t want to necessarily throw their clothes away, sometimes they don’t want to give them to other organizations that sell clothing. Because they don’t sell clothing, a lot of times what the woman at Hope’s Closet was saying is that they get so many clothes that have nothing to do with kids at all. What’s nice is if we do get some of that, they still provide it do different organizations, anyway. No matter what, the clothes are not going to waste. I think it’s a great thought, a great spin that Ms. Colonnese had. Typically, you wouldn’t think of America Recycles Day as recycling clothes, but it definitely brings awareness to Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful and our program because it is different.” Ms. McLaughlin said, “Yes, recycling clothes that are going to be used again, that’s awesome.” Vice Chair Newell stated, “I think it’s awesome. I have a bag in my trunk right now.” Ms. Colonnese said, “Save it for next week.”

Vice Chair Newell said, “After that, I’d love to know...Do they weigh it?” Ms. Colonnese replied, “They do weigh it. We’ll take it up there in trash bags and they’ll weigh it. They will sort through it, and they’ll take out women’s clothing or adult clothing and give it to another organization. If they do get adult clothing that they can’t use, they’ll sort it out and it will still go to somebody.” Vice Chair Newell said, “Just let me know how much it weighs, just to say that we did something and, again, that we did a different twist on this. Is Keep America Beautiful still doing the pledge? Remember how you could go on line and do the “I pledge to recycle...” Ms. Colonnese answered, “I can send you that information. Do you want to put something like that on the website?” Vice Chair Newell asked, “What day is that?” Ms. Colonnese replied, “It is November 15th, but it’s kind of the whole month of November. The exact day is November 15th, but there are events all month long.” Ms. Daigle said, “Something Ms. Colonnese and I were talking about that in the past we’ve done during Household Hazardous Waste Day, and we didn’t do it this year. If we can get that on the website, if we could push it through different avenues, I think it would be really helpful.”

- 4th Grade Foresters

Ms. Daigle said, “The new year is already coming, so under Upcoming Events we put 4th Grade Foresters and Adopt-a-Street Appreciation Lunch. Later on, we’ll talk about the event dates that we are proposing for 2016. Fourth Grade Foresters is not on that list because it is not one of our main events. What we do for 4th Grade Foresters is that

we go out to different elementary schools and provide seedlings given to us by the Arbor Day Foundation. We provide the educational background of how the kids can take care of the trees, how they can plant them and why trees are important, overall. We typically do this every year in January or February.” Ms. Colonnese stated, “It is usually February. We buy the seedlings and, usually, Waste Pro goes in with us on that and participates.” Ms. Daigle said, “I’m glad you stepped in there; I thought they were provided by the Foundation.” Ms. Colonnese noted, “Usually, it’s 50-50; Waste Pro sponsors...” Ms. McLaughlin said, “That’s what we did last year.” Ms. Colonnese said, “Yes, Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful and Waste Pro. And, the year before. The kids love it. They want to go home and plant the trees. It’s really great.” Vice Chair Newell asked, “Do volunteers from the Botanical Gardens...? They helped out last year, right?” Ms. Colonnese answered, “Yes, Joleen King and Illona Christie from the Botanical Gardens came. You were there last year, weren’t you, Ms. McLaughlin?” Ms. McLaughlin replied, “Not last year.”

Ms. Daigle said, “I was thinking about trying to see what Chair Taylor wants to do with this because I know she is part of the Master Gardeners group, to see if she wants to run with that and any other Committee members who are interested, even if you want to go to one school and not the other.” Ms. McLaughlin inquired, “How many schools?” Ms. Daigle replied, “I think we did two schools.” Ms. Colonnese stated, “We did two the last two years.” Ms. McLaughlin asked, “And you alternate schools?” Ms. Colonnese answered in the affirmative. Ms. Daigle stated, “As that gets closer, we poll the Committee to see if anyone is interested in going. Obviously, it’s during work hours because it’s during the school day. I know that makes it difficult.” Ms. Caraballo said, “I’ll go.”

- Adopt-a-Street Appreciation Lunch

Ms. Daigle stated, “This is just a heads-up. The lunch should have been first because that one is for...When did we propose it for? Was it January? It is on the horizon, and we want to start looking into it. We have it on for February 20th. In the next couple of meetings, we’ll start figuring out where we want to do it, how we want to do it and what we thought of it last year. A lot of you went, right? I saw a lot of you there. We’re going to be out at one of the parks again this year, so at the next couple of meetings we’ll talk about where we want to be, what we want to do, if we want to do the Golden Grabbers again, if we want to do some other type of awards. We’ll start brainstorming as it approaches. Like I said, I put it on the Agenda as a ‘Let’s keep this in mind’ sort of thing.”

b. PROJECTS

- FDOT Adopt-a-Highway (I-95 Off-Ramp/Crosstown Parkway)

Ms. Daigle said, “This is on-going. It is still with the Legal Department and Risk Management. Truthfully, I haven’t gotten onto them about it; I think they are waiting on me, and I just haven’t had the opportunity to do it.” Ms. Caraballo asked, “Do you want me to follow up?” Ms. Daigle responded, “We need to follow-up with staff on our end. I’ll

do it.” Ms. Caraballo stated, “If you need anything, let me know.” Ms. Daigle said, “Okay. That’s what I love. I love when we can get engagement from the Committee. I’ll definitely make sure to try to get back on top of that.”

- Adopt-a-Street Program Update

Ms. Daigle stated, “We mentioned that we were going to do it, but we had over 100 Adopt-a-Street groups. A group can consist of one person, two people, in Ms. Newell’s case or a whole group of 15 or more. We knew not everybody was providing us with reports, so Ms. Colonnese went through the daunting task of contacting all of the Adopt-a-Street groups. Some wrote back and said they’ve moved out of town, their lives have changed around, they don’t have time to do it or whatever the reason. We dropped 46 groups per their request. It’s a big number, and that drove me insane. I think it would make us look pretty bad, so I went in and looked into when they were actually dropped. We dropped them this past fiscal year; however, they stopped doing reports in 2012 and 2013. It’s not done, so I couldn’t provide it today. (**Clerk’s Note:** Ms. Daigle held up a spreadsheet to show the Committee, and pointed to the columns accordingly.) Basically, this is 2012 or earlier and this is 2013. Only these right here dropped in 2014. Although we dropped them because we got confirmation that they were no longer participating, they actually stopped providing reports before any of us...” Ms. McLaughlin interjected, “Years ago.” Ms. Colonnese said, “Years ago. It was just a matter of cleaning up the Adopt-a-Street Program and getting everything back on track.” Ms. Daigle said, “I think we’re at 92.” Ms. Colonnese noted, “We did lose two this month, but we haven’t lost too many since I’ve come on. I believe we’re at 90 groups right now.” Ms. McLaughlin stated, “I was thinking you were at 40.” Ms. Colonnese said, “They are all pretty much active; turning in their reports regularly, once a month.” Ms. Laughlin asked, “Did you get the report from Catherine?” Ms. Colonnese replied, “I did get caught up now; I just have to ask her to maintain. I’ll get with her to maintain it. I might be missing a month or two, but she got caught up on all the other reports.” Ms. McLaughlin said, “We’ve had some turnovers, so she is retraining again.”

Ms. Daigle said, “This is just an update for the program so we have only active groups and participating groups. And, also, we don’t want to keep sending emails out to people who don’t want anything to do with the program any more. I love feeling like we’re staying in touch with the active Adopt-a-Street groups. We actually had someone come in today because one of his grabbers broke, and he picked up a grabber, a hat, a vest and some other stuff. He was telling us where we needed trash cans. That is what we want, the groups that are active and the people who are out there actually doing their clean-up.

- St. Lucie Mets Agreement

Ms. Daigle said, “Two weeks ago, Ms. Colonnese and I went to Tradition Stadium and met with Lauren Mahoney, the contact for our annual agreement. In that agreement, we have banners in the parking lot and going up the walkways to the stadium. In addition, we also do our Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful Appreciation Night there. We are in the

process of figuring out what we want to do for that agreement this year. We may see a few additions to that agreement. By the next meeting we'll, for sure, have it locked in. I think the 8th of..." Ms. Colonnese said, "April 8th is the tentative date, which is a Friday, and that would be fireworks, if we end up having it that night. It's looking good." Ms. Caraballo asked, "Do they just partner with the City or is there an actual cost to us doing it?" Ms. Daigle replied, "I say an agreement, but it's more of a contract on their end. We pay for it, for sure." Ms. Caraballo commented, "Because we do the same thing with them." Ms. Colonnese said, "We get advertising, and we also have a video at every game." Ms. Caraballo inquired, "Do we know what the approximate cost is?" Ms. Daigle answered, "Around \$9,000." Ms. McLaughlin added, "Mine's \$5,000, and that is just for the JumboTron." Ms. Daigle stated, "They mentioned that the prices had gone up this year because they were getting more traction due to the..." Mr. Colando interjected, "World Series." Ms. Daigle continued, "Thank you. I know nothing about sports." Ms. Caraballo stated, "I signed my contract early, before that." Ms. Colonnese said, "I know Lauren has done hers; she is getting married." Ms. McLaughlin said, "They contacted me. I got a voice mail yesterday from them." Ms. Daigle said, "They're trying to get everything locked in because the woman who does it all will be out in December, so she is trying to do it all now."

- Event Dates For 2016

Ms. Daigle said, "We've already mentioned a couple of these, but the dates we're looking at now, I didn't do a printout because they are tentative at this point. I think we're going to move forward with them, but for the most part all the events we have are in the same timeframe as last year, with the exception of Appreciation Night at Tradition Field, which we just discussed, was one week away from our annual clean-up day. That was insane for us. We want to move it a full three weeks apart and we couldn't because it is the same day as the Castle 5K Walk." Ms. Colonnese noted, "That is popular." Ms. Daigle continued, "So, instead of one week, and we can't do three weeks, we're going to do two weeks apart. Other than that, everything else is within the same time frame. The Adopt-a-Street Volunteer Appreciation, which we threw on the Agenda as a heads-up, is Saturday, February 20th. These are not all completely locked in because we need to confirm with Parks, and for Appreciation Night, we need to make sure we have Tradition Stadium, of course. Clean-Up Day..." Vice Chair Newell asked, "Did you say February 20th?" Ms. Daigle replied in the affirmative. Vice Chair Newell inquired, "That's the Appreciation Luncheon?" Ms. Colonnese replied, "The barbecue luncheon for the Adopt-a-Street members." Vice Chair Newell said, "Okay, that's the same thing."

Ms. Daigle stated, "The Adopt-a-Street Volunteer Luncheon Barbecue is Saturday, February 20th. For Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful Appreciation Night at Tradition Field, we're looking at Friday, April 8th. They are going to have fireworks that night. It's not dollar night, but at least there will be fireworks, which is a great night to be out there appreciating everything all the residents do throughout the year. Clean-Up Day is Saturday, April 23rd." Ms. McLaughlin asked, "And, we'll still do lunch, right?" Ms. Daigle responded, "We'd love it if you would." Ms. McLaughlin said, "Yes, we will." Ms. Caraballo mentioned, "The kids had a blast." This coming year, we are looking at

Saturday, September 17th for the Tree Give-Away.” Ms. Caraballo inquired, “Did we ever get rid of the ones before? Did we finally get rid of all of them?” Ms. Daigle replied, “Ms. Colonnese sent an email out to all the Adopt-a-Streets, and they pretty much disappeared. The Botanical Gardens wanted a few more; they said they would plant them in the garden. Adopt-a-Street had first shot. When we had a few left, and we got tired of watering them, they went to the Botanical Gardens. For Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, we’re trying to still stick to the first Saturday in October, which is October 1st this coming year. What we’ll do, when we have everything confirmed, when we know exactly what’s going on and we have all the locations confirmed and all the people on board confirmed, we’ll shoot it out to you in an email. Ms. Colonnese put a nice write-up together: this is the event, this is the time, this is who is involved and this is what it is.”

c. GRANTS

- FDOT Drive It Home Campaign Application 2016

Ms. Daigle stated, “Right now, even though we just finished the final report for FDOT Drive it Home Campaign, we got the \$15,000 for this year. It really helped to fund Clean-Up Day almost in its entirety. It was used to purchase all the safety vests, the hats, the grabbers, everything that we needed for our Adopt-a-Street groups. They are already asking for us to apply again. We are working on that. It is just the application, and it it’s awarded, we’ll follow through with the agreement. I’m definitely hoping to have it again; it was a huge, huge help this year for all of our clean-up projects.” Ms. McLaughlin stated, “That’s a lot of money.” Ms. Colonnese agreed. Ms. Daigle said, “It’s a lot of money, but with the budget we have, it is very helpful. We can definitely utilize it again. We broke down the \$15,000 and said this is what we need, so it would be awesome if we got it again.”

d. FOLLOW UP

- Tree City USA signs (2 new locations)

Ms. Daigle stated, “At the last meeting we talked about Tree City USA signs. The Arbor Day Foundation, because we hit our ten-year mark - ten consecutive years of being named a Tree City - they provided us with two free signs, which is great. We decided that we wanted to place those signs at the following locations: Green River Parkway, northbound at the Martin County line, and I-95 at Gatlin Boulevard, eastbound. In addition to that, they provide us each year with stickers that you put on a sign. This year we received the ones that say ‘Ten years.’ I went out to find the three signs we have; all are on I-95, all eastbound. One is at St. Lucie West Boulevard, one at Crosstown Parkway, and the other at Becker Road. I was driving around to put the stickers on the signs, and I realized that we don’t have one anymore at Crosstown. I talked to traffic, and they had not relocated it or taken it down; it must have gotten hit and, unfortunately, sometimes people take signs. I got approval today to purchase two more signs because I feel that we have a lot of signs out west, and we wanted to cover a lot of the areas

coming off I-95, but we really don't have any out east. Green River Parkway is one, but we have a ton of trees planted when we did EWIP (Easter Watershed Improvement Project). That project is over by Mariposa and Lennard Roads." Vice Chair Newell stated, "That would be a great area." Ms. Daigle said, "I got approval today, so we're going to put those out there. I think it's \$130 for two signs." Vice Chair Newell commented, "That's not bad." Ms. Colonnese stated, "It's worth promoting that we're a Tree City." Ms. Daigle said, "That is on our to-do list; I will order those next week. When we get them, Traffic will put them in for us, and we'll have a total of six signs."

- Recycling Drop-Off Sites

Ms. Daigle stated, "I haven't had a huge amount of time to look into this, but one thing we'd discussed, I don't know if we'd brought it up at a meeting or not, was trying to put recycling carts in some of the manned parks throughout the City, especially the parks located near apartment complexes and condo areas because they don't typically have the option to recycle. I talked to the Parks and Recreation Department, and they really like the idea of putting them in the neighborhood or unmanned parks. They were a little concerned about parking and people driving in. A lot of the parks are slammed when they have different events or games they're having. Because of that concern, we're looking into some of the unmanned parks. In addition to that, the idea was brought up about the bus sub-station right on Airoso Boulevard by the Community Center. What I liked about that, when we were talking about the recycling totes and the carts, doing something a little bit bigger, like a Dumpster. We're a little worried about contamination because it's out in the open. I like the area because you can drive around there; you can pull through easily. Even if it is clearly marked, we're still going to get waste in with the recyclables, so it might be something worth trying. We can definitely look into that if you're on board with it, Ms. McLaughlin." Ms. McLaughlin stated, "I think you'll have contamination in a big way. We're fighting that regularly with the commercial front-load cans." Vice Chair Newell inquired, "So, do you think a recycling cart would be better if these people know what they look like, since they've seen them out?" Ms. McLaughlin replied, "They steal them, and they're expensive." Ms. Daigle asked, "If they are chained, are they being stolen?" Ms. McLaughlin responded, "Not if they're chained." Ms. Daigle said, "But that just makes it so much harder for you guys to empty."

Ms. Caraballo commented, "It even happens at my job. We have one that says 'Cardboard Only,' and I have seen people pull into our parking lot, open the gate, pull open the top and throw computer monitors, you name it. I saw some guy today and I yelled at him. I asked him what he was doing; he said he was just looking for someplace to throw it out. I explained which one he should be using." Ms. Colonnese noted, "He shouldn't have been throwing it in your trash can anyway." Ms. Caraballo stated, "I know, but that's a whole other fight. If you're going to do it, get it in the right one." Ms. McLaughlin explained, "You know you can throw all recyclables in there, right?" Ms. Caraballo said, "It just says cardboard on ours; I didn't know that. That's good to know." Ms. McLaughlin said, "Just throw any recyclables in there - paper, cans, bottles." Ms. Colonnese said, "Yes, it will get sorted."

- IRSC Pruitt Campus (SLW) - Adopt-a-Street Inquiry

Ms. Daigle said, "I'm sorry, I'm zipping through, but I have an early meeting today." Ms. Caraballo stated, "I have a meeting, too." Ms. Daigle said, "I do have to leave early on Wednesdays because my other meetings are on Wednesday. Ms. Colonnese said Mr. Colando brought up that there are some men who work at IRSC cleaning the City's rights-of-ways, which they don't have to do. I'm sure everyone would agree that if there is trash in front of IRSC, even if it's in the City's right-of-way, it still makes IRSC look bad. So, I understand why they're cleaning it, but they are still going through the effort to do so. I reached out to Dr. Arnold, the Provost, and he seemed interested. I followed up with a pretty detailed email with all of our Adopt-a-Street Group information, and I'm waiting to hear back. If I don't hear back from him, maybe I can get Mr. Colando to follow up as a different avenue to reach out to him. We'll see if I hear back, but, like I said, he seemed interested. He asked what the requirements were. I told him they were already doing it, and all they would need to do is provide reports. He then asked how often the reports are done, and I told him once a month, but that we recommend twice a month. He indicated that it would not be a problem. I said we could provide him with all the tools that he needs to keep doing the clean-ups; we could give him vests even though they are probably wearing uniforms, we could provide grabbers, bags, whatever they need to clean those areas. I'm just waiting to hear back; I think I reached out to him the middle of last week. I figured if two weeks go by, I'll let you know and we can go that way." Mr. Colando said, "Not a problem, I'm right there." Ms. Colonnese said, "It's nice because the information goes to Keep America Beautiful. It's all documented. So, to have them on board is a bonus. It would be a nice partnership going both ways." Ms. Daigle said, "I love it when you speak. Come on."

Ms. Albers said, "There are several locations in the vicinity that have Homeowner's Associations, condos, whatever they are. I see their golf carts going around and picking up...They are the ones who keep the trash from littering our streets in the associations. They are not required to do it. I was wondering if there isn't some way that we could thank them." Ms. Daigle noted, "Some of those associations may already be Adopt-a-Street groups, because I know we have some. But, if you are able to let us know what those names are by the next meeting or if you call us and let us know where..." Ms. Albers interjected, "One is my own and the other one is across the street from us." Ms. Daigle inquired, "Where are you?" Ms. Albers stated, "We have two fellows with golf carts who are employed by us, but they still do extra outside the walls, so to speak." Ms. Colonnese asked, "What's the name?" Ms. Albers replied, "I think it's Emerald on Route 1." Ms. Daigle asked, "What is your HOA?" Ms. Albers replied, "Villas of Village Green." Ms. Daigle inquired, "And the one across the street?" Ms. Albers answered, "Rivergreen." Ms. Daigle stated, "We'll look into it to see and..." Ms. Albers interjected, "They're out there a couple of times a day. When they see something, they pick it up." Ms. Daigle asked, "Ms. Colonnese, do you recognize those names?" Ms. Colonnese replied, "I recognize the names from something else." Ms. Albers stated, "I brought this up quite a few times before this, but nobody ever listened."

Ms. Albers continued, "The other thing that I wanted to address is, when you go down Green River Parkway into Stuart, it says 'Welcome to Stuart.' There is nothing that says

that...We have those little areas where people can sit, but there is nothing indicating when you come from Stuart and pass into our border, it doesn't say anything. That was addressed a couple of years ago, and nothing was ever done." Vice Chair Newell said, "I thought there was a sign there." Ms. Daigle stated, "That sounds very familiar to me. I want to say that we either have it on the plan or there may have been one installed recently. We can let you know. The Green River Parkway welcome sign is ringing a bell in my head." Ms. Albers said, "The only reason I notice it is because when I come from the vet, I come down that way; I come back on Green River. It says, 'Welcome to...' I forget what it says." Vice Chair Newell asked, "It's Jensen Beach, isn't it?" Ms. McLaughlin inquired, "It's a green sign, right?" Ms. Albers answered, "To tell you the truth, I don't even know; I'm concentrating on my driving, not really the sign." Ms. Colonnese said, "We do have a program..." Ms. Albers interjected, "But it doesn't have it when you come back from Stuart." Ms. McLaughlin said, "Passing through Martin County into St. Lucie County." Ms. Albers said, "From Jensen Beach Commercial Avenue to Jensen Beach Boulevard, it doesn't say 'Welcome to Port St. Lucie or St. Lucie County.' There are two signs going into Stuart; I know they're there, but I don't pay too much attention to them." Ms. Colonnese noted, "We are working on welcome signs throughout the City, and I'm sure that's on the list. I'm going to check into it and get back to you. Welcome signs throughout the City is a big project, so I'm sure that's on there." Ms. Daigle said, "There is a new welcome sign that is being built on Gatlin Boulevard if you're driving towards Port St. Lucie Boulevard from Tradition. I'm not sure what direction that is." Ms. Colonnese stated, "I want to call it north and south, but it's east and west." Ms. Daigle said, "That monument sign is going up and it's looking pretty sharp. They form it, they concrete it, and they're tiling it. If we can get one out on Green River, we can let you know. We'll follow up anyway." Ms. Albers said, "I should have taken a picture of it, but I'm afraid to pull over." Vice Chair Newell said, "No, don't do that." Ms. Daigle said, "There is no need for you to pull over. We'll look into it and follow-up. We're trying really hard..." Ms. Albers interjected, "It's going and coming. You can tell the difference because the macadam is different." Ms. Daigle asked, "The what?" Ms. Albers replied, "The macadam; the road surface. We call it macadam up North." Ms. Colonnese commented, "I never heard that word before." Mr. Colando stated, "I hadn't either."

Ms. Daigle said, "We will follow up with that and, as far as the Adopt-a-Street Groups go, a lot of times, Ms. Colonnese reaches out and gets new Adopt-a-Street Groups all the time. If there is someone out there cleaning up, normally I would contact Ms. Colonnese to do it. For whatever reason, I felt I could reach out to IRSC; I should have had her do it, he would have already said yes. We'll see if they are on our list already, and if not, we will reach out to them and, hopefully, get them on board and get them recognized. It's important; if somebody is already doing..." Ms. Albers interjected, "I said it, now I'll be quiet again." Ms. Colonnese said, "Getting HOA's on board has been something in my mind for a while now. I will look into it, though." Ms. Albers stated, "The things I just mentioned have been mentioned quite a few times for a long time." Ms. Daigle said, "I think it's important now to try to follow up more. In the past, especially in the first few months that I started, I would take notes with every intention to look into it, but there are so many things going on that it's easy to put it on the back burner. I don't

want to do that anymore; I want to try to..." Ms. Albers stated, "We got left with a mess. It's going to take you a long time." Ms. Daigle said, "We're going to continue to grow and no matter what we do, we're always going to have more and more work. We're going to do what we can..." Ms. Albers stated, "You're doing a good job." Ms. Daigle said, "Thank you, we're trying."

- Turnpike Area Beautification

Ms. Daigle said, "I was hoping Mr. Collins would be here because I wanted some clarification on this because I had to leave early last time. I want to say that he is talking about this stuff." (**Clerk's Note:** Ms. Daigle held up some photos.) Ms. Daigle continued, "That sign is disgusting; it needs to be pressure-washed really badly. There is no program right now to even maintain the signs. On the Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful signs, the word keep is missing an 'e.'" Ms. Colonnese said, "I have it in my drawer." Ms. Daigle said, "The signs aren't pressure-washed." Ms. McLaughlin stated, "As soon you mentioned this, it was in my mind's eye, because I see and it actually looks kind of cruddy." Ms. Daigle stated, "This literally, the pictures are dark, but this literally is part of the wall and it's that dark." (**Clerk's Note:** The photos were passed around the table for all Committee members to view.) Ms. McLaughlin stated, "The landscaping doesn't look very good either. I'm almost positive that's what he was talking about." Vice Chair Newell asked, "Is that our area or it is FDOT?" Ms. Daigle replied, "I don't know. I want to say it's DOT, but I talked to our Environmental Services Manager, John Dunton, and he said that he would also like to look into trying to clear up areas. He specifically said we need to get some type of program in place for pressure-washing. I don't know if we want to look into doing a bid and trying to get a contract to maintain all the signs. They just need upkeep; they don't necessarily need replacement of parts." Ms. Albers said, "Oh, I know where this is." Ms. Daigle noted, "It is right across from Bayshore."

Ms. McLaughlin said, "Because if you look at Becker Road and the Turnpike, it looks more like it is just..." Ms. Albers interjected, "For a long time." Ms. Daigle said, "I don't take the Turnpike anywhere, ever, so I'm glad it was brought up." Ms. Albers said, "They dug it all up, they made a pattern, they were going to put a waterfall, and they were going to put plants around or whatever, it never took place." Ms. Daigle stated, "One of the great ideas that didn't come to fruition." Ms. Albers said, "It just didn't work. It's in a very peculiar place and it's a very, very unusual whatever. The land is not conducive to any of that." Ms. Daigle commented, "It's full of weeds, too. It's a maintenance thing, in my opinion; it just needs to be maintained. We'll look into that. I will email the pictures to Mr. Collins to see if that's what he was talking about. In the event that it is not, it needs to be done anyway." Both Ms. McLaughlin and Mr. Colando stated they believe it is what Mr. Collins was speaking of."

Ms. Albers asked, "Are they allowing shoes? Do they need shoes?" Ms. Daigle responded, "She 100% wants shoes." Ms. Colonnese noted, "Just keep in mind that they are looking for children's clothing, newborn to 17 years old." Ms. Albers said, "I don't have old-lady shoes." Ms. Colonnese said, "You decide; otherwise, there are other organizations, also. While you are cleaning out your closet..." Ms. Albers interjected,

“And, I have a very unusual size, too. I wear a size 6B.” Ms. Daigle stated, “We’re happy that you’re participating. Don’t ever feel like you can’t speak at the meetings. You’re bringing up HOA’s, which is important.” Ms. Albers commented, “It’s been a long time. I was President of the Women’s Club in New Jersey, and I’ve gotten away from opening my mouth.” Ms. Daigle said, “I’m glad that you are. Just for the sake of time...” Ms. Albers interjected, “I don’t mean to down anybody, but from being on this Committee for a while, I see the same things being waited for as I did then. I think it’s a shame because we did get to a point where it was going along very well. I don’t know what happened that it just fell apart. I’m not downing anybody, because everybody tried their best, but there are some things that just got pushed aside.” Ms. Daigle stated, “I agree with you. It’s easy for that to happen, I think it’s easy for the meetings to become stale, too.” Ms. Albers said, “They even had on television that there are a lot of grants out there. I wouldn’t know how to go after a grant, but I’d try. I think that was missed; whether they stopped the grants for a while.” Ms. Daigle noted, “We got two new grants just last year, the FDOT Drive It Home Campaign, which was \$15,000 that helped to fund our Clean-Up Day and our Adopt-a-Street Program and, in addition to that, Ms. Colonnese also got a grant for Cigarette Litter Prevention. We got cigarette ash receptacles at the Community Center, the Civic Center and at the golf course. I agree with you, I think it’s important that we don’t fall back into old habits and into old ways. That was the idea of the follow-up section.” Ms. Albers said, “I don’t like to give particular people, teachers or whatever, but some people can do it better than others.” Ms. Daigle stated, “Sure, of course. There’s always going to be somebody better than someone else. I think it’s great that we...” Ms. Colonnese stated, “We’re going to do the best job we can do, absolutely.” Ms. Albers said, “I see that they’re getting back on track again. It is very, very difficult.” Ms. Daigle noted, “For the sake of time, I think that’s all we’ve got.”

8. OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing to be heard under this item.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was nothing to be heard under this item.

a. Next Committee Meeting.

Vice Chair noted that the next Committee meeting is December 2, 2015.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Jennifer Newell, Vice Chair

Denise M. French, Deputy City Clerk