

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

**City of New Port Richey**

**Meeting Agenda**

**New Port Richey – Public Library**

**Thursday – June 6, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**





## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

### City of New Port Richey

The Environmental Committee of the City of New Port Richey develops and endorses environmental events in the City, renders annual and special reports as members may deem advisable, and explores new environmental initiatives for the City. The ECCNPR was established in 1989 and recreated in 2011.

### Meeting Agenda

#### New Port Richey Public Library

Thursday – June 6, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

ANY PERSON DESIRING TO APPEAL ANY DECISION, WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ANY MEETING OR HEARING, WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. THE LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE TRANSCRIBED VERBATIM MINUTES; THEREFORE, THE APPLICANT MUST MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH A PRIVATE REPORTER (OR PRIVATE REPORTING FIRM) AND BEAR THE RESULTING EXPENSE. (F.S.286.0105)

## Welcome

### Roll Call:

Dell DeChant, Committee Chair; Rose Mohr, Vice Chair; Linda Blake, Secretary; Amber Blais, member; Tom O'Neill, member; Rob Marlowe, member  
City Staff Liaison, Colin Eichenmuller  
City Library Representative, Tomas Monzon  
City Marketing Specialist, Alexandra Buckman.  
Volunteer Coordinators, Sasha Bartenuk and Connie Jones  
Monarch Festival CoChair: Deb Morris  
TBRPC Representative, Meghan Blancher

Guests:

### Preliminary Item: Committee Secretary needed, Recording Secretary welcome

Scheduling note:

**July meeting: Thursday, July 18, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – Library – moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Space confirmed with Andrea**

**Vox Pop** (3 minutes for members of the audience – on items not on the agenda)

**Approval of Minutes** May 2, 2024

**Liaison Officer (A) Advice on EC agenda, and (B) CC items:** A) Advice from City Liaison is requested on all items before committee and (B) items on City Council agenda relevant to Environmental Committee (open)

### Business of Committee I – On-going Projects and Events

Vox Pop (VP) for items in this section

**Urban Agriculture Program** (open for committee facilitator)

\* No new registrations received \* Other updates

## **Update on inclusion of City Property in Urban Agriculture Ordinance**

- To be include in proposals in annual report.

## **Wildflower Installation Initiative**

- To be include in proposals in annual report.

## **Library Seed Lending Program (Amber)**

### **Fruit Tree Peninsula (Linda, Rob, Dell, Colin)**

- Report on removal of designated trees and installation of 4 new trees: 2 Barbados Cherry, 2 Dwarf Mango
- Report on irrigation system or plan

### **Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Update, if any.**

## **Business of Committee II - New Projects and Topics (and projects of limited duration, including annual events)**

### **VP for items in this section**

#### **Promotion of Sustainability Projects (Amber)**

- \* Amber's report on revised date for tour of the waste-water treatment facility.

#### **Review of City's urban reforestation program (Dell, Sasha, Colin)**

- \* Update on committee project to mobilize volunteers to inform residents of City's adopt-a-tree program
- \* Review of draft version of hangtag approved at last meeting (Colin)
- \*\* Review of list of trees recommended for planting in the city – public and private property. Chair notes this list was compiled by the committee and at one time available through public works and the development office – also, possibly the library.

#### **Discussion of City's Acquisition of old Schwettman/Gulf High School Property and Building (status of Council's deliberations on use of the property – 8 acres with river frontage.) (Committee of the Whole)**

- \* Update (if any) from Colin or committee members.

#### **Annual Report and Recommendations (All)**

- \* Review report and decide on recommendations.

## **Seasonal Events**

### **Events**

**Seasonal Events** - Note: Events noted here are supported and endorsed by Environmental Committee.

- \* Volunteer needed to plan, develop/promote, manage events.

### **Calendar 2024-25**

#### **Monarch City Day (May 4, 2024) (Host: Host New Port Richey ENV COM & Library) (Deb, Sasha, Dell)**

- \* Brief report: Deb, Sasha, Dell, Rob.

<https://www.nationaldaystoday.com/national-start-seeing-monarchs-day/>

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August 24, 2024 –Okra Occasion– 8<sup>th</sup> annual (Presented by FarmNet & Env Com)

(Tentative host: NPR Library – Possible change in venue, awaiting confirmation from FarmNet planner)

September --, 2024 – Drive Electric Week, Tailgate event. (Rob: update on schedule for DEW)

Sweet Potato Round-Up – November 23, 2024

January 4, 2025 - Collards Festival at Grand Gardens\*, 10<sup>th</sup> annual (Presented by NPR FarmNet, Host: Grand Gardens)  
(Grand Gardens)

January 17, 2025 - Arbor Day, 36<sup>th</sup> annual (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in January) (Host: ENV COM)

April *TBD* (based on Chaso Fiesta, Easter, Passover), 2025 – Florida Loquat Festival 12<sup>th</sup> annual (TB) (Host Ecology Florida, City of New Port Richey – and others) (Sim's Park/Historical Society). Volunteers needed.  
\* CC Proclamation at CC meeting March TBD – attend if possible

Earth Day (April 22, 2025) – 35<sup>th</sup> annual (1<sup>st</sup> 1992) - (City event, April 21, 2024, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Library (Dell, Colin, Tomas) (Host: Host New Port Richey ENV COM & Library )

**Monarch City Day (May 3, 2025)** (Host: Host New Port Richey ENV COM & Library) (Deb, Sasha, Dell)

**Meeting Schedule for 2024** "The environmental committee shall meet once every ninety (90) days unless it determines to meet more frequently." \* Committee has determined it is best to meet monthly.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, July 18, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – Library – moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Space confirmed with Andrea**