

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**  
**City of New Port Richey**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**New Port Richey – Public Library**  
**Thursday – October 3, 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 – October 3, 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; Amber Blais, Secretary; member; Tom O’Neill, member; Margaret Carswell, member  
City Staff Liaison, Colin Eichenmuller  
City Library Representative, Tori Ladd  
City Marketing Specialist \_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer Coordinators, Sasha Bartenuk  
Monarch Festival Chair: Deb Morris

Guests: (possibly Amanda Zborek as guest of Margaret Carswell)

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

**Approval of SoA (in lieu of Minutes )** September 5, 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**

**Urban Agriculture Program** (Rose Mohr)

**Update on inclusion of City Property in Urban Agriculture Ordinance** (All)

**Wildflower Installation Initiative** (All)

**Library Seed Lending Program** (Amber)

**Fruit Tree Peninsula** (Colin)

- Report on removal of designated trees and installation of 4 new trees: 2 Barbados Cherry, others (?)

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

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

- First "tree walk" October 26 (10:00 to 2:00) Second TW, January 18, 2025 (day after Arbor Day) (Sasha)
- Report and recommendation from Tom on tree list for general public, businesses, and developers.
  - \* List includes recommended (and not recommended) trees.
- Final decision on list

### **Discussion of City's Acquisition of old Schwettman/Gulf High School Property and Building**

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

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

- \* Brief report from members on meeting with members of the City Council on Committee's recommendations from the Annual Report.
  - Tom, Rose, Sasha, Margaret, Dell, Amber

### **Update on Impact of Hurricane Helene**

- \* Reminder of discussion to recommend no new building west of US 19

### **Fluoride Report** (Margaret)

- \* Topic requested by Committee Member (Margaret). Margaret is asked to send Colin relevant document(s) For distribution to the Committee.

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

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

### **Calendar 2024-25**

September 7, 2024 -Okra Occasion- 9<sup>th</sup> annual (Presented by FarmNet & Env Com)

(NPR Library, 11:00 to 1:30)

- See attached flyer. Copy and circulate

October 5 (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon) – Drive Electric Week, Tailgate event – Railroad Square

November 23, 2024 – Sweet Potato Round-Up, 9<sup>th</sup> annual – (United Methodist Church)

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 12, 2025 (based on Chasco 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 (1st 1992) - (City event, April 19, 2025, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Library (Dell, Colin, Tori) (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, November 7, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – Library**

