

Town of Southwest Ranches **Zero Waste Advisory Board Minutes**

May 6, 2025 7:00 pm

Board Members Council Liaison Staff Liaison Rose Allbritton, Rick Conrad, Debbie Green, David Kuczenski Dan Stewart Harold Gubnitsky Jessica Hartmann Council present: Steve Breitkreuz Members present: Rose Allbritton Bob Hartmann Rick Conrad Jim Allbritton

Gary Jablonski

David Kuczenski

Others present:

Barbara Herrera

Debbie Green Jessica Hartmann

Harold Gubnitskly

Staff present:

Dan Stewart

Call to order at 7:00 PM

The members present reviewed the minutes of the April 2025 meeting.

Rick Conrad motioned to approve the April 2025 minutes. Rose Allbritton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Harold introduced our new member of the advisory board, Jessica Hartmann. Harold spoke about the WM recycling tour hosted by the advisory board. Rose shared that when she first started the tour, that the sight of the contamination and smell she wanted to leave, but found it amazing to see the transformation of the sorting into aluminum, plastic, and paper by the end of the tour. We've asked Barbara at WM if they could help us with some kind of mini virtual tour to share at the Birthday Party. WM has planned to show a video on loop and possibly display a bail of sorted material. Barbara will coordinate with Susan. WM representatives shared at the tour that WM offers sustainability services. Barbara added that they are currently partnering with sport teams and MLB. Barbara will look at dates at the end of June to set up a couple of tours.

Harold shared information about Digital Waste. Every text, email, AI search has a carbon footprint. Digital waste is emitted from all our phones, emails, and data centers as just a few examples. Cleanup trash emails, duplicate photos, and research the number of steps you can take to make a difference. This digital waste has a great impact on our global environment.

Broward County's new battery recycling ordinance. Batteries need to be dropped at the HHW quarterly event. We need to make sure not to recycle batteries. Suggestion was made to promote the guarterly HHW events held at the Rolling Oaks Barn at the Farmers Market

Harold spoke with Hillary at Deerfield Beach who heads their sustainability program, and she is open to collaborating with us.

Zero Waste Broward Task Force update – next meeting Wednesday, May 14th at 7PM. This is crunch time and we need to organize at this meeting to strategize how best to fill with residents the Broward Center of

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Performing Arts space for the Broward SWA's Public Outreach Meeting focused on elected officials on Wednesday June 11th at 9AM. Robin Bartleman is working on legislation to prohibit incineration/wte from being built near the Everglades. Broward County commission has seen the reaction to the Miami / Miramar fight and want nothing of the like in Broward County.

RFP for Zero Waste Consultant was distributed for our review and discussion.

Debbie Green motioned to approve the RFP for Zero Waste Consultant and to expeditiously submit to Town Council for consideration. Rick Conrad seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Town Birthday Party - Mayor suggested we include a sign up for pilot compost program. We agreed on giveaways; seed paper and recycle tote bags

For next meeting: Birthday Celebration final planning

Rick Conrad motioned to publish the bullet points below in the June Newsletter and for Debbie to coordinate with Town staff for the article to be included in the Town's June Newsletter. Rose Allbritton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Limited number of spots left to sign up for the pilot compost program

Special agreement with WM to set up recycling tours – Is it for real... see for yourself

New Broward County Ordinance for Recycling Batteries – more news to come. For now bring to Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) quarterly event at Rolling Oaks Park

Advisory Board approved RFP and requested to be sent to Council for review

Look for us at the Town Birthday Party for your zero waste swag

Staff Comments – looking forward to working with Jessica again in her new role on the advisory board

Board Comments – Jessica suggested perhaps we could set up a tour on a weekend day to accommodate more residents. Barbara said yes, and that it would take a little longer to coordinate

Next meeting – June 3rd

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.