# Sustainability Update - 6/10/13

## A) City Specific:

**Comprehensive Plan and subsequent Ordinance changes:** Accepted by DEO – Done! Both Peary Court and the North Roosevelt multi hotel project at the entrance to Key West will also have to follow the new comp plan.

**Building Permit Allocation System:** In light of the new building permits allocated to the City of Key West by DEO recently, I have been assisting Nicole Malo with the new Building Permit Allocation System (BPAS). The newest draft is will be available soon. It will hopefully go in front of the Planning Board in July, but no date is set yet.

Ordinance Updates: See Transportation and Water.

#### **Grants:**

- Audubon: The Cisterns have arrived and will be hooked up soon. Digging for the Salt Water Well
- Healthy Homes grant: I attended as a partner to a grant that the County Health Department is looking at. It would help with weatherization, as well as mold issues. Stay tuned.
- Our new grants coordinator has summarized the City's grant needs based on one on one meetings. They continue to send summaries of available grants monthly.

## **B)** Green Business Month (June)

- FDEP's **Green Lodging** has a <u>new expanded program</u> to roll out and we are helping set up some venues for them at the end of this month.
- Because the **Green Business Certification** arm is linked to PACE, we are unable to go forward at this time. See Energy below for more info on the process.
- We will be going forward with the voluntary <u>Got Your Bags</u> campaign, started by GLEE volunteers in the lower keys. Working with County sustainability interns, we are looking for volunteers to canvas local shopping establishments.

## C) Green Building (July)

- **LEED Accreditation**: Nicole Malo and Alison Higgins will be taking their tests for the next level of LEED within the coming months. Nicole is going for Neighborhood Development and Alison is going for Existing Building Operations & Maintenance
- Adaptation Workshop: Planning has begun for an adaptation workshop with The Nature Conservancy, Key West Association of Realtors, FIRM and others to talk about infrastructure, FEMA and new ordinances. More soon!
- **Green Building Workshop**: The Keys Branch of the USGBC is poised to host a training for local contractors based on the outcome of the BPAS vote.
- **Green City Buildings**: The LEED process has begun for Glynn Archer this week, with a three day stakeholders charrette meeting to get all needs on table. The Public Transit building will meet in late July.

## D) Healthy Living (August)

- Bahama Village Community Garden: The TIF funds are approved! We will be meeting soon about an agreement for the property.
- **Healthy Living Month**: We will be working with many partners to learn about the impact of our diets on our waistline and planet. We will do classes on gardening to get people ready to plant in October. We will feature the CSAs. We will try to get our veggie/vegan restaurants green certified.

## E) Land Conservation: Sept

We will work on native plant issues. GreenThumb Certification. Butterfly and Bird plants. Etc.

## F) Energy (October)

**Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE):** County Attorney Nat Cassel intends to bring a discussion of PACE to the Monroe County Board of Commissioners in July. Their intent is to lay out the issues with residential and mortgage holder notification, and get guidance for an RFP to come out in August.

# G) R4 (Reduce Reuse, Recycle, Rot) - Nov

- Waste Diversion Progress: Kesler's contract has been extended to help us with RFP for new solid waste contract. Latest draft of the brochure that will go out with bins is attached. New Key West Recycles facebook page has been kicked off: <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Key-West-Recycles</u>
- Horse Manure Composting Shed: Because of rain and materials delays, the workday was put off yet again. Stay tuned for a new date, sometime in July.

# H) Green Gifts (December)

This may be when we kick off the Green Business Certification....

# I) Sustainable Seafood (January)

Very interesting <u>report on seafood fraud</u> notes that 33% of the 1,200 seafood samples from 674 retail outlets in 21 states were mislabeled. Snapper and Tuna had the highest mislabeling rages (87% and 59%, respectively). <u>This map</u> highlights how the mislabeling varies amongst the big cities, with South Florida receiving a 38% mislabeled score.

# J) Water Quality (Feb)

- The Monroe County Canal Restoration Subcommittee is meeting this Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> and will be discussing using crushed glass as clean fill, new biofilter technologies, the Canal bathymetric survey, etc.
- The next meeting of the **Monroe County RESTORE** Act Local Advisory Committee is this Wednesday. This being the second meeting of the group, they are still going over the Act and its various funding allocations, as well as electing officers. Assistant Ciyt Manager Mark Finigan is the City's representative.

# K) Transportation (March)

- **Transportation Coordination Team:** At the latest meeting, the TCT started working on ordinances, beginning with pedestrian needs. As a starting point, they used the summary of unfulfilled points on the City's Walk Friendly City application. The resulting two page document will be handed over to the Consultant to include into the ordinance rewrites. Our next subject is bicycles.
- **Green Transportation Plan**: As a separate SAB agenda item is a draft of the TCT's Green Transportation Plan, detailing how the City can reduce carbon emissions in its largest sector. The document covers current vehicle purchases, a 5 Year plan for the City Fleet and a roadmap for helping green the community transportation footprint.
- **Bicycle Master Plan**: The bicycle needs workshop was postponed yet again, now set for Wed, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at Old Town Manor. Due to recent revelations while covering the pedestrian code, Nicole and I have made a case to ask for the Bicycle Master Plan to be expanded to include a Pedestrian Master Plan as well, saving time, money and effort.
- **Big Green Bus:** Dartmouth College's Big Green Bus will be coming into town from July 3-5<sup>th</sup>, showcasing and invoking discussions in sustainability. We have partnered up with Reef Relief, the Florida Keys Sanctuary, and others to provide venues for them to show off their bus. High on the potential list is a "hands across the sands" independence from fossil fuels type of rally on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

## L) Water Conservation (April)

- Water Policy Planning: During the most recent meeting of the, local government planners from across the keys, along with partners at SFWMD and Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority reviewed water certification programs as well as the City's draft of the BPAS. The meeting was also attended by Barbara Powell from the DEO, who reviewed upcoming the upcoming 2013 Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan, and suggested we grow the group into a Planners Forum that could take on other shared issues as well.
- Still to be scheduled is the tour of the Stock Island Desalination Plant.

# M) Youth Leadership (May)

- The **HOB Landscaping plan** is nearly complete, and a planting workday will be scheduled soon.
- The **Youth Garden landscaping plan** for the Frederick Douglas Black Educators Memorial Project is nearly complete.
- As part of the Healthy Homes meeting, partners talked about the upcoming vocational efforts from the School Board and the need to build more green jobs in the construction industry. I will pull together a meeting to see if this could tie in with the upcoming BPAS needs.



N) Other:

- **Preserve Island Life Campaign:** Our facebook exposure is still growing, with 204 total likes (23 since last month!). Teaming up with others for events has also grown our exposure, with 1,339 people seeing our Bicycle Needs Workshop post. Also, we hit a new personal record, with 13% of viewers re-sharing our post introducing the new Key West Recycles page.
- Monroe County Community Climate Action Plan: No Update.
- **GLEE** (no update)

# **Alison Higgins**

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