

**ST PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL
ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

**Meeting of April 16, 2015
1:00 p.m. – City Hall Room 100**

Members & Alternate: **Chair, Darden Rice; Vice- Chair Karl Nurse;
Bill Dudley, Steve Kornell, Charlie Gerdes (Alternate)**

Support Staff: _____

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Approval of Agenda**
- C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. March 19, 2015**
- D. New/Deferred Business**
 - 1. Cathy Harrelson, St. Petersburg Sustainability Council**
 - 2. Jennifer Winter, Sustainability Coordinator, USFSP**
- E. Continued Business**
- F. Upcoming Meeting Agenda Tentative Issues**
 - 1. May 21, 2015**
- G. New Business Item Referrals (attached)**
 - 1. Review and re-prioritize referral list**
- H. Adjournment**

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

Energy, Natural Resources & Sustainability (ENRS) Committee

Thursday, March 19, 2015 @ 1:00 p.m.

Present: Committee Chair Darden Rice, Vice-Chair Karl Nurse, Councilmembers William Dudley, Steve Kornell and Charles Gerdes (Alternate)

Also Present: Public Works Administrator Mike Connors, Manager of Urban Design & Historic Preservation Derek Kilborn, Assistant City Attorney Michael Dema and Assistant City Attorney Sharon Michnowicz, Brady Smith with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, City Council Administrative Officer Cindy Sheppard and Assistant to the City Clerk Heather Worley

Committee Chair Rice called the meeting to order. Councilmember Kornell made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. All were in favor of the motion. Councilmember Kornell made a motion that that the February 13, 2015 minutes be approved as submitted. All were in favor of the motion.

In connection with the new business, PACE projects and solar project financing, Brady Smith with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) began his presentation by explaining that TBRPC is looking to improve the solar PV (photovoltaic) electric systems market in the Tampa Bay Region through use of the Solar Ready Florida program.

Current focus within Solar Ready Florida includes:

- Local government and stakeholder engagement
- Collecting “solar metrics” data for individual jurisdictions
- Implementation of solar best management practices (solar BMPs)

The three solar best management practices chosen by Solar Ready Florida include:

- Solar ready construction guidelines
- Solar landing pages on local government websites
- Exploration of various solar financing options

Mr. Smith discussed that Florida ranks 3rd in United States for solar potential, but is 13th with regards to installed solar capacity. In 2014, nineteen other states installed more solar electric capacity than Florida. Additionally, New York doubled its solar capacity in 2014 and New Jersey now ranks 3rd in the Country for solar capacity.

Primary goals of Solar Ready Florida aim to reduce “soft” costs of solar PV installs, increase access to financing and to promote solar adoption.

Vice-Chair Nurse motioned with a second from Councilmember Kornell that the Committee join Solar Ready Florida by means of updating the City website as necessary, developing solar ready guidelines and determining a threshold by which to make the largest buildings mandatory. All were in favor of the motion.

In connection with the continued business and upcoming agenda topics, Committee Chair Rice mentioned the continued processes towards establishing a Climate Action Plan and adopting a measuring system. Currently they are looking at STAR Communities (Sustainability Tools for Assessing & Rating Communities) and ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). Additionally, the Committee will have a standing agenda item to include updates and reports regarding progress and development within the community as it relates to the ENRS Committee.

The Mayor's Office is working on how to support the ENRS Committee with regards to additional staffing.

The next ENRS Committee meeting will be held on April 16, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

**ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY
PENDING / CONTINUING REFERRALS**

March 19, 2015

TOPIC	DATE REFERRED	REFERRED BY	RETURN DATE	STAFF RESPONSIBLE	SPECIAL NOTES
TBRPC Resiliency and climate efforts	2/13/15	Rice	TBD		
SE Florida Regional climate impact	2/13/15	Rice	TBD		
FEMA/Flood Insurance Update Senator Brandes Flood Ins Update	2/13/15	Nurse	TBD	City - FEMA Coordinator	
Great Bay Distributors – Solar installation and federal tax credits	2/13/15	Kornell	TBD		
USF Sustainability Council – Microgrids	2/13/15	Rice	TBD		