

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

February 22, 2021 Minutes (Amended)

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually and in-person on this date. Chair Geller welcomed those in attendance, virtually, and on the phone. He called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded everyone of the meeting's procedures.

Councilmember Mario J. Bailey
Councilmember Michelle Coldiron (virtually present)
Councilmember Joseph Corradino (absent)
Councilmember Beam Furr
Councilmember René Garcia (virtually present)
Chair Steve Geller
Councilmember Oliver Gilbert, III (absent)
Councilmember Cary Goldberg (virtually present)
Councilmember Samuel Kaufman (virtually present)
Councilmember Jordan Leonard (virtually present)
Councilmember Eddie Martínez
Councilmember Jean Monestime (absent)
Councilmember Greg Ross
Councilmember Michael Udine (virtually present)
Councilmember Ana M. Ziade (virtually present)

Isabel Cosio Carballo, SFRPC Executive Director, and Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, were present.

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District
Dat Huynh, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

The following Ex-Officio Member was absent:

Jason Andreotta, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Legal Counsel, Sam Goren announced that there was a legal quorum present.

Chair Geller introduced the new Councilmembers, Commissioner Eddie Martínez from Monroe County, Senator/Commissioner René Garcia from Miami-Dade County represented by Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, and Vice Chair/Commissioner Oliver Gilbert, III of Miami-Dade County. Chair Geller passed the gavel to Councilmember Bailey. Chair Bailey asked Commissioner Martínez to introduce himself. Commissioner Martínez gave a brief synopsis of his personal background and announced that he is happy to be part of the SFRPC.

II. Approval of Council Agenda

Councilmember Geller moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Chair Bailey announced that the presentation will be at 11:45 a.m.

III. Presentation (Time Certain: 11:45 a.m.)

FPL - Delivering the Best Value Through Investments and Innovation

Special Guests: Juliet Murphy Roulhac, Regional Director for Corporate External Affairs and Irene R. White, Senior Director, Miami-Dade External Affairs

IV. Action Items

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councilmember Geller moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Goren explained the roll call process for agenda items, public rights, etc.

B. Financial Report

Finance Manager, Leo Braslavsky Soldi explained the Financial Report in detail.

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.B Financial Report. Councilmember Martínez seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Mr. Goren read the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted.

C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

Proposed

- Monroe County 21-01ACSC
- Monroe County 21-02ACSC
- Monroe County 21-03ACSC
- City of Marathon 21-01ACSC
- City of Wilton Manors 20-01ESR

Adopted

- Broward County 20-06ESR
- Town of Davie 20-02ESR
- City of Miami Beach 20-02ESR
- City of Miami Beach 20-03ESR
- City of Miami Beach 20-04ESR
- City of Miami Beach 20-05ESR
- City of Miramar 20-02ESR
- City of Oakland Park 20-02ESR
- City of Parkland 20-02ESR
- Village of Sea Ranch Lakes 20-01ER
- City of Sweetwater 20-01ESR

Public Comment

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.C Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Proposed and Adopted. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

D. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review - None

E. Resolution 21-02 Release Federal Interest in the EDA SFRPC Revolving Loan Fund

Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained the background on the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and the federal legislation defederalizing legacy RLF Programs.

Public Comment

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.E. Resolution 21-02 Release Federal Interest in the EDA SFRPC Revolving Loan Fund. Councilmember Geller seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

F. SFRPC Revolving Loan Fund Board Membership

Mrs. Cosio Carballo updated the Councilmembers on the RLF Board Membership. Attached to the Agenda Item are the present RLF Board Members and Board information. She explained that Councilmember Asseff has served as Chair of the RLF Board for many years prior to her recent retirement. There are currently two vacancies on the RLF Board. Councilmember Kaufman and Councilmember Goldberg indicated that they are willing to serve on the RLF Board. Councilmember Kaufman will represent the Council in the “SFRPC” slot, and Councilmember Goldberg will serve in the “at large” slot. Mrs. Cosio Carballo thanked them for the interest and requested the RLF Board be ratified by the SFRPC Councilmembers. The Council then ratified the complete membership of the RLF Board.

Public Comment

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Councilmember Furr moved to approve Agenda Item IV.F. SFRPC Revolving Loan Fund Board Membership and the ratification of the RLF Board. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

G. Executive Director Spending Authority

Chair Bailey commented on the research performed by Mrs. Cosio Carballo in collecting information from the other RPCs’ spending authorities. Mrs. Cosio Carballo summarized past discussions on the spending authority along with the poll taken from the other RPCs. She consulted with Chair Geller and Legal Counsel and it was suggested that \$20,000 was an appropriate amount to request.

Public Comment

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.G Executive Director Spending Authority. Councilmember Martínez seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

H. Statement of Organization Review and Update

Chair Bailey questioned Mr. Goren if this Agenda Item was time sensitive. Mr. Goren stated that the Statement of Organization was adopted in January 2020 with significant modifications. He explained the changes, rules, and guidelines used for the modification and adoption in January 2020 on how the SFRPC now operates. The modifications to the Statement of Organization had been made according to suggestions from the Executive Director, Legal Counsel, and Senator Geller to reflect current practice. The review and update does not have to happen today but does require the Council's decision to update the document. Chair Bailey requested that this item be deferred to the next meeting so that there is additional time for review by a Statement of Organization Committee and Council Members. Mr. Goren explained the modifications in this document in detail.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Councilmember Geller motioned to defer Agenda Item IV.H. Statement of Organization to the following meeting in April. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

V. Discussion Items

A. Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Cosio Carballo updated the Board on SB 62 and thanked everyone for their cooperation in sharing this information. She explained that this Bill will eliminate the RPCs from Florida Statute and updated the Councilmembers on the SB 62 status. She thanked Chair Bailey, who testified in support of the RPCs. The next SFRPC / TCRPC Joint Meeting will be held on Friday, March 19, 2021. The TCRPC is the lead organizer of the meeting although the TCRPC / SFRPC work jointly on all items. Executive Director Tom Lanahan has requested an entirely virtual meeting. Under this scenario, due to updated physical quorum requirements, the Meeting will need to be considered a Workshop where there will be no votes.

Councilmember Geller motioned that the TCSF RPC Joint Meeting be called a Workshop. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote. Roll was called.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren updated the Council on hybrid City Commission/Council Meetings, School Board Meetings, Governors Executive Order 20-39, physical quorum requirements, and opinions regarding these requirements. There was discussion on the various meeting forums.

C. Councilmembers Report

Chair Bailey requested that the Councilmembers attend the Joint Meeting in March. He invited Secretary Eagle, Executive Director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, to speak. Councilmember Geller provided an update on Broward County's Affordable Housing and eviction information, through the CARES Act Funding. Copies of the document will be forwarded once it is finalized. Chair Bailey informed the Council that some municipalities have direct allocations. Councilmember Coldiron gave an update on the status of the CARE Funds received by Monroe County and the percentage distributed for rental assistance.

D. Ex-Officio Reports

Laura Corry, SFWMD Representative, announced future SFWMD meeting dates. Dat Huynh, FDOT VI Representative, announced that Stacy Miller was chosen to be the new District VI, Secretary. He summarized her professional background.

VI. Program Reports and Activities

A. SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

Jeff Tart, Senior Loan Officer, thanked the newly appointed RLF Board Members, Councilmember Kaufman and Councilmember Goldberg. He updated the Councilmembers on the new loans and performance of the traditional RLF in detail. He also thanked the Councilmembers for passing the defederalization of the RLF.

B. SFRPC CARES Act RLF Status Report

Mr. Tart stated that the CARES Act RLF continues to exceed the Council's expectations. He explained the amount that has been loaned in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and some of Palm Beach counties. He appreciates the referrals from the Councilmembers. The RLF website has been updated and invited the Councilmembers to look at it.

C. Development of Regional Impact Status Report – None

Public Comments – None

VII. Announcements and Attachments

A. Attendance Form

Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained the importance of timely confirmation to SFRPC staff of Councilmembers' attendance or absenteeism, and the need to have five (5) Councilmembers attending in person in order to proceed with a Council Meeting. She thanked the Councilmembers for their participation and their many contributions to the success of the SFRPC.

B. Correspondence and Articles

C. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) Monday, May 24, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)
- 2) Monday, June 28, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)
- 3) Monday, July 26, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)

Chair Bailey announced that the next meeting will be Joint Meeting on March 19, 2021 and hopes all the Councilmembers can attend.

III. Guest Presentations:

FPL - Delivering the Best Value Through Investments and Innovation

Special Guests: Juliet Murphy Roulhac, Regional Director for Corporate External Affairs and Irene R. White, Senior Director, Miami-Dade External Affairs

Chair Bailey introduced Ms. Roulhac and Ms. White and thanked them for their time to present today. Mrs. Cosio Carballo welcomed them and noted that Ms. Roulhac’s mother Vivienne Murphy had worked at the SFRPC in Finance for many years.

Ms. Roulhac stated that she has a great affinity for the SFRPC since her Mother had worked there for over 20 years. She understands and knows the value of the SFRPC work.

Ms. Roulhac stated that she and her colleague Irene White are pleased to present today on FPL’s many innovations and investments to ensure that FPL will continue providing excellent service to their customers. She recognized and thanked Mayor Geller for his role on the Council and County. Information was presented on the parent company, NextEra Energy in detail. It is headquartered in Florida, with operations or development projects in 48 states. NextEra Energy is the world’s largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and the sun, and world leader in battery restorage. Gulf Power was acquired by NextEra Energy and will be merging with FPL, who will now serve customers from Miami to Pensacola. Investments in clean energy and sustainability was described, including the future installation of solar panels. Florida will then be #2 in solar generation in the country. FPL is also building the world’s largest solar powered battery to fill the gap for solar energy when the sun is not shining. Green hydrogen technology is also being explored and FPL will lead with the launch of the first pilot program in the country. Ongoing and planned investments and upgrades of the energy grid, power line locations, transmission structures, and pole inspections/replacements were detailed. She discussed the challenges of upgrading structures, including permitting, and discussed undergrounding power lines and cost. Ms. Roulhac explained the upgraded and innovative technology used: smart meters, intelligent devices, diagnostic centers, drones, and substation robots. She shared information on the FPL’s Office of Economic Development that responded to the Great Recession in mid-2000. Their commitment to helping businesses stay competitive has moved the economy forward, created job opportunities, created an innovation hub, college workforce development program, and more. She thanked the Councilmembers for their support. Ms. White greeted the Board and thanked them for the opportunity to meet with them today. Chair Bailey asked who Council Members can contact for additional information about FPL related issues. Ms. Roulhac responded accordingly and stated that she would follow up with Ms. Cosio Carballo on contact information to be shared with the Councilmembers. Chair Bailey thanked Ms. Roulhac and Ms. White for their presentation.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the February 22, 2021 Meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 26th day of April 2021.

Jordan Leonard, Secretary

Date