

CWC Report submitted by: Terry Schaefer

I attended the CWC meeting on 12/10/25 at which all 7 members were present. Following is a list of the subjects discussed;

1. Review and approval of the months calendar and local community partner upcoming events.
2. Member Charlie Mopps (LBK Public Works Director) provided an in depth presentation of the LBK Green Team's Initiatives & Cooperation Update and introduced two members, Dr. Jeffrey Driver and Terri Driver of their Green Team. The presentation followed their recent report to the LBK Commission in November. A copy is attached for details. The concept of broadening the CWC's objectives was discussed last month and support for further consideration of a "Green Team" approach was well received by the committee following the discussion. One specific element from their review was the creation of short video productions created by Ringling School of Art students in collaboration with LBK of various environmental subjects and LBK's inclusion of them on the website. Matt McDonough was asked to join the discussion and it was agreed to load those videos on our website for further education of the public of the targeted environmental issues. Formal review and consideration of the Green Team expansion will be on the agenda at a future meeting.
3. Refinement of the 2026 Objectives was discussed and it was decided to schedule the 1/14/26 meeting with Zoom capabilities in order to accommodate representatives from UF, Suncoast Water Keepers, Tampa Bay and Sarasota Estuaries, in order to coordinate efforts overall and to minimize overlapping and to specify the CWC's objectives for the year. Final decisions to be determined at the February 10th meeting.
4. Matt McDonough provided an update on the 3400 shopping bags, stating they were shipped yesterday and would be available for distribution upon receipt. Bill Romberger reported that the Chamber of Commerce agreed to distribute bags and he will be asking them to include mention in their next newsletter including a picture. Publix declined to distribute or sell them however, they will allow the City to set up outside of the store for informational purposes. Bill offered to contact various businesses to ask for their participation. Mayor Judy suggested we sell to merchants at our \$2.00 cost and allow them to markup with the benefit or providing funding for additional orders if their is demand beyond the original inventory. The cost of the original order was approved by the committee at the last meeting as part of their \$15,000 budget for 2026.
5. Jennifer Miller updated her discussion with UF on the protocols for the current PFAF testing of fish along with clarity of local fishermen for participation. Mayor Judy offered to assist in contacting local fishermen to assist.
6. I provided an update on SB 240 regarding expansion of prohibited plastic products. Copies of my letter to Senator Boyd had been previously forwarded to members. Copies of my CWC Commission Reports will be included in future meeting packets as requested by members.
7. Next Meeting: January 14th, 2026