



Broward Sierra News



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April 2021

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<https://www.meetup.com/Broward-County-Sierra-Club-Group/> • <https://twitter.com/BrowardSierra>

(That's right, we now have a Twitter account – check us out!)

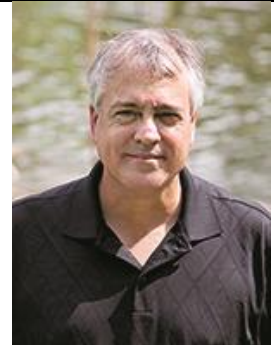
Broward Sierra Club General Meeting

Time: April 1, 2021 at 07:00 PM EST

The subject for this month:

Using the Law and the First Amendment to Achieve Sustainable Development

Speaker: Mr. Richard Grosso, Professor of Law, and Director of the Environmental and Land-use Law Clinic at Nova Southeastern University.



Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYudOGhrjgrGdydE4x5lhq18RzRyWKvh4Mv>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meetup.com: <https://www.meetup.com/Broward-County-Sierra-Club-Group/events/277089288/?isFirstPublish=true>

Professor Grosso is a lawyer and a professor of law at the Shepard Broad College of Law at Nova Southeastern University. He teaches in the areas of environmental, energy, land use, administrative, appellate practice and federal and state constitutional law. Professor Grosso is a widely recognized legal expert, practicing lawyer and policy advocate, with 34 years of experience litigating and advocating on state-wide and south Florida environmental issues. His teaching and legal practice specializes in land use, growth management and environmental policy and permitting issues.

Professor Grosso will discuss the legal latitude enjoyed by local and state government to maintain, improve and apply standards requiring sustainable development. His talk will touch upon the laws concerning state agency rules and local government comprehensive plans and zoning codes, and the application of those standards to individual development applications. The extent and limitations of private property rights and how they impact government decisions will also be discussed. Professor Grosso will also offer advice on how to engage in environmental and community advocacy while minimizing the threat of lawsuits directed at the exercise of your First Amendment rights.

Upcoming speakers:

May 6, 2021 – We will have three presenters:

- Elaine Franklin is the City of Hollywood's Environmental Sustainability Coordinator.
- Vernal Sibble is a LEED-accredited professional Civil Engineer with over two decades of experience in land development.
- Jeff Dorian leads the Broward Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby

The topic will be: **An Existence Challenged by Growth, A Future Forged by Climate Change**

"Optimism"

Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*
Adriene Barmann, Vice Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

Welcome to all our new, and not so new, Sierra Club members!

We are excited to work with you on the various committees that are the foundation of our Broward Sierra Club. We hope that you will consider becoming more involved in our organization and sign up to volunteer with one of our committees. With your expertise and commitment, we hope to develop a larger and more productive environmentally likeminded community that will bring advocacy and awareness to our Broward County residents.

Our political committee is progressive in the South Florida community and is in constant communication with Florida State Senators and House Representatives. By doing so, we may be able to win their support for more positive environmental related bills. Our committee also reaches out to local Floridians in their communities to educate them about the importance of conservation, so the environment is preserved for future generations.

It is imperative now, more than ever, that we must protect our sensitive wetlands and endangered species. We endorse and advocate for clean energy resources! It is also important to have renewable energy in place by educating people to be 100% aware of the effects of climate change that will impact all of us now and into the future.

We welcome any, and all suggestions and ideas you may have. We hope you realize how important it is to participate and volunteer with Broward County Sierra Club. By becoming involved you support our mission to safeguard our planet and protect its resources.

We, along with our entire Executive Committee (ExCom) team, are hoping that you will champion becoming involved to make this a banner year. Even though we are on a virtual adventure, we surely have come together. Being virtual has provided us with more opportunity to share what we do and what we are all about!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of our ExCom group members. We love hearing from you!

Chair - Leah Weisburd: leabird@comcast.net

Vice Chair/Outings Chair - Adriene Barman: adrienesierraleader@gmail.com

Conservation Chair - Sue Caruso: susancaruso.sierra@gmail.com

Treasurer - Max Goldstein: maxsgoldstein@gmail.com

By the way, Max also publishes our newsletter (hopefully soon to be named by one of you) as well as posting on our Facebook page. In addition to all that, he loves assisting our Outings Chair, which will hopefully be back in business!

Secretary - Pat Turpening: booklover@yahoo.com

Pat also will be sending out greeting cards (recycled of course) to members, and/or member's families requested by ExCom.

Communications Coordinator - Pamela Kondziela: paschieltz@gmail.com

And our newest member of our ExCom group, Dan Godston, dgodston@gmail.com Dan is considering the many opportunities for him to take the Chair. We look forward to his choice.

So, again thank you for allowing us into your homes and we look forward to the day that we can all congregate again in person to share and learn together. We are on this journey to make our world a better place!

Link of the Month: The Broward Sierra Club is going to start posting a link to help enlighten you about a situation, problem, concern or solution that can affect South Florida. This month's video is from Matt Schwartz (our March speaker) on the latest threat to the Everglades: another attempt at oil drilling in Big Cypress. View the video here: [South Florida Wildlands Association - Burnett Oil proposes two exploratory oil wells in the Big Cypress National Preserve | Facebook](#)

Broward Sierra Political Corner

- Susan Steinhauser, *Political Chair*

Food For Thought

By the time you read this, we will be more than half-way through the Florida legislative session. The good news is that most of our state legislators (those whose districts are in Broward County) understand the need to protect the environment and address climate change. The bad news is that many other legislators, including those who are currently in control, don't agree and are trying to pass legislation that would prevent us from taking necessary climate action. **IT'S UP TO US TO CONTACT THOSE LEGISLATORS, whether or not we live in their districts, TO TELL THEM WHAT WE WANT.**

To sign up for alerts that tell you whom to call and what to say, click [here](#).

Local Successes

We are thrilled to report that Broward County, Lauderdale, and Coral Springs have all passed resolutions calling for the repeal of M-CORES, the dreadful toll roads project. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to get these resolutions passed.

APRIL'S ACTION OF THE MONTH:

OCEAN CLIMATE ACTION LOBBY DAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Aside from calling on Florida state legislators to protect the environment, here's an opportunity to call on the Federal government to protect the Ocean! White House Climate Envoy John Kerry is a signatory to the [Ocean Climate Action Plan](#) that would impact Florida directly. Now is the time to speak up! Click [here](#) to sign up for the lobby day. For more information, visit www.OceanClimateAction2021.org



Name the Newsletter

EVERY NEWSLETTER HAS A NAME, EXCEPT ME! Broward Sierra News has been coming into your homes for a very long time and no one knows my name. My custodian is asking you to give me a name. So, we are going to have a contest. Yes, a contest to name me! All names submitted will be given to the Excom committee and the one with the most votes will win a prize. All entries must be submitted to maxgold@yahoo.com (please put **Newsletter Contest** in the subject line) by April 26th and the winner will be voted on May 3rd by our Excom committee and announced at our meeting on June 3rd – so, please help me, to at long last, have a name!

Broward County Sierra Club Needs YOU!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Political Co-Chair

Susan Steinhauser, Political Chair, is seeking a Co-Chair:

Lead the Broward Sierra Political Committee in candidate endorsement and campaigning; Lead the Broward Sierra Political Committee in legislative lobbying; Prepare the Political Corner for the monthly newsletter; Provide a Political Committee Report for the General Meeting; and hold monthly Political Committee Meetings – publish agendas and notes for same.

Conservation Committee

Sue Caruso, Conservation Chair, is seeking 8 volunteers:

The members of this committee shall work to preserve the natural resources and habitats of the native species of Broward County. That focus can lead to work beyond our county due to the interconnectedness of our vast watershed and human development. The duties will include bringing attention to proposed developments that are unsustainable and partnering with stakeholders to mitigate or stop such projects, working on local issues brought forth by our members, promote community efforts that foster environmental justice and education, such as our community gardens, exotic plant removal and tabling events. Attending quarterly meetings will be required.

Membership Chair- and 1 Committee volunteer

Chair - Reach out to all new members monthly with a welcome letter, invitation to new member get-togethers (virtually, until we can resume), introduce them to our volunteer program, find out what environmental issues they are concerned about in their cities, reach out to members that have not attended our general meetings and find out why, introduce them to our ExCom committee, our FB page, our newsletter, etc.

Committee - To assist Membership Chair.

Media Chair – and 1 Committee volunteer

Chair - Write and publish articles and op eds in the Sun Sentinel and Miami Herald; write and publish in local city newsletters; write and publish in college newspapers; speaking engagements at local organizations (via zoom for now).

Committee - To assist Media Chair.

For more information, please contact:

Political – Susan Steinhauser: browardsierrapc@gmail.com

Conservation – Sue Caruso: susancaruso.sierra@gmail.com

Membership – Leah Weisburd: leabird@comcast.net

Media Chair – Leah Weisburd: leabird@comcast.net

To all potential volunteers (and members in general), remember our mission statement:

Sierra Club Mission Statement

It is ...

to **explore, enjoy, and protect** the wild places of the earth.

It is ...

to **practice and promote the responsible use** of the earth's ecosystems and resources.

It is ...

to **educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore** the quality of the natural and human environment.

And to **use all lawful means** to carry out those objectives.

**CHANGE
POWERED BY
PEOPLE**

Sierra Club Florida Chapter



Congratulations to our Prize Winner

I, Max Goldstein, won the forest scene blanket at our March meeting (I actually remember paddling by this location on one of our camping trips).

