



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

TO: **Members of the Sustainability Committee**
David Doebler, Chair – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg
Steve Vincenti – Appointed by Commissioner Michael Grieco
Nancy Bernstein – Appointed by Mayor Philip Levine
Michael DeFilippi – Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola
Cheryl Jacobs – Appointed by Commissioner Joy Malakoff
Richard Conlin – Appointed by Commissioner Kristen Rosen-Gonzalez
Scott Diffenderfer – Appointed by Commissioner John Elizabeth Aleman

DATE: July 20, 2016

SUBJECT: **MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 28, 2016**

The attendees were as follows: Dave Doebler, Cheryl Jacobs, Steve Vincenti, Michael De Filippi and Richard Conlin.

Absentees: Nancy Bernstein and Scott Diffenderfer.

City Staff: Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director; Margarita Wells, Environment Resources Manager; Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager; and Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Coordinator.

1. Minutes

- a. **MOTION** to approve the May 31, 2016 meeting minutes made by Mr. Richard Conlin, seconded by Mr. Steve Vincenti.

2. SRC

- a. Review the after action of the June 15, 2016 Sustainability and Resiliency Committee (SRC) meeting.

3. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. **New Business**

- i. Volunteer Plastic Bag Campaign Discussion. Mr. Michael DeFilippi mentioned the Committee should work together with local businesses on a volunteer plastic campaign in order to support the reduction and voluntary elimination of single-use plastic bags for local businesses. Ms. Cheryl Jacobs and Mr. Dave Doebler added they would contact the Chamber of Commerce to discuss a potential volunteer campaign and would bring the discussion to the next Sustainability Committee meeting.

b. **Old Business**

- i. Alternative materials to polystyrene- Follow up discussion on educational campaign. Ms. Flavia Tonioli summarized the previous conversation with the companies' representatives and their discussion on alternative products to polystyrene from the previous Sustainability Committee meeting. Mr. Richard Rinella, CEO at Restaurantware, mentioned he was interested in helping get the word out to all the local restaurants and hotels. He mentioned he would be willing to mail all the restaurants with specific and accurate information about the ban with his company's alternative materials. He mentioned he could also offer a discount code to help make the switch more affordable. Mr. David Doebler asked whether the City would have a list with the local businesses' contacts

that could be shared with the public, therefore Mr. Rinella and other organizations could also reach out to the local businesses with additional information regarding the ban and alternative materials. **ACTION:** Staff to check if they can provide the list of local businesses' contacts for the members to share with different organizations.

The Sustainability Committee reviewed the City's draft educational flyer to be sent out to the local businesses, addressing the previous comments suggested by the Committee. The members made few comments to be addressed and Ms. Flavia Tonioli stated she would follow up with the Committee with the updated version by email.

- ii. Discussion on sea level rise personal adaptation kit discussion. Ms. Flavia Tonioli provided a quick update that the Environment and Sustainability team was working with the Communications team on the kit and that an update would be provided during the following meeting. She asked the members to send any questions or items they would like to add to the kit.
- iii. 'Trash Talk with Yani'. Ms. Yanira Pineda provided an update on the assessment she will be providing for internal operations, as well as for ROW areas.
- iv. Construction sedimentation booms update. Ms. Margarita Wells provided a brief update for the construction sediment booms, mentioning the team was working on the specs for the booms to be potentially included in the Public Works Manual.
- v. Sustainability initiatives update. Ms. Flavia Tonioli provided an update about the green building ordinance poster and potential event with AIA; about the green procurement policy that will be presented to the SRC; and the PACE programs adopted during Commission meeting. Ms. Tonioli explained that with PACE, residents could have an alternative financial platform for energy efficiency, renewable energy and wind resistant property improvements paid through property taxes. Ms. Paola de Angeli mentioned the importance of using renewable sources of energy and explained that there was an Amendment, Amendment 4, which would appear on the August 30th primary election ballot. Amendment 4 would allow voters to decide to amend the Florida Constitution to exempt renewable energy devices, like rooftop solar, installed by businesses and commercial entities from the personal property tax; as well as preclude solar systems from increasing commercial property values when assessed for property tax purposes. She explained that currently a solar system increases the assessed value of the commercial property leading to higher taxes. She added that it would be important to support this Amendment 4 to improve the solar market and also because there is another misleading amendment (Amendment 1) on the election ballot on November 8th, which is backed by the utility companies that would maintain the status quo in how solar energy is regulated. Under Amendment 1, called Consumers for Smart Solar, local and state regulators would maintain control over solar energy. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee passed a motion to bring this item (Amendment 4) to SRC for them to support the Amendment 4 through a resolution and bring it to Commission meeting. Motion made by Ms. Cheryl Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Steve Vincenti.

4. Next Meeting

- a. July 26, 2016.