



TO: Commissioner Michael Grieco, Chair

Members of the Sustainability Committee

David Doebler – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg
Steve Vincenti – Appointed by Commissioner Michael Grieco
Debra Leibowitz – Appointed by Commissioner Deede Weithorn
Michael De Filippi – Appointed by Commissioner Ed Tobin
Liliam Furst – Appointed by Commissioner Jonah Wolfson
Wendy Hart – Appointed by Mayor Philip Levine
Cheryl Jacobs – Appointed by Commissioner Joy Malakoff

DATE: January 22, 2014

SUBJECT: **MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 30, 2014**

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

Absentees: Liliam Furst and Wendy Hart.

City Staff: Elizabeth Wheaton, Assistant Building Director; Margarita Wells, Environment and Sustainability Specialist; Yanira Pineda, Office Associate IV; Andrea Levy, Environmental Intern; and Elizabeth Valera, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation.

Guests: Dara Schoenwald, Resident and Litter Sub-Committee Participant.

1. Minutes Review

- a. During the item, the Committee had not reached a quorum. Therefore, review and approval of the October minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. Solid Waste Management & Natural Resources.

- i. Ms. Dara Schoenwald presented a Litter Sub-Committee update on behalf of Dave Doebler. She stated that the group held three meetings in October to identify citywide litter concerns and possible solutions. Based on these discussions, the Sub-committee presented a draft resolution for the Committee's consideration. Initiatives not included in the final resolution will be presented to City partners, such as the Chamber of Commerce, for assistance in their implementation. Commissioner Grieco added that recommendations not in the resolution should also be discussed and reviewed between city staff.

MOTION: The Sustainability Committee recommends that the City Commission task staff with preparing and submitting a plan to reduce litter from entering the City's streets and that includes an implementation strategy, budget and timeline for the following initiatives, at a minimum:

- **An educational anti-litter campaign;**
- **Increased enforcement of the City's existing zero-litter policy;**
- **Installation of dual trash / recycling bins on every corner in high traffic areas;**
- **Alternating parking in multi-family areas to facilitate curbside street sweeping;**
- **Installation of gratings on storm drains as a pilot program;**



- Installation of litter capturing grates/filters around trees in high traffic areas;
- Installation of water bottle refill stations at existing and new water fountains;
- Require businesses in high-traffic areas to have a cigarette outpost outside of their establishments;
- Installation of recycling containers on beach locations;
- Require the County to mitigate airborne trash by the trucks that service the beach trash bins;
- and require the beach concessionaires to alternate placement of their equipment so the County can increase the sifted area of beach

Motion made by Cheryl Jacobs, seconded by Steve Vicenti. Motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Ms. Schoenwald provided a brief overview on the environmental impacts of using single-use plastic bottles. She recommended that a water bottle refill station be considered to help curb plastic water bottle use. Mr. Itay Tayas Zamir, CEO of Woosh Water Systems, provided a breakdown of the Woosh Water Systems program and a description of how it can be utilized as an alternative to plastic water bottles. He added that the system can be customized to provide Wireless internet, digital maps, phone charging stations, and digital message boards. Stations are also completely computerized and can provide individual and citywide carbon emission reduction information in a real time. Mr. DeFilippi mentioned that he is concerned with charging the public for access to potable water because it can create the perception that tap water is not safe to drink and that clean water is not a free resource.

ACTION: Commissioner Grieco recommends that the Committee research the Woosh Water Systems program independently and revisit the topic at the next meeting.

- iii. The Public Trash & Recycling Receptacles item was deferred to next meeting.

b. Green Business.

- i. Ms. Panwe Gibson gave an overview of Ecotech Visions, a green technology incubator that assists entrepreneurs in creating, setting up and executing green businesses. Ecotech Visions' goals are to create jobs for the local community that pay above minimum wage standards and to foster environmental advocacy. One company that emerged from Ecotech Visions is Earthware, a company that produces biodegradable and compostable cutlery from locally-sourced ingredients.

ACTION: The Sustainability Committee will research the information provided and will discuss it during the next meeting.

3. Upcoming Events

- a. Margarita Wells announced that, in observation of America Recycles Day, the City will host another Household Hazardous Waste and Paper Shredding event on Sunday, November 16, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents will be allowed to drop off household chemicals and other products free of charge. A paper shredding company will also be onsite to properly dispose of confidential documents.



4. October Meeting

- a. Mr. Alberto Machado expressed his concern about littering on Flagler Island. Ms. Wheaton informed him that the city will take this area into consideration during the next clean up event.
- b. Ms. Liz Valera updated the committee on the recent installation of recycling bins in South Pointe Park. She also mentioned that the Commission recently approved a capital improvement project that includes the addition of recycling receptacles in all parks and recreational areas.
- c. Mr. Luis Rodriguez stated that the Seafood Festival did not appear to have recycling bins positioned next to trash bins. He recommended establishing a method for teaching special events permit holders how to recycle more efficiently.

5. Future Meetings

- a. November: No meeting Scheduled
- b. December: No meeting scheduled
- c. January 2015: TBD

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

The proceedings of this meeting have been recorded. Please contact Yanira Pineda at 305.673.7010 or yanirapineda@miamibeachfl.gov for more information.

ESW/MKW/YP