

# MIAMIBEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov)

## Sustainability Committee Chairperson

David Doebler – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

## Members of the Sustainability Committee

Jeremy Waks- Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

Mohammed Islam - Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian

Luiz Rodrigues- Appointed by Commissioner Michael Góngora

Mike Gibaldi - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Max Litt - Appointed by Commissioner John Elizabeth Alemán

DATE: February 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager's Large Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall.

**The attendees were as follows:** Dave Doebler, Luiz Rodrigues, Mohammed Islam, and Jeremy Waks

**City Staff:** Jenn Seoanes, Marketing Manager; Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager; Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist; and Paisley Freund, Contractor/Intern.

**Members Absent:** Mike Gibaldi and Max Litt

## Minutes

### 1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. Review of the January 29, 2019 Minutes – **MOTION:** Approve January 29, 2019 meeting minutes with Max Litt's comments and Dave Doebler's recommendation on restructuring the 2019 topics. Motion made by Jeremy Waks, Seconded by Luiz Rodrigues.

### 2. Sustainability and Resiliency Committee (SRC) Overview – Flavia Tonioli explained to the committee the SRC agenda has not been published yet but briefly discussed items located on the pending list.

### 3. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

#### a. New Business

- i. **Vice Chairperson Selection** – Topic deferred to March meeting
- ii. **#PlasticFreeMB Focus Group** – Paisley Freund, Contractor, presented the item. She explained the goal of the focus group scheduled on March 8 was to obtain feedback from businesses that are interested in moving away from single-use plastics. Ms. Freund gave an update on the status of the program and the number of businesses that have registered so far. Luiz Rodriguez inquired on whether the city has considered presenting the businesses groups to help spread the word on the program. Flavia Tonioli mentioned Ms. Freund and Ms. Pineda presented at the Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel

Association. Jeremy Waks gave an update on the calculator that Debris Free Oceans developed intended to provide businesses a calculation of the cost to switch over to alternative items. He further explained glassware is less expensive than plastic despite the possibility of breakage and added that switching to glassware also creates less trash and more recyclables. He suggested making a case study from each business. Dave Doebler stated that part of the issue is how businesses educate their staff and suggested incorporating drink coasters, signage, tent cards, ashtrays with messaging, a searchable map of all businesses, green grants, photo ops with the mayor and an adapt-an-ashcan program.

- iii. **Sunscreen Discussion** - Professor John E. Fauth with the University of Central Florida provided a presentation on the toxicity of certain types of chemicals, particularly Oxybenzone and Octinoxate, which could be found in some types of sunscreen. He gave an example of how these chemicals could impact reefs over time. In his presentation, he showcased the impacts of these chemicals in different areas around the state of Florida. Jenn Seoanes, Marketing Manager, presented on the efforts that the city's official Sunscreen, MB Suncare, is carrying out. She mentioned Destination Brands, the company who owns the MB Suncare, have phased out these chemicals from the majority of their products and have a reformulation plan in place for the remainder. **MOTION:** Motion recognizing Destination Brands, the City's official sunscreen brand, on their efforts to remove Oxybenzone and Octinoxate from their products. Motion made by Dave Doebler, seconded by Jeremy Waks. **MOTION:** Motion supporting Commissioner Michael Gongora's resolution on a city-wide ban on the sale of sunscreen products that contain Oxybenzone and Octinoxate in Miami Beach. Motion made by Dave Doebler, seconded by Jeremy Waks. Luiz Rodrigues mentioned that the problem was not only coral reefs, and should also include other marine life when educating the public.

4. **Public Comment and Announcements** (10 minutes) Flavia provided an update on the city's first bike to work day to incentivize city employees scheduled for March 1. Mr. Doebler suggested carrying out a survey to understand why bike to work day participants do not bike everyday and understand their challenges.

5. **Next Meeting**

- a. March 26, 2019