



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 G. Argora

Mike Gibaldi - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Max Litt - Appointed by Commissioner John Elizabeth Alem

Chis Duggan – Appointed by Commissioner Joy Malakoff

DATE: October 29, 2019

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee has been scheduled for October 29, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager’s Small Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall.

**The attendees were as follows:** Dave Doebler, Mohammed Islam, Max Litt, and Chris Duggan

**City Staff:** Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director; Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist; Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sustainability Specialist; Jelena Kolarov, Intern.

**Members Absent:** Luiz Rodrigues

**Minutes**

**1. Committee Responsibilities**

- a. MOTION: Approval of the September 24, 2019 Minutes. Motion made by Chris Duggan, seconded by Jeremy Waks.

**2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan**

**a. Old Business**

- i. G.O. Bond Update – Max Litt gave a brief update on the G.O. bond projects. He explained that the group brainstormed on the types of metrics related to sustainability and resiliency that could be reported on for the projects. He asked the committee to review the document and provide feedback.

**b. New Business**

- i. Solar Discussion– Chris Duggan gave a presentation on BIPV – building integrated photovoltaics. He explained the different types of BIPV that could be integrated within building materials and building structures. Chris also showcased new technology that uses wind and waves to create electrical energy. He recommended the city consider carrying out a wind survey, incorporating electrical generation capacity within building material specifications, utilizing Tesla products, keeping up to date with thin film technology, and including an emphasis on connectors, inverters, and degradation.
- ii. Artificial Reefs – Elizabeth Wheaton gave an update on artificial reefs. She

explained the University of Miami created the ULINK program and tasked the groups composed of members across different departments to create projects that address challenges within the city. The winning group would get funding to work on the project within the community. A group from the Engineering, Architecture, and Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science schools, built a project on artificial reefs. The goal for the project was to look at what structures could be designed to attenuate wave energy and could also support corals that are currently being grown within the SUSTAIN Lab. She further explained the School of Architecture has looked into how artificial reef structures would reduce risk to coastal properties. The idea would be to deploy three different designs to see how they perform. Elizabeth explained a discussion on allocating \$20k for the project was scheduled to be discussed at the October Finance and Citywide Projects Committee. The city would work with the school on obtaining permitting to deploy the structures. Mike Gibaldi inquired if the temporary permit would mean allowing the structure to remain on site past the temporary permit stage. Elizabeth stated the temporary permit was just a way to address the permitting process quickly. Elizabeth stated the US Army Corps of Engineers were working on a two-year feasibility study to identify sand sources, artificial reef structures, and breakwater structures. Additionally, the county was working on a coastal engineering study to understand where the sand moves and where erosion occurs the most. The larger study would help with implementing the smaller projects.

- iii. CLEO Institute – Dave introduced the CLEO institute and the Climate Emergency Resolution. Yoca Ardití-Rocha and Jean Paul, representatives for the CLEO institute, explained the trend of cities and countries highlighting the urgency of addressing climate emergencies. Yoca presented a “road map” from the City of Boston to help municipalities on reducing greenhouse gases. She explained the CLEO institute recommends adopting the net zero GHG concept. The CLEO Institute is currently conducting climate education workshops and is in contact with Susanne Torriente, Assistant City Manager/Chief Resilience Officer on how to carry out the workshops within city limits. Yoca inquired on where most of the GHG emissions in the city come from. Alyssia Berthoumieux explained the main source is electricity usage in buildings, followed by transportation. Yoca inquired on the city’s involvement in the Sierra Club’s Ready for 100 resolution. Elizabeth Wheaton explained the city needs to complete its climate action plan first. Jean Paul inquired on how to join the youth commission or how the process works. Elizabeth explained that even if someone was not an appointed member, they could participate in the committee as a resident speaker. Dave inquired on the solar project designed for the convention center. Elizabeth explained that FPL had offered to lease and install solar grids but backed out at the last minute. The building was designed to hold solar power and the city continuously looks for grants to install solar.