

MIAMIBEACH

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

Sustainability Committee

David Doebler, Chair – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

Sara Kott, Member - Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson

Jeremy Waks, Member - Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

Mohammed Islam, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian

Luiz Rodrigues, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Michael Góngora

Mike Gibaldi, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for April 28, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. and was held through Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84284355845>

Meeting ID: 842 8435 5845

The attendees were as follows: Dave Doebler, Jeremy Waks, Luiz Rodrigues, Sara Kott, Jeremy Caldwell, Mike Gibaldi, Sanna O’Sullivan, Brian Keane, and Sandy Shapiro.

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

Members Absent: Mohammed Islam

Minutes

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **MOTION:** Motion to approve the March 24, 2020 minutes with revisions to item B-iii. Motion made by Mike Gibaldi, seconded by Jeremy Waks.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. Old Business

- i. Earth Month/Sustainachella – Dave Doebler presented this topic. Dave asked if students could receive volunteer hours for attending Sustainachella events. Yanira Pineda explained she would confirm with the Organizational Development & Performance Improvement department. Mike Gibaldi asked if the Sustainability team would be able to include life after COVID-19 as topics for future Sustainachella workshops. Ms. Tonioli explained the team would continue to take into consideration the situation residents are in when it comes to the Sustainachella topics and make special accommodations to the schedule. Luiz Rodrigues asked if the city would consider the single-use plastics ordinances being enforced by the cities that paneled the Bye-Bye Plastics Sustainachella. Ms. Wheaton

explained the city is not considering ordinance amendments to avoid items that require physical public hearings. Ms. Wheaton recommended for Sustainability Committee members to participate in Sustainachella. Sara Kott asked if Sustainachella has been promoted to students.. Ms. Tonioli said the demographics of Sustainachella attendees was not known due to the Zoom restrictions.

b. New Business

- i. Environmental Events & Social Distancing – Dave Doelber presented this time. Dave listed a few ideas to host social distancing sustainable events as the city reopens including kayak tours and cleanups. Jeremy Waks suggested to hosting kayak, paddle boarding, and digital events. Dave added a sticker party could be hosted when the stickers arrive from the waste haulers or to host a documentary movie night at Soundscape Park. Ms. Wheaton reported she would follow up with the Tourism & Culture department on what kind of films could be shown. Luiz Rodrigues listed out several suggestions to encourage residents on new behaviors that support the environment post COVID-19, including plastic reduction and composting at home. Ms. Pineda mentioned the citywide ban on plastic and bio-plastic straws was in the written warning stage and would go into effect starting July 2020.
- ii. COVID-19 Update – Elizabeth Wheaton presented this item. She provided an update related to the Environment & Sustainability Department’s operations during COVID-19 and future reopening efforts. Jeremy Caldwell asked who would need to be contacted to report sunken debris, boats, and Styrofoam docks. Yanira Pineda explained that residents could report it on the E-Gov app, or email Ms. Wheaton, Flavia Tonioli, or herself.
- iii. Margarita Kruffy Recognition – Dave Doebler presented this item. Dave expressed gratitude for having Ms. Kryuff as a resource for the Sustainability Committee. **MOTION:** Motion to bring this item back in the next month or two when city operations have resumed so the Committee could lead support for a recognition award for Ms. Kryuff. Motion made by Dave Doelber, seconded by Jeremy Waks.
- iv. Mayor’s Monarch Challenge/Pollinators – Dave Doebler presented this item. Dave explained Mayor Gelber signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge in 2019. Dave explained he would like to focus on the five items Mayor Gelber pledged. Dave asked if the city issued a proclamation to raise awareness about the Monarch Butterfly. Ms. Tonioli explained she would have to confirm. Dave asked if the pollinator plans have been extended beyond the Miami Beach Botanical Garden. Sanna O’Sullivan advised residents should be educated on how landscapes for habitats would look. She explained the Miami Beach Botanical Garden was looking into expanding their apiary, installing a pollinator garden, plant giveaway, and having pollinator educational signage throughout the garden. Ms. Pineda stated the Environment & Sustainability team gives away milkweed seeds at all their events. Ms. Pineda explained the city neighborhood association liaison could provide associations with educational material. Ms. Tonioli mentioned there would be a butterfly garden at Flamingo Park. Ms. Wheaton added the Urban Forestry division would be presenting the Urban Forestry Master Plan at

the May 26, 2020 Sustainability Committee meeting. Ms. Wheaton stated she would connect the Urban Forestry division with Ms. O'Sullivan and Sandy Shapiro to review the plans. Ms. Pineda reported the May 13, 2020 Virtual Sustainachella would be about bees and other pollinators. Dave asked if there are any restrictions on removing beehives. Ms. Tonioli advised that she would follow up with her network on policies in other cities. Sarah suggested to assist schools with educational outreach programs. Ms. O'Sullivan stated the garden has worked with schools in the past and would continue to do so in the upcoming year.

ACTION: Sustainability Committee to follow up with Adrian Chamberlin, aide to Mayor Gelber, on the Monarch Pledge action items and have the Urban Forestry Division provide updates on demonstration gardens that would be part of the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

a. Topics for Next Meeting

- i. Urban Forestry Master Plan – Dave Doelber requested to have Urban Forestry incorporate pollinators into the plan and share information on where pollinator gardens would be in Flamingo Park.
- ii. Sustainachella- Mike Gibaldi requested to have a Sustainachella on lowering consumption rates as stay at home shelter orders are lifted.
- iii. Messages to the community – Sara Kott and Mike Gibaldi to lead new item on communications sent to the community on the benefits stay at home orders had on the environment and how to promote the same actions moving forward. Sara to coordinate top three questions the Sustainability Committee members are to answer and bring back to Ms. Pineda to prepare for the next meeting and present to the Marketing & Communications department.
- iv. Reduce and reclaim temporary event material- Jeremy Waks to take the lead on how to get non-profit organization to collect items used during events and repurpose them.

4. Next Meeting

- a. May 26, 2020