

Mayor's Blue Ribbon 41st Street Committee

4:0pm Tuesday, February 27, 2020

Iberia Bank

400 41st Street, Miami Beach

MINUTES

City of Miami Beach Commissioners in attendance

- Commissioner Joy Malakoff
- Commissioner Mickey Steinberg

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Betty Behar
- Michael Burnstine
- Yechiel Ciment
- Francisco Diez-Rivas
- Seth Gadinsky, Chair
- Eric Hankin
- Robin Jacobs, Vice Chair
- Marcella Novella
- Jeremy Wachtel

City Staff in Attendance

- Eric Carpenter, Assistant City Manager, City of Miami Beach
- Bo Martinez, Director, Economic Development Director, City of Miami Beach
- Amy Mehu, Assistant Director, Economic Development, City of Miami Beach
- Gedel Merzius, Economic Development Specialist, City of Miami Beach
- Maria Hernandez, GO Bond Program Director, City of Miami Beach
- Allison Novack, Community Information Manager, City of Miami Beach

Seth Gadinsky opened the meeting at 4:04 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Seth began the meeting by informing committee and community members that Bo Martinez will no longer serve as the Economic Development director for the City of Miami Beach. Committee members wished him all the best and thanked him for all of his work at the City of Miami Beach.

Vision of 41st Street

Bart Goldberg spoke to the Committee and guest about the past vision of 41st street. Bart encouraged committee and community members to work together in making 41st street a better place for all.

AECOM Introduction

Seth introduced AECOM as the firm that will be handling all Master Action Plan duties. AECOM representative Lauren Swan and Alex Elm introduced themselves to the committee members and all who were in attendance of the meeting. Lauren stated that she has prior experience working with the City of Miami Beach as the program manager for resilient 305. Lauren explained that plan will encompass five tasks. The first task will involve data collection and identifying all projects that have been gathered for the 41st street corridor. AECOM plans to work internally with the departments of the City of Miami Beach, Miami Dade County and the Florida Department of Transportation to understand what their prioritization process is than go to the community and conduct an open house where those community stakeholders can prioritize specific items. A draft report some time in June would be delivered to the committee for review.

Lauren specified that this plan will be plan full of compromise gathering bits and pieces of key elements from the Alta Gehl Vision plan. Lauren emphasized that the 41st street corridor is a Florida department of transportation corridor and an evacuation route stating that pedestrian and bicyclist are always a priority factorization of life and safety would need to take place throughout this process.

Seth Gadinsky stated that the community would like to salvage as much of the plans from the Alta Gehl vision plan as possible and added that incorporating a bus speed lane on the corridor would impact businesses in a negative way. Lauren stated that they plan to coordinate and brief with committee members as much as possible on the latest developments and reports to stay engaged throughout the entire process.

Seth asked if AECOM will be working with CBRE who was hired to study specific governmental city assets that can be improved for land use overlay for future development. Lauren stated that they are in the incremental stages of review, but the city has requested that they work with CBRE as a stakeholder to look at things from a holistic point of view.

Eric Hankin asked Lauren if the Draft would be the final product that AECOM will be submitting for review. Lauren stated that they are hoping to have a draft report in June that is dependent on the scheduling of meetings, approval by commission after the draft report is approved a development of an action report will be administered, prioritizing those projects in full detail to finalize the plan.

Seth asked when will the committee be engaged again with the representative to speak more about the land use developments opportunities. Lauren stated that they plan to meet with the committee first than with the county and state prior to the open house community meeting.

Betty Behar asked whether the committee will have a say on the prioritization of the plans

or will they keep us abreast of the current development as they gather information. Lauren stated the former that they will have a say on the prioritization of the plans.

Eric asked what will happen next after the action plan? Lauren stated that the action plan will be incorporated into the draft feasibility plan. The feasibility plan will be recommendations of projects and from there on there will be further recommendations of specific projects. Eric asked if there will be certain designs that will be made for this project. Lauren stated that certain renderings may be adopted from previous plans to display what those components will look like based on the prioritizations of the city, the 41st street community and what the county and state.

41st street Marketplace

Gedel Merzius gave an update about the upcoming 41st street marketplace Sunday, March 1st. Gedel stated that Robin Jacobs and Betty Behar have been assisting him with getting the word out to different businesses and community members in preparation of the pilot event. Gedel stated that the event will be held at the City of Miami Beach parking lot at Henry Lieberman square located on 41st street and Pine Tree Drive, 25 vendors will be available for this event. As stated, before the 41st street marketplace is set up to run every Sunday from March 1st to May 31st from 9 am to 2 pm.

Gedel also stated that vendors will be interchangeable to establish conducive products that go well with the 41st street community. Gedel displayed the flyers of the 41st street marketplace to community members letting them know the success of the marketplace is incumbent on their participation. Jerri Hertzberg Bassuk asked that the 41st street committee be recognized for their hard work of the storefronts, movie nights, lighting and now the marketplace.

Staff will continue prepare the proper logistics, permits and marketing to make the event a success.

Electrify America

Seth asked for an update about Electrify America, Gedel responded that there is a schedule meeting set to take place between the City Manager and the representatives of Electrify America. Gedel stated that initiative would take a look at whether it would be feasible for charging stations to be implemented throughout Miami Beach.

Parklet on 41st street

Gedel stated that city staff is still looking at different options as to how this parklet would pass through city and state building code. Eric Hankin stated that he would like to just get the parklets built in its most general form so it can pass through the city and state building code.

Jeremy Wachtel asked staff how the community can get a rudimentary design of a parklet. Amy stated that there needs to be a partner establishment that is willing to activate the parklet, maintain the upkeep and maintenance of the parklet.

Jeremy asked Amy is their anyway an email can be sent showing the specifics on what is needed for a parklet to be built on the 41st street.

4000 Alton Road possible development

Christina Cuervo of Mass Capital Michael Larkin and Ray Forque from Architectonica to give a preliminary conceptual presentation plan about a project design for the 4000 Alton Road area. Christina stated that design and development can hopefully be a positive catalyst for things to come in the 41st street. Christina stated that plans have been conceptualized to build a development, a resilient park and open green space. Ray Forque spoke about the surrounding areas and potential traffic flows of the project itself.

Jeremy asked if there have been any traffic studies, to take a look at the impact within the area. Christina stated that there has been residential traffic studies and she stated that residential project developments are the least intensive uses.

Meeting adjourned 5:49 pm