

MIAMI BEACH

Mayor's Blue Ribbon 41st Street Committee

4:30pm Thursday, December 16, 2019

Iberia Bank

400 41st Street, Miami Beach

MINUTES

Committee Members in Attendance:

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

Elected Officials in attendance

- Commissioner Steve Meiner

City Staff in Attendance

- Michelle Berger
- Gedel Merzius
- Allison Novack

Seth Gadinsky opened the meeting at 4:46 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of Minutes: Betty Behar made a motion to approve the minutes of the November committee meeting.

Seth Gadinsky began the meeting by introducing Steve Meiner, a community member of 41st street and an avid public attendee of the 41st street meetings. Meiner was recently elected as a Commissioner, Group IV. Commissioner Meiner graciously thanked members for their help and gave members assurance that the city would do everything possible to activate the 41st street area. Commissioner Meiner gave an update about his first initiative to implement lights along the 41st street corridor. Commissioner Meiner stated that lights will be implemented along 251 palm trees throughout the 41st street corridor from the ending of the Julia . The commission approved \$400,000 to fund the initiative and work will be completed by the end of spring 2020.

Master Action Plan – Lauren Schlyander

Lauren Schlyander spoke to the committee about her vision for the 41st street corridor. Lauren is design consultant with an architectural background. Lauren gave the committee a few ideas on possible live work play options that could be crafted through out the 41st street corridor, and surrounding areas for longevity throughout the area.

Confirm 2020 Meeting Dates

The Committee examined and confirmed on future 2020 meeting dates.

Lighting on 41st street

Michelle Berger stated that the temporary lighting on the 41st street corridor that Commissioner Meiner spoke of will stay up until a method of the implementation for permanent lighting has been determined.

Eric Hankin asked for a confirmation on whether a consultant has been selected for the master action plan that will concentrate on various components as specified within the Alta Gehl vision plan throughout 40th to 42nd street.

Gedel Merzius stated that a consultant has been identified and a scope of service has been submitted to a respective consultant. This scope encapsulates all the plans specific to the 41st street corridor.

Gedel reminded the committee that the previously mentioned Alta Gehl plan was a vision plan with many components that were not feasible to implement on one street.

Seth stated that many of the frustrations from the committee and community members come from the initial inconsistency within staff and different variations of information on a month to month basis. Seth assured the committee that staff now is aligned with the goals of the committee.

Eric Hankin asked about a specific timeline for the master action plan between the city and the consultant. Gedel Merzius responded that the response from the consultant will entail a detailed list of tasks of deliverables and a timeline of dates.

Eric Hankin asked that if the consultant is hired can the committee get a copy of the scope of service to review. Gedel stated that the committee can get a copy of the scope of work once a contract has been signed with the selected consultant.

Farmers Market on 41st street

Gedel stated that the farmers market has identified a location which is behind the Bank of America building. Gedel stated that the vendor has been in discussion with the owner of that specific lot. The committee did not think that seeking out the owner of that specific lot as a great idea.

The committee believed that the city owned lot off of Royal Palm drive would be a better alternative. The committee felt that it would be beneficial if the city focused on city owned property.

Yechiel Ciment asked that a goal be set to have a date for the farmers market and a by the middle of February.

Discuss 2020 Committee Objectives

The committee discussed about specific goals and objectives pertaining to the 41st street. Yechiel stated his goals and objectives. Yechiel's mentioned the synchronizing of traffic lights and having a more pedestrian friendly schedule, Yechiel also mentioned more initiatives for planning and development.

Marcella Novella and Eric Hankin both stated that they would like to focus more on possible options for arts in public spaces. They both believe that activating storefronts using the pop-up ordinance would be something the local up and coming artist could take advantage of. They request that the Director for the Tourism and Culture Department to attend the next meeting.

Eric mentioned that seating should be a goal and an implementation

Yechiel stated that we should keep a list of accomplishments from our 2020 goals list.

Chairman update

Seth Gadinsky gave a brief update about the Publix update. Yechiel asked about the timing of the Publix and how would those plans fall into the plans of the ground lease acquisition of bringing Publix. Seth stated that the timing for the master action plan and its recommended use for specific lots would play a role into bringing in Publix. The process would begin when Publix writes a letter of interest to the city, with attached plans into where they would like to bring in Publix into a specific lot.

Meeting adjourned 6:17 pm