

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

Mohammedwaslam, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian

Luiz Rodrigues, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Michael Góngora

Mike Gibaldi, Member - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Jason Koslowe, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Steven Meiner

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for September 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. and was held through Zoom.

The attendees were as follows: Dave Doebler, Luiz Rodrigues, Sara Kott, Mike Gibaldi, Jeremy Waks, Mohammed Islam, and Jason Koslowe.

Members of the public were also in attendance.

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

Members Absent:

Minutes

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **MOTION:** Motion to approve the July 28, 2020 minutes. Motion made by Sara Kotts, seconded by Mike Gibaldi.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. New Business

- i. Biscayne Bay/Water Quality – Irela Bague, Chair of The Biscayne Bay Task Force, spoke on the goals and recommendations of the Biscayne Bay Task Force. Dave Doelber, Committee Chair asked if the city identified any areas of opportunities to improve the city's operations to protect Biscayne Bay. Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director, reported city staff created a matrix to track the recommendations and action plan and would bring this and funding considerations to the October Commission meeting. Ms. Wheaton stated she would bring the matrix and city recommendations to the October committee meeting. Mr. Doebler asked if long-term actions are part of the matrix. Ms. Wheaton confirmed there are more extensive recommendations and city staff was in conversations with City of Miami to form a municipal collaboration. Mike Gibaldi, Committee Member

suggested to create a category within the eGov application to report issues related to waterfront properties/Biscayne Bay issues. Ms. Wheaton stated city staff would follow up with the eGov team. Jason Koslowe, Committee Member suggested to highlight how the city's upgraded stormwater program would positively impact the bay on the matrix. Ms. Wheaton explained how the stormwater program had pollutant control improvements. Ms. Bague stated one of the recommendations from the Task Force was to get a full understanding of the city's infrastructure and prioritize needed changes.

b. Old Business

- i. Pollinator Gardens with Parks and Recreation - Yanira Pineda, Senior Sustainability Coordinator provided an update on the meetings city staff had regarding promoting pollinators. She stated the next steps are creating a pollinator network area with a goal to expand to more locations with a diverse species of pollinating plants and trees. Mr. Doebler asked when the network map would be finalized. Ms. Pineda stated they need to finalize the plant species and cost. She would provide the committee with an update in the upcoming weeks. Mr. Doebler asked to bring this item back to the next committee meeting.
- ii. EV Stations and City Efforts - Mr. Gibaldi presented this item. He asked for an update on the city's EV charging stations. Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager stated the city was partnering with EV organizations to share with the community the locations of the EV stations throughout the city. Ms. Tonioli stated they do advertise the EV stations through the different communication platforms, but more outreach was needed. Mr. Koslowe asked if the city was considering adding EV charging stations to the outdoor parking lots and using solar energy to power them. Ms. Tonioli explained those locations face electrical infrastructure challenges; however, the lots were still being considered. The solar panels have been considered but deemed unfeasible due to the upfront cost and return on investment. Ms. Tonioli explained the city's existing fleet includes 25 hybrid vehicles and 1 electric vehicle. She further explained for FY19/20, 110 hybrid and 4 electric vehicles have been ordered and for FY 20/21 154 hybrid and 5 electric vehicles are anticipated to be ordered. Mr. Doebler asked for an update on the city's police fleet transitioning to hybrid vehicles. Ms. Tonioli stated the transition was dependent on the vehicle's life cycle. Ms. Tonioli explained she would ask the Building Official to attend the next meeting to explain the permit process related to EV stations.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

- i. Ms. Tonioli asked the committee members to review the Fertilizer Ordinance and provide any recommendations on how to apply the ordinance to the golf courses before it was taken to Commission for second reading. **MOTION:** Motion to send a Letter to Commission supporting the passage of the Fertilizer Ordinance. Mr. Doelber requested to modify the motion to add reasonable restrictions on fertilizer applications by golf courses. Motion made by Mike Gibaldi, seconded by Jeremy Waks.
- ii. Laura Tellez, Representative with Solar United Neighbors, presented on Miami-Dade Solar Co-op group.
- iii. Luiz Rodrigues, Committee Member suggested having a section

dedicated to sustainability initiatives in the April 2021 MB Magazine.

4. Next Meeting

- a. October 27, 2020