

MIAMIBEACH

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

Sustainability Committee

Margarita Kruff, Chair– Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg
Mike Gibaldi, Vice-Chair – Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola
Jason Koslowe, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Stephen Meiner
Sara Kott, Member – Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson
Santiago R. Tarditi, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian
Jeremy Waks, Member – Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

DATE: April 29, 2021

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for April 29, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held through Zoom.

Attendees were as follows: Mike Gibaldi, Margarita Kruff, Sara Kott, Santiago Tarditi, Jeremy Waks, and Jason Koslowe.

Members of the public were also in attendance.

City Staff: Omar Leon, Urban Forester; Yanira Pineda, Senior Sustainability Coordinator; and Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sustainability Specialist.

MINUTES

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **Review of the March 29, 2021 Minutes – MOTION:** Motion to approve the March 29, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion made by Sara Kott, seconded by Mike Gibaldi.

2. Sustainability Committee Workplan

a. New Business

- i. **Recycling Policies** – Yanira Pineda, Senior Sustainability Coordinator, provided an update on the City's recycling policy and explained how changing global policies have affected local recycling programs. She shared that recycling outreach materials have been created for distribution. Dave Doebler, a member of the public, asked about the possibility of engaging the public at the point of decision, putting stickers on recycling bins. Jeremy Waks, member, agreed with the idea. Santiago Tarditi, member, asked if food containers are recyclable if they are cleaned beforehand. Ms. Pineda explained how different facilities could recycle specific materials, but in general, large operations only recycle a small portion of materials and does not include plastic food containers. Mike Gibaldi, member, asked for an update about unified messaging for waste haulers. Ms. Pineda explained there have been conversations with waste haulers, but it has been difficult to establish unified messaging. She explained that the recycling outreach materials would help to address recycling at the source, in the homes of residents. Mr. Gibaldi asked about the next contract cycle for waste haulers and the possibility of including these requests in the next contract. Ms. Pineda stated that Environment and Sustainability staff have been involved in the contract cycles and would follow up with the date for next cycle and suggested inviting the new Sanitation Director to discuss these topics.

MOTION: The Sustainability Committee recommends requiring all waste haulers, as part of their contracts and paid for by the waste haulers, to include effective and unified messaging approved by the City of Miami Beach, on their recycling and trash bins. Motion made by Sara Kott, seconded by Mike Gibaldi.

Mr. Gibaldi asked about the Coca-Cola sponsorship contract and suggested specific requirements for single use beverage containers as part of the bid documents for the next contract cycle.

MOTION: The Sustainability Committee requests that the upcoming beverage sponsorship contract include the following requirements:

- Have only boxed or aluminum cans available for purchase or require aluminum can options for all products they want to sell (water, soda).
- Require plastic bottles to be made of 100% recyclable content. Starting with a 25% or higher of recycled content by 2021 and progressively increase.
- Fund the collection and recycling on the beach sand and unoccupied islands.
- Institute 'Cash for Trash' cleanup programs for schools.
- Implement tethered caps.
- Replace plastic wrap labels and instead, print label information directly on bottle.
- Publicly support a bottle deposit program in the State of Florida.

Motion made by Sara Kott, seconded by Mike Gibaldi.

b. Old Business

- i. **Composting Programs** – Ms. Pineda provided an update on the North Beach Composting Hub. She stated there is interest in expanding the composting program to Middle Beach. The committee expressed their interest and suggested locations in Middle Beach to host the composting hub. Ms. Pineda explained that staff is looking at several locations and are open to suggestions. Sara Kott, member, asked if hotels and businesses are aware of the composting hub. Ms. Pineda explained that there is a limit to how much could be composted at the hub so the program is only for residents. Anastasia Mikhalochkina, Lean Orb, presented on backyard bin composting. Margarita Kruffyff, asked if there was a resource with step-by-step instructions for purchasing a bin and starting to compost. Ms. Mikhalochkina mentioned the City of Orlando had great resources which they distributed in their program and a similar one could be created. Mr. Gibaldi asked if there would be another grant cycle that a backyard composting program could apply for. Ms. Pineda stated that the grant program would be opening for another cycle this year. The committee discussed the education gaps in backyard bin composting and potential opportunities for classes to provide instruction and answer questions. Jason Koslowe, member, asked if staff could provide the Sustainability Committee with a spectrum of composting initiatives and the associated costs for each type of initiative. Ms. Pineda said that staff could provide this information, as well as an update from the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee at the next Sustainability Committee meeting.

c. Updates

- i. **G.O. Bond Oversight Committee** – Mr. Koslowe stated the G.O. Bond Committee passed a motion supporting the Urban Forestry Master Plan as it relates to G.O. Bond projects.
- ii. **Climate Action Plan** - Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sustainability Specialist, shared the op-ed co-authored by the Mayors of Miami-Dade County, City of Miami Beach, and City of Miami re-affirming their commitment to climate action.
- iii. **Urban Forestry Master Plan** - Omar Leon, Urban Forester, announced the Arbor Day tree planting event at Normandy Shores Park and that the tree giveaway event would be a home delivery program.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

4. Next Meeting – May 27, 2021