



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

Sustainability Committee

Margarita Kruffy, Chair – Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber
Sara Schatz Kott, Vice-Chair – Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson
Michael DeFilippi, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez
Johann Moore, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian
Jason Koslowe, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Stephen Meiner
Maria Algarra, Member – Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez
No appointment – Commissioner Ricky Arriola

DATE: May 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for May 24, 2022 at 3:00 pm. The meeting was held through Zoom.

Attendees were as follows: Johan Moore, Margarita Kruffy, Michael DeFilippi, Sara Schatz Kott, Maria Algarra, Jason Koslowe

City Staff: Amy Knowles, Chief Resilience Officer; Lindsey Precht, Environment and Sustainability Assistant Director; Manny Villar, Code Compliance Manager; Alyssia Berthoumieux, Senior Sustainability Coordinator; Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist

Members of the public were also in attendance.

MINUTES

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **Review of the March 31, 2022 Minutes – MOTION:** Motion to approve March 31, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion made by Johann Moore, seconded by Margarita Kruffy.
- b. **Review of the April 28, 2022 Minutes – MOTION:** Motion to approve April 28, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion made by Johann Moore, seconded by Maria Algarra.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. New Business

- i. **Chief Resilience Officer and Environment and Sustainability Department Assistant Director** – Amy Knowles, Chief Resilience Officer, and Lindsey Precht, Environment and Sustainability Department Assistant Director, introduced themselves and provided an overview of their roles.
- ii. **Monument Island** – Margarita Kruffy, chair, presented the item. John Gardiner, Miami Beach resident, presented to the committee his concerns over the future use of Monument Island. Mr. Gardiner suggested designating the island as a native area to avoid its continued degradation. The committee discussed measures that could help address residents' concerns of Monument Island. **MOTION:** In line with its October 28, 2021, motion, the Sustainability Committee recommends that enhancements of Flagler Monument Island prioritize:
 - o Enriching natural habitat;
 - o Non-motorized use;
 - o Improving resident use, with equal access to all city residents; and
 - o Calming the island.

Motion made by Jason Koslowe seconded by Johann Moore.

- iii. **Plastic Straw Ordinance** – Alyssia Berthoumieux, Senior Sustainability Coordinator, presented the item. Manny Villar, Code Compliance Manager, provided an overview of the City's plastic straw and litter Ordinances. Mr. Villar stated that in the last 12 months, 11 straw

- violations have been issued. Michael DeFilippi, member, recommended having another push from the City on education about the Plastic Straw Ordinance. Mr. Villar mentioned that efforts will be more focused but will require 3-4 months to conduct a sweep by Code Compliance. Ms. Kruffy requested bringing the item back to the September meeting for an update. Maria Algarra, member, suggested an update to how bioplastics are addressed in the Ordinance.
- iv. **Littering Enforcement** – Mr. Villar provided an overview of littering enforcement in Miami Beach.

b. Old Business

- i. **Storm Drain Grates** – Mr. DeFilippi provided an update of what was presented and discussed at the last committee meeting and expressed interest in pursuing the installation of storm drain grates in Miami Beach. Mr. Moore suggested the City gather data from the City of Miami pilot and present the findings in six months. Mr. DeFilippi suggested getting input from other local municipalities such as the City of Aventura and Sunny Isles Beach and launching a pilot in Miami Beach, in an area with less vegetation to minimize maintenance needs. The committee discussed other conditions that would be ideal for a pilot. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee urges the Mayor and City Commission to explore other communities' experiences and successes with installing storm drain grates, including City of Aventura, and install storm drain grates in areas with high levels of litter and minimal shrubs and trees, such as Washington Ave and Alton Road, that can be regularly maintained. Motion made by Michael DeFilippi, seconded by Johann Moore.
- ii. **Climate Action Plan Update** – No update.
- iii. **G.O. Bond Committee Update** – No update.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

Ms. Algarra inquired about City's plans for Memorial Day Weekend to minimize litter. Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist, explained that the City will have signage throughout Lummus Park as well as volunteers handing out biodegradable trash bags for litter collection.

4. Next Meeting

- a. June 30, 2022