

MIAMIBEACH

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Sustainability Committee

Margarita Kruyff, Chair – Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber
Michael DeFilippi, Vice-Chair – Appointed by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez
No Appointment – Appointed by Vice Mayor Steven Meiner
Elizabeth Wheaton – Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola
Johann Moore – Appointed by Commissioner Laura Dominguez
Maria Algarra, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez
Janet Silverman, Member – Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson
Juanita Ballesteros, City Liaison

DATE: February 23, 2023

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for February 23, 2023, at 2:00 pm. The meeting was held through Zoom.

Attendees were as follows: Margarita Kruyff, Michael DeFilippi, Maria Algarra, Janet Silverman, Johann Moore

City Staff: Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager; Alyssia Berthoumieux, Senior Sustainability Coordinator; Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist; Bradford Kaine, Sanitation Director

Members of the public were also in attendance.

MINUTES

1. Committee Responsibilities (10 min)

- a. Review of the January 26, 2023, Minutes – MOTION: Motion to approve the January 26, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion made by Johann Moore, seconded by Margarita Kruyff. Motion passed 5 – 0.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. New Business (45 mins)

- i. Waste Hauler Agreement – Bradford Kaine, Sanitation Director, provided an update on the waste hauler agreement which had recently been presented at the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) and will be going back for one more iteration on March 31. FERC directed City staff to draft a Request for Quote (RFQ) for a non-exclusive hauler agreement. Mr. Kaine has understood the position of the Committee to have leaned toward allowing for more competition than what exists in the current agreement. Mr. Kaine projects that by April, an RFQ should be on an agenda and the RFQ should be issued by the beginning of May. Margarita Kruyff, Chair, inquired on key objectives and to what extent the Sustainability Committee's recommendations have been incorporated. Mr. Kaine responded by highlighting some of the recommendations that have been added including recycling collection, providing more information to accounts serviced, looking for more funding for the Household Hazardous Waste program, and increasing the amount of

recycling containers. Johann Moore, member, asked if we can get a price cap with an exclusive contract. Mr. Kaine highlighted that residential agreements with Waste Connection—for single family home and multifamily home with 8 units or less—are exclusive agreements with price structures and cap. Non-exclusive contracts typically don't have a cap because non-exclusive can be thought of as an open market where the City puts in parameters to the haulers participating that must be complied with. Contracts setting caps are being looked at by the City and are being reviewed by the City Attorney for legality. The Committee continued to discuss the waste hauler agreement and recommendations for language. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee recommends that the City of Miami Beach Mayor and Commission opt for a commercial exclusive structure with a price cap for waste hauler operations for multi-family residences of 9 or more units and commercial properties, in order to increase the sustainability and efficiency of waste hauler operations, including: reduction of total trucks and truck hours driven on the roads thereby reducing traffic congestion, tailpipe emissions and noise from trucks, and more consistent bins and messaging for waste and recycling to improve proper separation of the waste stream. Motion made by Johann Moore, seconded by Janet Silverman. Motion passed 5 – 0. Committee members continued to discuss the importance of exclusive agreements and recommendations for an additional motion. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee recommends that the City of Miami Beach Mayor and Commission prioritize the selection of a waste hauler vendor that facilitates the City's sustainability goals, including: strategy to improve recycling and divert waste sent to landfill, uniformity of waste and recycling messaging, and the electrification of truck fleet. Motion made by Michael DeFilippi and seconded by Maria Algarra. Motion passed 5 – 0.

b. Old Business (15 mins)

- i. Baylink – Mr. Moore presented the Baylink item and proposed that the Sustainability Committee hold a position supporting Baylink regardless of the short-term environmental impacts from construction of Baylink due to the medium, long-term, and permanent environmental benefits as well as the benefits from reduced traffic. The Committee discussed reasoning for supporting Baylink. Maria Algarra, member, questioned if there is a study by the USACE on the impacts of construction of Baylink on the area and expressed concerns over the expected impact on marine life in the area. Ms. Algarra suggested inviting Collin from Coral Morphologic to speak on the impacts of construction on corals and other underwater lifeforms. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee recommends that the City of Miami Beach Mayor and Commission support Miami-Dade County's continued planning for the Baylink project and encourage further studies that include mitigating the impacts on the Biscayne Bay marine ecosystem, especially corals, and the feasibility of constructing the Baylink in between the MacArthur Causeway Eastbound and Westbound lanes. Motion made by Johann, seconded by Janet. Motion passes 4-0.

c. Updates (30 min)

- i. G.O. Bond Oversight Committee – Mike DeFilippi, Vice-chair, provided updates to the Committee highlighting how many projects are missing sustainable features such as solar and electric vehicle charging stations. Baylink was brought up during the meeting and they have the pedestrian bridge figured out. The Committee continued to discuss the Fire Station project and the relocation of the childcare center. Mr. Moore recommended a presentation from the City focusing on the relocation of the childcare center.
- ii. Composting – Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager, presented the composting item and highlighted how there is an item at City Commission to create a Mid-Beach Composting Hub. The division will be meeting with Commissioner Richardson to discuss the item and continue moving it forward through the budget process.

3. Public Comment and Announcements (15 mins)

Ms. Algarra updated the Committee that North Bay Village passed an ordinance banning intentional balloon releases.

Lynn Northland, public member, questioned if there has been appetite or interest for curbside composting. Dave Doeblor, public member, mentioned that there is no industrial composting facility south of Lake Okeechobee, but there are companies popping up nowadays such as Compost for Life, which can be contracted to collect compost. Mr. Moore suggested getting a presentation from Compost for Life.

Ms. Ballesteros highlighted the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant that has \$140,000 allocated. The last time it was offered was in 2009 and the City is still looking for ideas for the grant including an energy efficiency revolving loan program, a rebate program, an energy audit program for residential/commercial properties and the installation of solar one municipal building as a pilot project.

Ms. Ballesteros also provided an update on Monument Island. The City would like to apply for a grant to include the design and permitting of riprap, vessel exclusion/swim zones, natural restoration to encourage benthic resource recruitment, improved boating behavior and safety and planting mangroves not included in initial plans. Ms. Ballesteros also highlighted oyster lines and inquired if the Committee has any ideas for a small, community based, project. Ms. Algarra mentioned she will reach out to Tico and reconvene with the Committee.

4. Next Meeting (5 mins)

- a. March 30, 2023
- b. Agenda Planning