

MIAMIBEACH

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

Sustainability Committee

Margarita Kruff, Chair – Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

Michael DeFilippi, Vice-Chair – Appointed by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

Isaiah Mosley – Appointed by Vice Mayor Steven Meiner

No Appointment – Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Johann Moore – Appointed by Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Maria Algarra, Member – Appointed by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez

No Appointment – Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson

DATE: March 30, 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: Michael DeFilippi, Johann Moore, Isaiah Mosley

City Staff: Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager; Alyssia Berthoumieux, Senior Sustainability Coordinator; Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist; Ander Alvarez, Urban Forester; Colette Satchell, Senior Project Manager

Members of the public were also in attendance.

MINUTES

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. Review of the February 23, 2023 Minutes – There was no quorum so item was deferred.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. New Business

- i. **Temporary Childcare Facility** – Colette Satchell, Senior Project Manager, presented on the temporary relocation of the childcare facility. Ms. Satchell shared a site plan with the committee and gave an overview of the structures proposed within the Master Plan for Flamingo Park. Ms. Satchell explained that the location was selected because it didn't require the removal of any trees and was the least impactful site to the existing tree canopy. Johann Moore, member, reminded the Committee that FPNA called for there to be no interruption in the childcare service.
- ii. **Compost for Life** – Francisco Torres, Founder of Compost for Life, presented an overview of what the organization does and the impact it has had in the region. Mr. Torres highlighted that Compost for Life services more than 300 families and 40 businesses in Miami-Dade and Broward County. Mr. Moore inquired if Compost for Life's efforts can be scaled and how much it would cost. Mr. Torres mentioned that the program can be scaled and that there is a large demand for more land. Michael DeFilippi, member, inquired about how much land would be needed to service South Beach. Mr. Torres provided an estimate of 5 acres. Mr. Torres went on to highlight the issues with zoning, planning, and finding available land in Miami Beach, but that Compost for Life is working with the County to find suitable land for different perspectives. Mr. Torres and the Committee continued to discuss the expansion of Compost for Life programming.

b. Old Business

- i. **Parkview** – Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager, presented on Parkview which was heard at Monday’s Commission meeting and was heard again during the Finance and Economic Resilience Committee on Friday, April 31. A more comprehensive update will be given in the next Committee meeting once there is more feedback from the Commission. Ms. Ballesteros highlighted that on Monday, Dr. Soto Gabrielle presented during the Commission and how Amy Knowles, Chief Resilience Officer, and Lindsey Precht, Environment & Sustainability Assistant Director oversee City efforts pertaining to Parkview. Mr. Moore inquired about the type of bacteria present in the water. Alyssia Berthoumieux, Senior Sustainability Coordinator, provided the Committee with a link to the website for updates on Parkview.

c. Updates

- i. **G.O. Bond Oversight Committee** – Michael DeFillippi, Vice-chair, presented on the GO Bond Oversight Committee, but there were no updates to the Committee.
- ii. **Urban Forestry** – Ander Alvarez, Urban Forester, presented on suspended pavement systems and gave an overview of the in-ground structures. Suspended pavement systems help to transfer the weight of the pavement above the ground. Mr. Alvarez highlighted that the benefits of suspended pavements include deeper and larger roots, larger and healthier trees, and less cracking in the sidewalks. Mr. Alvarez also provided updates on the Urban Forestry Division including the tree giveaway planned as a part of Turtle Fest, on April 29. Mr. Alvarez highlighted that the next reforestation project will be at Biscayne Point, and it will include various fallen and failed trees. Further, Mr. Alvarez mentioned that the next reforestation project will be at the Beach Walk in South Beach. Mr. Alvarez advised that the City will be doing one of its the largest ever conducted tree inventories from 41 Street to 5 Street. Lastly, Mr. Alvarez briefly pointed out the Arbor Day Tree Proclamation and tree planting on Thursday, April 27. Mr. Moore inquired if the suspended pavement systems would allow trees to tap into the aquifer and if the trees would be affected by saltwater intrusion. Mr. Alvarez responded that trees might be able to, but that if the water is rising, they will likely be affected regardless. Mr. Moore went on to ask about injection wells and the Committee briefly discussed the topic.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

On Saturday, April 29, the City of Miami Beach will be hosting the Miami Beach Turtle Fest to educate the public about protecting sea turtles.

4. Next Meeting

- a. April 27, 2023