

MIAMIBEACH

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

Sustainability Committee

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

DATE: April 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for April 27, 2023, at 2:00 pm. The meeting was held through Zoom.

Attendees were as follows: Margarita Kruyff, Michael DeFilippi, Johann Moore, Maria Algarra, Sophie Ringel

City Staff: Lindsey Precht, Environment and Sustainability Assistant Director; Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager; Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist; Carlos Naumann, Contracts Compliance Administrator

Members of the public were also in attendance.

MINUTES

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **Review of the February 23, 2023, Minutes – MOTION:** Motion to approve the February 23, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion made by Johann Moore, seconded by Michael DeFilippi. Motion passed 5 – 0.
- b. **Review of the March 30, 2023, Minutes – MOTION:** Motion to approve the March 30, 2023, meeting minutes with the amendment of removing the last sentence under the temporary childcare facility as it was misinterpreted, and no such motion was made by the committee. Motion made by Michel DeFilippi, seconded by Johann Moore. Motion passed 5 – 0.

2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

- a. **New Business**
 - i. **Butterfly Gardens** – Carlos Naumann, Contracts Compliance Administrator from the Parks & Recreation Department, presented on the butterfly gardens that have been planted in the city. Mr. Moore asked if it would be feasible to plant butterfly gardens on medians. Mr. Naumann mentioned that he thinks it could be feasible but that the Greenspace Management Division would need to be involved in the discussion as his purview is only within city parks. Mr. Naumann also mentioned that there are an estimated 45 parks spread throughout Miami Beach and that butterfly gardens can

be strategically placed throughout the city, providing wide coverage, starting with the parks. The committee continued to discuss butterfly gardens around the city.

- ii. **Environment & Sustainability Department Education and Community Outreach Programs** - Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist, provided an overview of the different outreach practices used by the City of Miami Beach and Environment & Sustainability Department to engage and educate the public. Mr. Martinez shared details on the We <3 Biscayne Bay Campaign, organic and paid social media impressions, constant contact newsletters, MB Magazine articles, Out-of-Home collateral used by the city, mailers and websites. Mr. Martinez also described past events in which the Environment & Sustainability Department provided community education. Mr. Martinez also highlighted the city efforts to educate about flooding through FEMA's Program for Public Information. Michael DeFilippi, Vice Chair, inquired if the committee had any thoughts on the paper waste generated by the MB Magazine. Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager, shared that based on the community satisfaction survey, residents say that their main source of information is the magazine. Ms. Ballesteros also highlighted that mailers are sent out to ensure the communication is received across different channels because not everyone will check digital communication methods. Maria Algarra, member, inquired if there is a way for a resident to unsubscribe if they would prefer a digital version. Mr. DeFilippi asked about the recycled content of the MB Magazine. Staff said that they will connect with the Communications Department for more details.

b. Old Business

- i. **Parkview** - Lindsey Precht, Environment & Sustainability Assistant Director, presented on the Parkview updates given during the March 27 Commission meeting. Ms. Precht highlighted findings by Dr. Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami Engineer, including the catchment area size, and recommendations including homeless outreach, lining old sewer pipes and improving education on proper disposal of dog waste. Ms. Precht highlighted how the city quickly jumped into action as the study was being conducted and started implementing recommendations including improvements to garbage cans, increased code compliance walkthroughs, public noticed where laterals were deficient, pipe lining in areas of improvement, air release valve replacements, pump station upgrades, rehabs and cleanings and dye tests. At the April 21 Finance and Economic Resilience Committee, the Environment & Sustainability Department presented a recommendation to accelerate funding into the current fiscal year rather than waiting until October 1, the start of the new fiscal year. Mr. DeFilippi inquired if there are opportunities for the city to fund reviews of systems on private properties. Ms. Precht mentioned that she would need to ask the Public Works Department for more information. Sophie Ringel, member, asked about the bacteria levels in the water prior to the pump station line break. Ms. Precht highlighted April 2019 data which exceeded state standards for enterococci by the hundreds to the thousands, which the city continues to observe. Mr. Moore inquired if there is ongoing fresh contamination. Ms. Precht clarified that it is likely a mix of new bacteria and

old bacteria surviving through added nutrients. The committee continued to discuss Parkview.

c. Updates

- i. **G.O. Bond Oversight Committee** - Mr. DeFilippi presented on the GO Bond Oversight Committee. He stated that no topics pertaining to the committee were presented beyond the temporary relocation of the childcare facility.

3. Public Comment and Announcements

Mr. Moore asked the committee to consider a motion taking a position on the placement of temporary structures on green spaces rather than grey infrastructure and to urge the city Mayor and Commission to define temporary as under 12 months. Committee members expressed a desire for further discussion before voting on a motion and asked to revisit the discussion on temporary structures at a future meeting.

Committee members discussed plans to expand compost availability in the Flamingo Park neighborhood. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee urges the Mayor and City Commission to work to identify a location where Compost for Life could place a drop-off bin in South Beach for resident compost. Motion made by Maria Algarra, seconded by Sophie Ringel. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Ms. Algarra inquired about updates on the Balloon Ordinance. Ms. Ballesteros said that there were no updates on the item.

4. Next Meeting

- a. May 25, 2023