

## **Sustainability Committee**

Vacant – Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

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

Maria Algarra– Appointed by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez

Johann Moore – Appointed by Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Sophie Ringel – Appointed by Vice Mayor Ricky Arriola

Isaiah Mosley – Appointed by Commissioner Steven Meiner

Katie Luddy – Appointed by Commissioner David Richardson

Juanita Ballesteros, City Liaison

**DATE:** November 16, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for November 16, 2023, at 1:00 pm. The meeting was held through Zoom.

**Attendees were as follows:** Michael DeFilippi, Maria Algarra, Johann Moore, Isaiah Mosley, Katie Luddy

**City Staff:** Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager; Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sr. Sustainability Coordinator; Rolando Martinez, Sustainability Specialist

Members of the public were also in attendance.

### **1. Committee Responsibilities**

- a. Review of Minutes – MOTION** to approve October 26, 2023, minutes. Motion by Johann Moore, seconded by Isaiah Mosely. Motion passed 4 – 0
- b.** The Committee discussed their availability for the 2024 Committee meetings. The Committee agreed that 3:00 to 5:00 pm would work best on the last Thursday of the month.

### **2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan**

#### **a. New Business**

- i. Recycling by City of Miami Beach Sanitation Division** – Due to a storm recovery effort, the Sanitation Division was unable to present. They will be invited to present at the next meeting.
- ii. NYC Greenhouse Gas Emissions Legislation** – Johann presented on the NYC Greenhouse Gas Emissions Legislation sharing his draft for an emissions reporting, standards and mitigation incentives legislation tailored to Miami Beach. The point of this legislation is to establish reporting periods and adapt the New York proposal into a document elaborating on why landlords, homeowner associations and real estate corporations should reduce emissions produced by buildings. The document would also outline fines incurred by

surpassing greenhouse gas limits. Katie Luddy, member, questioned if there is a reporting requirement to be conducted by the City or if a 3rd party company would be hired by the City. The Committee continued to discuss hurdles with staffing demand to track the emissions reductions under the legislation and discussed the benefits of having a limited rollout. The Committee continued to review Mr. Moore's draft of the legislation. Alyssia Berthoumieux highlighted that there was a preemption adopted at the state level, prohibiting a municipality from restricting or prohibiting appliances that use fuels such as natural gas. Mr. Moore responded by saying that the legislation would not prohibit, but rather encourage, the replacement of electric sources for sustainable alternatives. Juanita Ballesteros, Sustainability and Resilience Manager, mentioned to the Committee that it may be most helpful to draft goals and outcomes, allowing elected officials and City staff to work through the details and requirements in the legislative process. Ms. Ballesteros also recommended that the Committee consider other programs local municipalities have been able to implement regarding benchmarking, such as the BE305 program at the County level, and offered to invite them to present a more local perspective. The Committee will continue to discuss the legislation in the December meeting.

- iii. **City Charter Review** - Ms. Berthoumieux presented the City Charter to the Committee. Mr. Moore urged that the Committee support an amendment to item 20 in the City Charter a Motion that would morally commit the City to provide financial support for HOAs of contributing buildings in resilience and harmonization needs. The Committee opted to abstain from weighing in on the City Charter at this time. City Staff will request more information on the timeline to provide recommendation, so the Committee knows when the last day for recommendations is.

- iv. **G.O. Bond Oversight Committee** – No updates

### 3. Public Comment and Announcements

- a. Mr. Moore requested a presentation on harmonization from the perspective of historic preservation. Ms. Ballesteros encouraged to the Committee to review the Buoyant Cities Historic District Resiliency & Adaptation Guidelines to further familiarize themselves with adaptation strategies for historic properties. Ms. Ballesteros continued to discuss challenges with harmonization and concluded that City staff can reach out to the Planning Department to further discuss.
- b. Mr. Moore discussed the topic of temporary structures with the Committee. **MOTION:** The Sustainability Committee encourages the City Mayor and Commission to define "temporary" for structures as structures to be installed for less than one year and instituting a default preference to pavement over siting such structures on greenspace. The motion was made by Johann Moore and seconded by Katie Luddy. The motion passed 4– 0. Michael DeFilippi abstained.

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- c. Maria Algarra, member, is interested in continuing to pursue a balloon ban and proposed further discussing during the next Committee meeting.