

TO: Commissioner Jerry Libbin, Chair

Members of the Sustainability Committee

Maui Goodbeer – Appointed by Commissioner Jerry Libbin
Lanette Sobel – Appointed by Commissioner Jorge Exposito
Debra Leibowitz – Appointed by Commissioner Deede Weithorn
Liliam Furst – Appointed by Commissioner Jonah Wolfson
Luiz Rodrigues – Appointed by Commissioner Ed Tobin
Gabriole Van Bryce – Appointed by Commissioner Michael Gongora
Mitch Novick – Appointed by Mayor Matti Herrera Bower

DATE: February 28, 2012

SUBJECT: **MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING OF February 28, 2012.**

The meeting of the Sustainability Committee was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

The attendees were as follows: Committee members: Committee Chair Commissioner Jerry Libbin, Gabriole Van Bryce, Liliam Furst, Lanette Sobel, Luiz Rodrigues, Debra Leibowitz, Maui Goodbeer and Mitch Novick

City Staff: Duncan Ballantyne, Assistant City Manager, Fred Beckmann, Public Works Director, Raul Aguila, Chief Deputy City Attorney and Debora Turner, First Assistant City Attorney.

1. **Minutes review.** January's minutes to be reviewed in March.
2. **Updates.**
 - a. **Green Building Sub-Committee:** Gabriole Van Bryce, Lanette Sobel, and Mitch Novick agreed to serve on sub-committee.
ACTION: Set a date for sub-committee to review Green Building Ordinance
 - b. **Earth Day:** Commissioner Libbin suggested holding an Adopt-A-Beach volunteer recognition ceremony with a formal press conference to award each organization a plaque, and announce the beach ashtray program, followed by a beach cleanup.
MOTION: Hold an Earth Day press conference on April 21, 2012, recognize the 35 Adopt-A-Beach participant's community service with a plaque, announce the new ashtray program, and hold a short beach cleanup. Moved by Gabriole Van Bryce. Seconded by Luiz Rodrigues. Passed unanimously.
 - c. **Wyland Project / Water Conservation Challenge:**
 - i. Miami Beach Public School's 4th grade students will paint two 10'x45' murals at 420 Lincoln Road on May 3-4, 2012 to raise money for arts, culture, and education. One-third (1/3) of the proceeds will go to each of the following: the Cultural Arts Council, the Wyland Water Conservation

Fund, and the Chamber of Commerce's Scholarship Fund for Miami Beach High School students.

- ii. Citywide "Community Unity" water conservation project will be developed for the month of April for the Mayor's Water Conservation Challenge, where the winning city's Mayor will win a Toyota Prius. Ideas for the challenge include stationing a rain barrel at each elementary school, where the art class will stencil Wyland figures on the barrels. The students will help retrofit the rain barrels on the roof, and at the end of the month, the students will measure the rain water collected before using it to water the school's garden. Other ideas for objective water conservation measurements include data from Ameresco, Hotel Association toilet exchange program, and counting old showerheads from showerhead exchange program. FIU Design School will be asked to create a sculpture out of showerheads with elementary students on May 3-4th event.

ACTION: Tracy Gallentine will provide Commissioner Libbin with Ameresco's data about how much water the City is conserving with watery conservation retrofits. Gabriole Van Bryce will report Hotel Association's toilet exchange program savings back to Commissioner Libbin.

3. **Recycling Ordinance:** Commissioner Libbin requested line item clarification for comingling and violation criteria. Raul Aguila advised that enforcement of the ordinance will come from Code Compliance's internal policy and procedures. Committee members requested to review Code's enforcement procedures before the ordinance is passed. Luiz Rodrigues suggested amending the ordinance to include a minimum recycling bin size, to which the Commissioner agreed could be discussed at a later time.

a. Miami-Dade County comments:

- i. Recycling is enforced only by requiring a letter written from the hauler that the establishment has a recycling program;
- ii. County made a policy decision not to enforce the separation requirement of their Recycling Ordinance because they currently do not have the personnel to do so;
- iii. County's position is education, and requires that establishments have a recycling program. Once a majority of establishments have a program, the County will work towards improving its enforcement.

MOTION: The Committee recommends the proposed ordinance go to Finance and Citywide Projects Committee in April. Moved by Debra Leibowitz. Seconded by Luiz Rodrigues. Motion passed (5:2). Two opposed - Liliam Furst and Maui Goodbeer.

ACTION: Betsy Wheaton to send Finance Committee and Commission meeting dates to committee members.

ACTION: Duncan Ballantyne will relay message to Code/Hilda Fernandez that Sustainability Committee will need to see the internal education and policy

procedures for enforcing the Recycling Ordinance.

4. New Business

- a. **September Meeting:** Sustainability Committee meeting was changed to Thursday, September 27th, to accommodate Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.
- b. **To be discussed at March meeting**
 - Telephone Book Opt-Out Program
 - Airplane Noise
 - MDC Green Business Program
- c. **Recycling on the beach:** The Committee supports establishing recycling on the beach. Luiz Rodrigues provided an overview of his discussion with Miami-Dade county noted discussion with County about pickup if City implemented recycling on the beach. Every other receptacle would be a recycling bin. County would use same truck, making two passes, picking up trash on the way down the beach, and recyclables on the way back. More information is needed on possible costs of dedicating a specific dumpster to recycling, and who would be responsible for picking up the dumpster. Brad Wells suggested implementing a pilot program on one section of the beach to gauge community response and feasibility.
ACTION: Fred Beckman to discuss possible partnership with CocaCola, who has already shown interest in implementing beach recycling program. CocaCola proposal to be brought back to Sustainability Committee at a future meeting.
- d. **Sustainability Plan Baseline Data:** Liliam Furst would like to see the baseline data in Sustainability Plan begin to be updated.
ACTION: Each committee member is to research specific and measurable goals for one City Sustainability initiative by next meeting. (Notes: What are other municipalities using as baseline/measurable goals for similar initiatives?)
- e. **Environmental Webpage Link:** Commission Libbin requested Environmental link be posted to City website main page for easy access to Sustainability issues.
ACTION: Fred Beckman will coordinate adding link to webpage.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

The proceedings of this meeting have been recorded. Please contact Patricia Bocio at 305.673.7080 or pbocio@miamibeachfl.gov for more information.

FHB/RWS/ESW

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