



MIAMI BEACH

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

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera-Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: June 5, 2013

SUBJECT: **REPORT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HELD ON APRIL MONDAY 29, 2013.**

A meeting of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee was held on Monday, April 29, 2013 at 3:00 pm, and was held in the City Manager's Large Conference Room, 4th Floor. **Commissioners in attendance:** Commissioners Ed Tobin, Jerry Libbin, Michael Gongora and Jorge Exposito Members from the Administration and the public were also in attendance. Please see the attached sign-in sheet.

THE MEETING OPENED AT 3:08 PM.

1. Discussion And Update On The Citywide Dunes Maintenance Plan. (4:19PM)

Elizabeth Wheaton presented the item.

Commissioner Tobin requested a timeframe as to when the item will be presented to the Commission.

Staff advised that the item will be presented at the July Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Tobin made the motion to get the contractors' maintenance timetable and join efforts with the Parks Department. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Exposito.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) directed Administration to get the contractor's maintenance timetable and return the item to Committee in two (2) months.

2. Discussion Regarding The Log Cabin Property And The Possibility Of A Collaborative Community Center. (4:28PM)

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) deferred the item.

3. Referral To The Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee A Discussion Regarding The City Of Miami Beach Centennial, Which Will Occur On March 26, 2015. (3:49PM)

Max Sklar, Tourism and Cultural Development Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Libbin suggested partnering with an organization to have a year-long celebration for the City's Centennial.

Commissioner Exposito suggested that the Administration seek something similar to Arts Gala, get ideas from the VCA in terms of parameters of expectations on what we are going to do,

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get ideas from the VCA in terms of parameters of expectations on what we are going to do, determine the length of the celebration, and then seek the necessary funding and assistance.

Jimmy L. Morales suggested reaching out to the Historical Society, as they were very involved when the City of Miami celebrated its centennial anniversary.

Commissioner Libbin made the motion to direct the Administration to take the lead and return next month with an outline or concept of what might be done. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Exposito.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

4. Discussion Regarding A Long Term Solution For The Ongoing Rodent Issue On 41st Street. (3:40PM)

Commissioner Gongora presented the item, indicating that the rodent issue is not limited to 41st Street, but is a Citywide issue, and wanted to see what can be done to make sure that the rodent issue doesn't get worse.

Commissioner Tobin made the motion for the Administration to prepare an LTC indicating how the City is handling the Citywide rodent issue.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

5. Discussion Regarding Beach Erosion And Sand Shifting. (4:36PM)

Commissioner Tobin presented the item.

Commissioner Libbin spoke requesting the Administration look at the area behind the Blue and Green Diamond buildings on Collins Avenue.

Elizabeth Wheaton provided background on the item.

Mayor Mattie Bower spoke.

Commissioner Tobin made the motion to have an organizational chart and have an internal person to coordinate the efforts and address the issue behind the Green and Blue Diamond buildings.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

6. Discussion Regarding Amending Procedures For Appeals To The Special Master For Certain Frequent Code Enforcement Violations. (4:49PM)

Debora Turner presented the item, stating the recommendations will ensure uniformity among some of the more recurring City Code violations by providing a specific form that people can use, which includes basic information.

Commissioner Exposito made to motion to move forward with the recommendation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Tobin.

7. Discussion Regarding The Current Policy Against Bullying And Harassment In Miami-Dade Public Schools And Begin Planning For A Citywide Youth Anti Bullying Outreach Program. (3:31PM)

Commissioner Gongora presented the item, and suggested a program to be broadcast at the Soundscape once screened by staff.

Julio Magrisso spoke regarding City's efforts and commitment to anti bullying at the schools and City programs.

Deborah Montilla from Miami-Dade Public Schools spoke.

Ellen Vargas spoke.

Commissioner Libbin made the motion to direct the Administration to reach out to Nautilus Middle School and Fienberg Fisher K-8 Center to implement the program and sign the Anti-Defamation League's (DDL) resolution of respect; target our ADL anti-bias activity during the month of October, which is National Bullying Prevention Month; and seek the endorsement of a sports personality that kids will want to see. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Exposito.

ACTION: The committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

8. Discussion Regarding Criminal Background Checks For Employees Of City Contractors And Spot Check Updates For Those Background Checks. (4:51PM)

Commissioner Tobin presented the item.

Kathie G. Brooks, Assistant City Manager gave an overview of the item.

Commissioner Tobin discussed the item and felt strong about the criminal aspect of construction workers.

Jimmy L. Morales suggested adopting the same system as Miami-Dade County.

Cristina Deval stated that Procurement Department currently has some language on file when children are involved.

Jimmy L. Morales suggested that the Administration return the item to the Committee in July with a proposal.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) accepted the suggestion by City Manager Jimmy L. Morales to bring the item back in two (2) months.

9. Discussion Regarding Placing An Informal Plaque At The Base Of The Sculpture Of Jackie Gleason. (4:57PM)

Max Sklar presented the item, stating that there is no plaque at the base of the sculpture, and after research, no information could be found on the plaque. After further review, it was determined a rehabilitation of the sculpture is required, and a new plaque will be installed.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the item forward with the necessary steps.

10. Discussion Regarding The City Of Miami Beach Fire Prevention Fines And Citations Related To Nightclubs And Other Assemblies. (3:08PM)

Javier Otero, Fire Department Chief, presented the item indicating that the current fees have not been increased since 1997. The current fines do not lead to compliance and the majority of the clubs that have violations are repeat offenders.

Sonia Machen presented the current fine schedule which she feels does not give enough incentive to some club owners to comply.

Commissioner Tobin asked if the Administration has a recommendation on this item.

Sonia Machen presented the Administration's recommendation (attached on page #113) (NCAC agenda).

Commissioner Libbin stated that he feels that the issue deals more with enforcement, rather than increasing the fines, and that the effort should concentrate more on enforcement.

Harold Rosen spoke
Stephen Pulisar spoke

Commissioner Tobin spoke and thanked the Nightlife Task Force for its efforts on this issue.

Commissioner Exposito asked what can be done to address the side walk congestion in areas such as night clubs. (long lines of patrons waiting to enter clubs).

Robert Santos-Alborna, Code Compliance Director, spoke stating that the Code Compliance Division has been working with the Police Department to address this issue.

Commissioner Libbin made the motion to take Fire Department's recommendation of increasing the fine schedule. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Tobin.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the recommendation by the Fire Department.

11. Discussion Regarding Possible Amendments To Chapter 70 Article III (Section 70-122-129), "Graffiti Ordinance." (3:40PM)

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) deferred the item.

12. Discussion Regarding Considering Hosting A Biannual Art Camp Held In Miami Beach In Cooperation With UNESCO. (3:41PM)

Commissioner Libbin presented the item, and highlighted the amazing opportunities this biannual event can bring to our City.

Max Sklar spoke regarding cost (Host City).

Commissioner Libbin discussed funding for this event stating that there are several ways to be fund it. Similar to Art Basel which has a major sponsor, we believe we can find the resources to cover the event.

Commissioner Exposito suggested that the Cultural Arts Council establish criteria for cost, find other sponsorships they could apply for and return to the Committee.

Commissioner Libbin made the motion to take it to the Cultural Arts Council. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Exposito.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

13. Discussion Regarding Unexpected Board Vacancies Requiring Commission Vote. (3:59PM)

Commissioner Deede Weithorn presented the item.

Ralph Granado gave the background on the item.

Mayor Bower suggested that a Public Notice should be published at the beginning of the year and every time there is an open seat.

Commissioner Exposito made a motion for the City Attorney to draft proposed legislation for unscheduled vacancies, and notification when there is a vacancy with a Public Notice, for all at-large boards with notification with a minimum of 30 days prior to be considered. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Libbin.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

14. Discussion Regarding Providing Reserved Parking For Monthly Permit Holders On Lower Floors In Our Garages To Alleviate Inconvenience Experienced By Permit Holders During Major Events Such As The Boat Show. (4:58PM)

Commissioner Libbin presented the item and expressed his concerns regarding lack of parking for regular users.

Commissioner Libbin made the motion to give priority to regular users at the 42nd Street parking garage. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Exposito.

ACTION: The committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion

Mayor Matti Herrera-Bower wanted to know why the P-lot next to City Hall couldn't be used to allow people that come to work, park for free or a reduced fee.

Saul Francis, Parking Department Director stated that the matter will be looked into and see what can be done.

15. Discussion Regarding The Continuation Of The Adopt A Beach Pilot Program. (4:00PM)

Commissioner Libbin presented the item, and suggested that Environmental Coalition of Miami and the Beaches (ECOMB) administer the program instead of the City.

Luiz Rodriguez, Executive Director of ECOMB spoke.
Deborah Ruggeiro Spoke.

Commissioner Tobin spoke regarding the Adopt the Beach program, emphasizing that the goal it is to bring awareness to the health of the beach and bring awareness to cleanliness of the beach.

Commissioner Exposito made a motion to have ECOMB meet with the board and bring back criteria and plan of action and for ECOMB to work with the City Attorney to ensure all other organizations are under the liability insurance that the City carries. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Tobin.

ACTION: The Committee (Commissioner Tobin, Exposito and Libbin present) unanimously moved the motion.

16. Discussion Regarding Miami Beach Mass Transit Loop And Transit Enhancements For North Beach. (5:10PM)

Kathie G. Brooks presented the item.

Commissioner Exposito spoke, in reference to the Corradino Group study. Back in 2008-2009 a study was done utilizing specifically the three (3) loops system, North, South and A1A Alton, and suggested that administration should look into that study to see if it is still viable, and what we can utilize to help, instead of spending more money. He said we should explore what could be implemented from that study and return the next meeting and advise the Committee as to options.

Deborah Ruggeiro spoke.

Commissioner Exposito made a motion to take a look at all studies done regarding this subject. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Tobin.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:32 PM.


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