



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: April 23, 2014

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2014

A meeting of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee was held on Friday, February 28, 2014 3:00 pm, and was held in the Commission Chamber, 3rd Floor. Commissioners in attendance: Commissioners Micky Steinberg, Deede Weithorn, Joy Malakoff, and Ed Tobin. Members from the Administration and the public were also in attendance. Please see the attached sign-in sheet.

THE MEETING OPENED AT 3:30pm

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion Regarding Bringing The Junior Orange Bowl Tennis Tournament To Miami Beach. 3:30pm

Max Sklar, Tourism, Culture, and Economic Development Director presented the item.

The Orange Bowl Tennis Championship began at Flamingo Tennis Center, Miami Beach. This facility, hosted the tournament until 1998, when it was moved to Crandon Park in Key Biscayne, Florida. The Orange Bowl was started by Eddie Herr, who wanted to bring some winter competition to South Beach for his tennis playing daughter. The tournament grew in prestige and importance. In 1983, a professional stadium was built in Flamingo Park, the Abel Holtz stadium, which seated 9,000 fans. The standards of the Orange Bowl could not be maintained and the tournament was moved in 1999 to the Tennis Center at Crandon Park in Key Biscayne, home of the Sony Ericsson Open. Several years ago the Tournament was moved to the City of Plantation. As explained to the City by the USTA, the City of Plantation provides in-kind police services/security, transportation, marketing and advertising support for the event.

The USTA has previously expressed concerns that Flamingo Park does not have enough on-site parking or clay courts to meet their full need. As previously stated they would have to use both of the City's tennis facilities (Flamingo and North Shore), which is not ideal for them. It is likely that hotel room rates would need to be subsidized to meet the needs of the UST A. Hotel room subsidizes is not a common practice for events, but there are examples of room rebates that may be applied on the back-end to offset general costs. Arrangements would also need to be made between the City and USTA to address other accommodations such as bleachers and concessions, but these logistical requirements are relatively easy to address if negotiations progress.

We are committed to providing excellent public service and safety to all who live, work, and play in our vibrant, tropical, historic community

To request this material in accessible format, sign language interpreters, information on access for persons with disabilities, or review any document or participate in any city-sponsored proceeding, please contact 305-604-2489 (voice) or 305-873-7218 (TTY). To initiate your request, TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Agenda Item C6A
Date 4-23-14

The Neighborhoods and Community Affairs Committee discussed this item at their July 29, 2013 meeting and directed the Administration to send a formal letter to the USTA expressing the City's interest in having the tournament return to Miami Beach. The City Manager sent a letter to Scott Schultz, Managing Director of the USTA, which was never responded to by the USTA.

Additionally, staff sent several emails to Lewis Brewer, Director of Junior Competition, and also did not receive any response. Staff can certainly continue to pursue the tournament, but there does not seem to be interest from the USTA at this time.

Commissioner Tobin- Would like to pass the gavel and make a motion to send an email to them from time to time and inform them that there is a new Commission that would like to work with them.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that there needs to be a second to support Commissioner Tobin's motion and that she would not be seconding it because it has received more than enough attention.

Commissioner Steinberg- Read from the memo provided in the agenda and stated that the USTA does not seem interested in moving the Junior Orange Bowl Tennis Tournament at this time.

No action to be taken.

2. Discussion Regarding City's Design for New Median on South Pointe Drive. 3:07pm

Jay Fink, Assistant Public Works Director presented the item.

Discussions regarding design for a new median on South Pointe Drive from Washington Avenue to Collins Avenue have been ongoing concerning the width, landscape and location of the median. Currently, a water main exists in the center of the median that would prohibit the installation of large trees or palms. An alternative to relocate the water main was evaluated and determined to be cost prohibitive. The action of the City Commission in the December 11, 2013 Commission meeting was to eliminate the dedicated bike lanes and widen the median by four feet to allow coconut palms to be planted in the median with the water main to remain in its present location.

Pursuant to the Resolution approved by the City Commission, the modification to the Atlantic Greenway Network (AGN) to incorporate a sharrow on the south side of South Pointe Drive as a result of the median expansion will be done as part of the City's ongoing AGN Master Plan Update effort (Phase 2). The concern expressed by the City Commission that vehicles slow down for bicyclists will be addressed through signage as part of the median project. The Transportation Division will review the modified median design plans to ensure a safe lane shift to the east and west of the median. During the design phase the proper transition requirement and landscaping details will be developed with the cost estimate for construction.

Commissioner Tobin- Stated that these are not going to be boulevard shade trees, but instead they are going to be palm trees. Also stated that his preference is to plant more boulevard shade trees instead of palm trees.

Ronald Starkman, representative from SOFNA (South of Fifth Neighborhood Association) spoke.

Commissioner Malakoff- Asked if there have been any issues with the current palm trees and their coconuts falling and causing any damage.

Ronald Starkman, representative from SOFNA spoke.

Commissioner Weithorn- Agreed with Commissioner Malakoff that that is a good question. Asked Parks and Recreation to look into that inquiry and provide an answer.

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that coconuts falling could be a problem. However, the City has a contractor that removes the fallen coconuts. It is \$50.00 per service and there is a minimum requirement of two services per year, it is factored in \$100.00 minimum service charge per year for every coconut tree.

Ronald Starkman, representative from SOFNA spoke.

MOTION: by Commissioner Weithorn to move this item to the City Commission for final approval.

Second by Commissioner Steinberg.

3. Discussion Regarding The Modification Of South Beach Local Circulator Service To Belle Isle And Improvement Of On-Time Performance On The Bi-Directional Route. 3:14pm

Eric Carpenter, Public Works Director presented the item.

The South Beach Local (SBL) currently serves Belle Isle via an existing stop on the north side of Island Avenue North (Attachment A). The Belle Isle stop is among the stops with the lowest ridership figures along the SBL route, yet it has very high frequency of service. Since the Belle Isle stop is not part of the bi-directional portion of the SBL route, every SBL bus serves the Belle Isle stop. As a result, a total of 123 SBL buses travel to and from Belle Isle on a daily basis from 7:40AM to 11:50PM. On average, fewer than 50 passengers each day use the South Beach Local Belle Isle Extension. Additionally, there have been numerous concerns regarding the current on-time performance of the SBL along the core/bi-directional portion of the route which can be contributed, in part, to the time required for each SBL bus to travel to and from Belle Isle on every trip (approximately eight (8) minutes).

It is important to note that, concurrently, City staff has been working with Miami Dade Transit (MDT) to expedite the launch of the MDT Tracker (Next Bus) mobile app service for the SBL by the end of April 2014. MDT Tracker is the County's proprietary free mobile app available for use on iPhones and Android phones that provides users with accurate, comprehensive, and real-time transit information on selected routes on the County's transit system. Currently, the Next Bus mobile app service is only available for Metrorail service and a new enhanced bus service that operates along Kendall Drive known as the Kendall Cruiser/Route 288. Once the Next Bus mobile app service is available on the SBL, users will have access to accurate, real-time information on this popular circulator service. The mobile app will allow users to see the estimated arrival time of the next SBL bus, store their favorite SBL bus stops as favorites, see the location of the SBL bus on a map and visually track it as it approaches their bus stop. The quick and convenient accessibility of real-time and accurate transit information has proven to increase ridership on transit systems as well as improve the experience of transit riders as a result of better transit service reliability.

Pursuant to the Transportation and Parking Committee's (TPC) recommendation, the City's Transportation Division has been working with MDT to jointly develop an appropriate service plan for Belle Isle and improve on-time performance along the core route. As a result, three (3) service plan options have been developed (Attachment B) consisting of the following service to Belle Isle:

1. Every other trip serves Belle Isle until 11 PM with headways ranging from 26 minutes during peak to 40 minutes during off-peak. Total number of trips per day- 62.
2. Every third trip serves Belle Isle until 11 PM with consistent headways of approximately 40 minutes throughout the day. Total number of trips per day- 50.
3. Every third trip serves Belle Isle until 6PM with consistent headways of approximately 40 minutes (until 6PM). Total number of trips per day- 32.

An evaluation of the monthly ridership by time of day at the Belle Isle stop reflects that boardings are

spread throughout the day, with no real discernible pattern; however, most trips occur before 6PM. Based on an evaluation of current level of service and ridership, MDT recommended option 3 above. MDT has stated that this type of change of service can be implemented independently and in advance of a service line-up change, which typically occurs twice a year- in June and November of each year. At the Transportation and Parking Committee's (TPC) meetings in the months of September, October, and November 4, 2013, MDT and City staff presented the three (3) Belle Isle service options as well as a status update on the schedule of implementation of the Next Bus mobile app service. After some discussion, the TPC recommended deferring any potential modifications to the current SBL service to Belle Isle until the Next Bus mobile app service is available on the SBL and riders have become accustomed to using it to plan their trip. The TPC agreed that through the use of the mobile app service, ridership at the Belle Isle stop can potentially increase and concluded that it would revisit the Belle Isle service at a future date.

According to MDT staff, since the SBL is considered a local municipal circulator, the required modems and ancillary equipment on the fleet of eleven (11) SBL were not scheduled for installation for at least another couple of years. However, the City and MDT have been working closely on this issue and MDT has agreed to advance the installation of the equipment to April 2014 provided that the City agreed to purchase the required equipment and replenish the County's inventory once the equipment arrives. As such, on December 11, 2013, the City Commission approved an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with Miami-Dade County for the purpose of implementing the MDT "Next Bus" mobile app service for the SBL and future North Beach Local. The City has issued a requisition for the purchase of the equipment.

The Administration is confident that making this technology available on the SBL by April 2014 will help to promote public transit and improve ridership and service reliability on the SBL. Further, once the modems are installed on the SBL buses, the availability of the mobile app service will allow the City and MDT to more effectively re-evaluate SBL service to Belle Isle.

Commissioner Steinberg- Asked if there was a way to install a device on the bus stop that will alert people of the wait time. Stated that there are many residents that do not own a smartphone.

Jose Gonzalez, Transportation Manager- Stated that Miami-Dade County Transit does make that technology available for their rail service, not their bus services.

Commissioner Tobin- Stated that there are some people that feel that services to Belle Isle should not be cut. Also stated that the buses used break down often, therefore adding to the wait time.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that it is difficult for her to compare the statistics provided to her with other bus stop statistics because they were not provided to her. Asked Mr. Gonzalez if he could address that question; however, if he cannot than making a decision on this item would be difficult without that information.

Kathie Brooks, Assistant City Manager- Stated that the recommendation that Administration is providing is to wait until we have the next bus app in place. At the next meeting, additional statistics can be provided.

Commissioner Weithorn- Agrees with the Administration's recommendation on waiting until there is better data provided to make a decision.

Barbara Cowen (resident) spoke.

Barbara Morris (resident) spoke.

No action to be taken.

4. Discussion Regarding The Review Of Existing Policy On Public Testimony At Public Meetings. 3:35pm

Debora Turner, Assistant City Attorney presented the item.

During the 2013 Florida Legislative Session, Senate Bill No. 50 passed which became effective October 1, 2013. The new law created Section 286.0114 of the Florida Statutes and requires that members of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard by a board or commission before it takes action on a proposition. While the City of Miami Beach provides many opportunities for the public to be heard at public meetings, this matter was referred by the City Commission at the October 16, 2013 City Commission meeting to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee for its review of the City's existing policies and procedures. The attached Ordinance was drafted by the City Attorney's Office to propose provisions to codify the City's policies with regard to public participation in the City Code.

MOTION: by Commissioner Tobin to pass the item and send it to the City Commission for final approval.

Seconded by Commissioner Weithorn.

5. Discussion Regarding Creating A Community Vegetable Garden Through Our Parks & Recreation Program For Miami Beach Elderly In Our Senior Centers; To Include Regular Transportation To The Garden. 3:39pm

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director presented the item.

John Rebar, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that this is a great concept. The City would be able to use the current bus contracts to move the seniors to and from the gardens. The option of going to the senior centers and creating elevated planters is an option to consider. There isn't enough space to accommodate vegetable gardens, so that is an issue that needs to be addressed. Staff is looking into making an enhancement request for next year's budget.

Commissioner Steinberg- Asked Commissioner Tobin what his vision for the vegetable gardens are.

Commissioner Tobin- Stated that he is flexible, the option that is most cost-effective would be best.

Commissioner Weithorn- Asked Mr. Rebar if the current gardens are full.

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director said that yes they are.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that Administration needs to look into adding more space. The gardens being full mean that there is demand that has not been met.

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director stated that the gardens are run by residents.

Commissioner Malakoff- Stated that this is an excellent idea; however, the planting beds need to be raised for the senior citizens.

MOTION: By Commissioner Weithorn direction to bring back a proposal to committee.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg.

6. Discussion Regarding Sightseeing And Tour Bus Industry Regulations. 4:12pm

Jose Gonzalez, Transportation Manager presented the item.

The item was discussed at the City Commission meeting of February 12, 2014. After some discussion, the Commission made a motion directing the Administration to prohibit buses from stopping on Ocean Drive until there is a regulation or policy in place. While the companies can continue to operate their buses along Ocean Drive, no loading or unloading of passengers will be permitted.

Sightseeing and tour bus services are a growing industry in the region, including Miami Beach. There are mainly two types of services currently in operation in the City, (1) Hop-on/Hop-offs (HH) have multiple passenger loading areas along an established route; and (2) Entertainment Tours have one loading area (Miami-Dade County bus stops) where passengers load/unload at the same location.

Hop-on/Hop-off (HH), also often known as Loop Tours, provide a quick and convenient way to get an overview of a city. These tours are frequently used by visitors on their first day or two in a new city as it provides an overview of the area, while a tour guide provides a history and interesting facts of the city as well. Typically, after seeing most of the major sites via the HH bus, tourists determine an itinerary for the rest of their stay, deciding which area of the city they want to visit again on their own. HH tours are also often used by visitors who only have a very short amount of time in an area as it enables them to cover a lot of ground in a short period of time and experience most of the major attractions of a city.

The services have been so well received by tourists that the companies have expanded their fleet of open-air double deck buses. These open-air double deck buses are themselves an attraction and commonly result in higher ridership once introduced into a market. The HH serviced currently operating in Miami Beach are similar to other city sightseeing tours in New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Paris, and London, to name a few. The services run daily, typically originating from a central station located in Downtown Miami and offering two (2) loops: the Beach Loop and City Loop. In order to start the tour service, the companies have entered into an agreement with Miami-Dade Transit to use bus stops throughout Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County for each stop of the tour. In addition to those stops, the City provided tour buses and sightseeing companies with a stop on Ocean Drive and at the Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater. Each stop on the tour is serviced on 60 minute intervals, allowing enough time for passengers to see points of interest or to patronize area businesses. While on the tour bus, participants also enjoy a multi-lingual, GPS triggered narration of the City. Additionally, the tour bus and sightseeing companies sell tours offered by the Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL), boat/cruise tours, Everglades tours, and tickets to area museums and attractions.

As tourism is vital to the economic well-being of the community, the City is constantly looking at opportunities to expand entertainment options for tourists and visitors. The Administration believes the issuance of a competitive bidding process such as a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a concession agreement to allow for one or more HH operator(s) to install kiosks at various locations in the City is worth discussing. An RFP would also allow the operator to sell tickets for other tours and tourist attractions. The City is also considering including, as a second level of service, a nighttime circulator linking the 5th street and Alton Road garage with the entertainment district. This service has long been discussed as an initiative that would activate the underutilized parking garage at 51 & Alton. Based on some preliminary research, staff believes this service has the ability to generate additional revenue for the City while providing a valuable service for tourists. If an RFP were issued, the Administration would ensure that the 5th & Alton Garage service is a requirement to be provided by the successful proposer. Notices would be issued to all known companies providing such services.

This option would allow market forces to dictate industry supply and demand. Should City Commission prefer this option, some amendments to the City Code would be necessary, including licensing categories; use of public rights-of-way for passenger loading; ticket sales, and various other administrative and operational details. The Administration researched sightseeing and tour bus regulations in other jurisdictions, including New York, Philadelphia, and Key West. Attachment 1 depicts a draft of potential regulations that could be further refined with input from the industry and Commission Committees and ultimately presented to the City Commission for approval in the coming months.

The Administration is seeking guidance from the NCAC regarding sightseeing and tour bus operations. The Transportation and Parking Committee (TPC) has requested that this issue be referred back to them after the NCAC has had an opportunity to review and discuss. On a parallel track, the Administration is coordinating an additional industry meeting to obtain further input on the proposed regulations and arrive at a consensus document before taking the item back to TPC and NCAC.

Commissioner Tobin- Ask Jose Gonzalez what the TPC said regarding the bus tour regulations.

Jose Gonzalez, Transportation Manager- Stated that they have not taken any formal action. They supported the Administration regulating the operators.

Max Sklar, Tourism, Culture, and Economic Development Director- Stated they did not take a strong position on it. The question that arose was how one manages Ocean Drive in general.

Commissioner Malakoff- Stated that one of the larger problems is the regulation. Stated that the City would be better off with and RFP, with the concession agreement. If the City did put out and RFP, the company chosen could work with Miami Design Preservation League to setup a kiosk.

Max Sklar, Tourism, Culture, and Economic Development Director - Stated that this item was brought several years ago, the initial proposal was to establish a location on public property and control it.

Commissioner Steinberg- Stated that there needs to be regulations. Agreed with Commissioner Malakoff with making an RFP and allowing the process to be as transparent as possible.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that she agrees with the idea of using the MDP location. Agrees with her colleagues that this needs to be regulated. Several things that need to be addressed are the number of buses on our streets and there cannot be any standing of buses on Ocean Drive. Believes that the only way the City can address the issues is by regulating it.

Commissioner Tobin- Stated that there is a difference between regulating and franchising. Stated that he is leaning towards franchising. Asked the City Attorney if the City decides to franchise this service, if the City can prohibit other buses that are not part of the franchise from stopping at the MDC bus stops.

Jose Smith, City Attorney- Stated that it can be regulated where and how long they stop. Further research into the County Code would provide a more concrete answer.

Bob De La Fuent (resident) spoke (passed out a packet).

Jon Bruno, representative from Big Bus Miami spoke.

Commissioner Malakoff- Asked if that was their bus.

Jon Bruno, representative from Big Bus Miami spoke.

Morris Sunshine (resident) spoke.

Guillermo Montoya, representative from Sightseeing Miami (spoke).

MOTION: by Commissioner Weithorn to the concession agreement Alternative 1 and to bring back to committee.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg.

DIRECTION: by Commissioner Tobin in the interim have Administration create comprehensive regulations that allow tourists to come here by bus without disturbing our residents bring it to a Commissioner to be placed on the Commission agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Discussion Regarding An Approval To Award A Contract, Pursuant To Invitation To Bid (ITB) No. 2013-171TC For The Playground Fence At South Pointe Park. Pending Legislation. 3:45pm

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director presented the item.

In November of 2011, South Pointe Park had a new playground, shade system and safety surface installed. This playground replaced the original playground installed during the construction of South Pointe Park; that playground was removed due to problems with quality and safety. As you are aware, the City remains in litigation on that matter. The cost for the replacement playground equipment, safety surface and Shade System was \$275,000. The funds were included in a city capital budget project approved by the City Commission during the annual budget process.

Under the City's current process for developing the annual capital budget, proposals for new capital projects as well as proposals for modifications to existing projects go through a comprehensive review which allows all projects to be prioritized as a whole prior to appropriation action by the Commission. Under the process, proposed new projects and proposed existing project changes are first reviewed by an internal staff committee, then reviewed by the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee (FCWPC), and then reviewed by the City Commission as a whole at time of adoption of the City's capital budget. The review by FCWPC typically occurs in early summer, and is consistent with the process for Commission input regarding operating budget priorities. This process allows early input by the Commission regarding priorities for funding, subject to availability. The proposed capital budget is available for review prior to the 2nd budget hearing in September each year, and is subsequently adopted by the Commission. It is my recommendation that all proposals impacting capital projects, including this one, should go through this process rather than referring to FCWPC individually. The process would be similar to the current, except that, rather than a referral to Finance and Citywide Projects on the City Commission agenda, there would be a referral to the Annual Capital Budget Process.

During the 2010 community meetings, several parents requested that a fence be installed as part of the new playground. However, no funding had been identified at that time for a fence, and in an effort to replace the existing playground equipment as expeditiously as possible; the project proceeded without a fence. Following the December 16, 2010, community meeting, the City received a letter from the South of Fifth Residents indicating their support for the installation of a fence around the playground.

This playground replaced the original playground installed during the construction of South Pointe Park due to problems with quality and safety. The City remains in litigation on that matter. The replacement cost for the playground equipment, safety surface and shade system was \$275,000. On December 3, 2013, the Design Review Board (DRB) approved the design for the installation of the new fence.

After considering the review and recommendation of City staff, the City Manager exercised his due diligence and carefully considered the specifics of this ITB process. As a result, the City Manager recommends to the Mayor and City Commission to award the construction contract to Guaranteed Fence Corp. as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder and authorize the Administration to engage in value engineering to further reduce the cost and time for completion of said project.

At the January 15, 2014 City Commission Meeting a Request For Approval To Award A Contract, Pursuant To Invitation To Bid (ITB) No. 2013-171 TC For The Playground Fence At South Pointe Park in the amount of \$98,995 was heard. The Item was separated for discussion by Commissioner Grieco. Item referred to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC) and includes pending state legislation in discussions.

Commissioner Grieco stated that this item is awarding a contract regarding playground fence in South Pointe Park, and for those that do not know, his family and many other children visit the park daily. The park is expensive, and this was part of an issue that he took up during his campaign. He does not recall any notice to the public about a fence.

Vice-Mayor Weithorn stated that it is a good idea referring the item to NCAC, but informed the Commission that there is pending legislation in Tallahassee regarding playgrounds and smoking in the park. She suggested that the committee look into this legislation during discussions. She agrees with Commissioner Grieco; however, she wants the parents to know that there is pending legislation that needs to be looked at.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that she was told during the Finance Committee Meeting, back when this was first brought to them, that the reason behind funding this item was because it was a request from the community. The Finance Committee approved funds for the fence, not the actual fence.

Ronald Starkman, representative from SOFNA (South of Fifth Neighborhood Association) spoke.

Commissioner Michael Grieco spoke.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that the Park Ranger has to be brought to the Finance Committee because there is no finance for the reoccurring expense. In addition, a see-it-and-report-it app has been brought up. The idea behind the app is to report someone that is doing something wrong straight from a cellphone app. Asked Commissioner Grieco to bring the idea of the Park Ranger to the Finance Committee.

Jean Kulick (resident) spoke.

Commissioner Malakoff- Stated that the bicycles and Segways are speeding through the park and it is a danger to the toddlers. Enforcement is essential to keep those at the park safe.

MOTION: by Commissioner Weithorn to recommend having no fence at South Point Park.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg.

DIRECTON: by Commissioner Weithorn to have budget amendments regarding the funds appropriated to the fence and have them allocated during the Fiscal Year 2014/15 budget development process to equipment for the park, specifically addressing equipment for the children.

8. Discussion Regarding A Request From the North Bay Village Mayor To Discuss North Bay Village Residents' Use Of The Normandy Isle. 3:58pm

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director presented the item.

Mayor Connie Leon-Kreps of North Bay Village wrote to Mark Taxis the following:

“It was a pleasure meeting you at the Miami Beach Town Hall Meeting last week. As discussed, the Village's residents would greatly benefit from the use of Miami Beach's Normandy facility, specifically the pool. Therefore, our Village administration would like to, at your convenience, discuss mutually convenient arrangements in order to facilitate our residents' use of the Normandy facility. We are very excited about this prospect and thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please contact me or the Deputy Village Manager to set-up a meeting to further discuss this opportunity.”

Mayor Connie Leon Kreps of North Bay Village – Stated that they requested this item because North Bay Village finds itself with limited resources to residents.

Commissioner Weithorn- Asked staff if there was sufficient space at the Normandy Isle facility to accommodate the request. She would like to see usage statistics.

Mayor Connie Leon Kreps of North Bay Village spoke.

Commissioner Steinberg- Asked how long the City enforces sessions. Stated that she was under the impression that this item was brought up just regarding the pool. Inquired if the pool at Normandy Isle was at capacity.

Julio Magrisso, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director spoke. Stated that sessions are usually only enforced when there are people waiting outside and capacity has been met.

Commissioner Steinberg- Stated that she would like to have Parks and Recreation look at the capacity at Normandy Isle. Commissioner Steinberg stated that she would like to extend a helping hand to our neighbors in North Bay Village.

MOTION: by Commissioner Weithorn to bring back to committee after assessing the usage of the Normandy Isle facilities and the North Shore Park and Youth Center and have Parks and Recreation work with the Mayor of North Bay Village to see what is possible.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg.

9. Discussion Regarding How We Can Make Nautilus Middle School The Best In The Country And/Or The Creation Of A Miami Beach Middle School. 4:07pm

Leslie Rosenfeld, Organizational Development and Training Specialist presented the item.

On January 15, 2014, Commissioner Tobin requested the motion made by the Committee for Quality Education regarding how best to provide youth in the City of Miami Beach with the best public middle school options be referred to the Neighborhoods and Community Affairs Committee (Item C4G) to discuss consideration of the request to strengthen Education Compact activities as they relate to enhanced learning opportunities for our youth. The Committee for Quality Education made the following motion at the January 28, 2014, meeting regarding middle school options in the City of Miami Beach:

The Committee for Quality Education requests the Mayor and Commission engage an Educational Expert to consult regarding how best to provide the students in the City of Miami Beach feeder pattern with the best public middle school options in the country.

At the February 12, 2014 (Item R9F) Commission Meeting, staff was directed to engage Kerr and Downs Research (KDR) to conduct focus groups to better understand perceptions of Nautilus Middle School with the following residents:

1. Parents who currently have children enrolled at Nautilus Middle School
2. Parents who decided not to enroll their children in Nautilus Middle School and those with children in the fifth grade at Miami Beach public elementary schools opting not to enroll their children at Nautilus Middle School
3. Parents of children in the 6-8 grades currently enrolled in private, charter, and magnet schools, who opted not to enroll their children at Nautilus Middle School

Since there are three (3) separate research targets it will be necessary to conduct at least three (3) focus groups, one with each research target. A focus group for non-English speaking residents may be utilized as well. KDR recommends not combining these research targets into one focus group. The anticipated timeframe is four weeks from development of focus group script to preparation of final report with Miami-Dade County Public Schools assisting in the distribution of a City letter to elementary and middle school parents to identify potential participants for the focus groups. Letters will be sent through our parks facilities to identify parents of children in private, charter, and magnet schools. Anticipated cost for the focus groups using a City of Miami Beach meeting room facility is \$19,000.

Additionally, the City is pursuing a partnership with Florida International University (FIU) and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS), to provide management consultant services at Nautilus Middle School similar to other MD CPS schools. A proposal from FIU is pending, as well as discussions with MDCPS.

Administration recommends consideration of the utilization of focus groups to gain a comprehensive understanding of the issues surrounding Nautilus Middle School per the recommendation of the survey consultant. The City will identify an educational expert to consult with how to provide the best options for middle school to our youth. The timeline for the focus group is four weeks from professional service agreement approval, with an anticipated rep no later than early April 2014.

No action to be taken.

10. Discussion Regarding Beachfront Concession Buffer Zones. 4:43pm

Max Sklar, Tourism, Culture, and Economic Development Director presented the item.

Subject to receipt of the appropriate application, documentation and fees (if applicable), the City of Miami Beach (the "City") issues a beachfront concession letter agreement (the "Letter Agreement") to the upland owner of a beachfront property. The Letter Agreement authorizes the upland owner to operate a beachfront concession (the "Beachfront Concession") on the section of beach east of the upland property.

The upland owner is typically a hotel or condominium. The Beachfront Concession may be operated directly by the upland owner and/or by a third party contractor hired by the upland owner (collectively, the "Concessionaire"). There are up to three uses which are authorized in conjunction with a Beachfront Concession. These uses are 1) beach equipment (chairs, umbrellas, etc.), 2) food and nonalcoholic beverages, and 3) water sports Uet skis, etc.). Historically, upon issuing the Letter

Agreement, the City has attached a Beachfront Concession layout (the "Site Plan"), attached hereto as "Attachment 1". The Site Plan specifies the dimensions and boundaries of the beachfront property and illustrates the concession area and buffer zones. Typically, the middle sixty percent (60%) of the beachfront property is the workable area (the "Concession Area") and a twenty percent (20%) area to the north of the Concession Area, and a twenty percent (20%) area to the south of the Concession Area, act as a buffer between the adjacent properties/concession areas (the "Buffer Zones").

The Administration recommends, until such time as the revisions to the Rules and Regulations are finalized, or unless directed otherwise by the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee, allowing the Concessionaires to operate in a manner consistent with current practices. As such, Concessionaires will be allowed to place storage boxes and stacked chairs in the Buffer Zones. The stacked chairs must be in a direct line (east/west) with the storage boxes so as to minimize obstruction of view corridors. Beach equipment (chairs, umbrellas, etc.) will not be allowed to be placed in the Buffer Zones upon initial deployment in the morning. Concessionaires will be permitted to deploy beach equipment in the Buffer Zones throughout the day if the amount of equipment needed to meet demand does not fit within the Concession Area, or if a customer requests that the equipment be moved/placed in the Buffer Zone.

Commissioner Steinberg- Stated that there needs to be a policy established and continue to work with our concessioners.

Commissioner Weithorn- Agrees with the recommendation from staff. Does not believe that there should be a change during the busiest time of the year.

Morris Sunshine (resident) spoke.

Commissioner Weithorn- Stated that a proposal needs to be in place and then make changes, however; changing the concession buffers without a proper proposal would make no sense.

MOTION: by Commissioner Weithorn to accept the recommendations made by Administration and to bring back the item to NCAC in May.

Morris Sunshine (resident) spoke.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg.

MOTION: By Commissioner Tobin to adjourn the meeting at **4:59pm**.

Seconded by Commissioner Steinberg,



MIAMI BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 28, 2014

SIGN-IN SHEET

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME	ORGANIZATION / DEPT.	PHONE NO.	EMAIL
L. ROSENFIELD	ODPI	6923	lsterosemfeb@miamibeachfl.gov
S. ALAYON	MDCPS	305 572 2620	s.alayon@schools.k12.mi.fl.us
William P. ...	CITYSIGHTSEEING MIAMI	305 632 5004	william@citysightseeing.com
Coyle Kops	City of Miami	305 534 6840	coylekops@cityofmiami.gov
Shelley Nicoley Groff		305 580 7202	shelleygroff@cityofmiami.gov
JILL TAVLIN SWARTZ		305 915 7054	jillyswartz@gmail.com
Rosa Neely	NMS/TIES - PTA/DEC	305 431 1836	rneely@miami.edu
JEAN KULICK		305 532 4844	jeank193@aol.com
ELLEN GREYER	Belle Isle	305 538 7188	geyerellen@earthlink.net
Barbara Cowens	Belle Isle	305 646 0900	barbaracowens@belleisle.com
Josiel Ferrer-Diaz	PWT transportation	305 673 7080	josieferrerdiaz@gmail.com
Elizabeth Wheaton	PW Environmental	305 673 7080	ewheaton@miamibeachfl.gov
Millie McFadden	Parks & Recreation	305 673 7720	milliemcfadden@miamibeachfl.gov
ERIC ZICHELLA	PB MGMT	786 404 4000	EZ@PB-NA.COM



MIAMI BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 28, 2014

SIGN-IN SHEET

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME	ORGANIZATION / DEPT.	PHONE NO.	EMAIL
Virgil Fernandez	Miami Beach Fire		
Tom w. Burnett-Aster	Miami Beach - Police	305-7920	johnbushert@aol.com
John Robert	MR Parks & Rec	305-7920	
Lizbeth Vazquez	MR Parks & Rec	(9) 305-41875	evaleza@miamibeachfl.gov
Xavier Juani	MR Park & Rec	X 6109	xfj@comcast.net
Julio Magrasso	Parks & Rec.	# 6960	JulioMagrasso@comcast.net
Todd Hill	Boucher Brothers		todd.hill@boucherbrothers.com todd.hill@boucherbrothers.com
Stefen Boucher	Boucher Bros	3052181026	Stboucher@ymail.com
Ferry Boucher	Boucher Brothers	30555807	Pboucher@boucherbrothers.com
Julio S. Vazquez	Miami Open City Tours	305-782-0311	
Guillermo Puch	✓	305-568-7464	
Nathalie Betancourt	Miami Open City Tour	305-799-3450	nbetancourt@miamiopeacitytour.com
Anna Fernandez	"	305-799-7470	
Aríst cremen	Big Bus Tours Miami	800-330-8223	arist@bigbus-tours.com



MIAMI BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 28, 2014

SIGN-IN SHEET

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME	ORGANIZATION / DEPT.	PHONE NO.	EMAIL
Arnold Starkman	SOENA		astarkman@gmail.com
JENICE RUSCADO	NBU		Jruscado@nbufla.gov
MARIE KRAS	NBU		
Connie Leon Krups	North Bay Village	(305) 756-1171	cleankrups@nbvillage.com
Bodo de la Fuente	William Schuler	305-760-8590	Bodo@wmschuler.com
Jon Buro	By Bus		
David Kelley			
MORRIS SORASHINE		305-672-9000	
Barbara Ferrero	Senior Resident	781-554-2027	Bjmakemover@220AOL.com



MIAMI BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 28, 2014

SIGN-IN SHEET

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME	ORGANIZATION / DEPT.	PHONE NO.	EMAIL
Buen Aires	Big Bus Miami-Tam	727-09304	buena3@bigbusmiami.com
Felipe Gonzalez	Big Bus Miami Tours	9/249-4879	Felipe@BigBusMiami.com
Richard Garcia	Big Bus Tours	305-576-1327	willie6@bigbusmiami.com
Elizabeth Quintero	Kw Health	41555-7395	Intorealestate@gmail.com
Sofia Allam	Keller Williams Realty	7/422-2020	SofiaAllam@gmail.com