

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
 COMMISSION CHAMBERS MEETING (IN-PERSON AND ZOOM)

October 26, 2022 @ 5:00 P.M.

MEETNG MINUTES

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	
Nicholas Eterovic	P	P	P	E	P	*	P	*	E	P	Mayor Lago
Carmen Olazabal	P	P	P	P	P	*	E	*	P	P	Commissioner Fors
Jasper Brock	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	E	E	Commissioner Menendez
Greg Hamra	E	E	P	E	E	*	E	*	E	E	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	P	P	P	E	P	*	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Anderson
Martin Pinilla	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	P	E	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Joe Fadel	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	P	P	City Commission-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	P	P	P	P	P	*	E	*	P	P	U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	E	E	P	P	E	*	E	*	P	E	C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	P	P	P	P	E	*	P	*	P	P	F.I.U. Representative
Gabriela McGrath									P	P	Youth Appointment

A – Absent  
 P – Present  
 E – Excused.  
 (\*) no meeting

**STAFF:**

Matt Anderson, City Resiliency and Sustainability Manager  
 Anthonique Jay, Public Works Administrative Assistant  
 Solanch Lopez, Assistant to the City Manager

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**Meeting called to order at 5:08 by Chairperson Marlin Ebbert.**

**MOTIONS:**

***September 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes*** – Joe moved to approve the meeting minutes, Carmen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Carmen moved to excuse Jasper, Greg, Martin, and Monique from October’s meeting; Joe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe moved to bypass the November meeting and meet for the December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting; Gabi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PHYSICAL QUORUM (8): Joe, Carmen, Piero, Marlin, Gabi, Teddy, Nicholas,**  
Quorum was met at 5:09pm

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**Member Comments**

1. ***Carbon Tax:*** Joe suggested bringing a speaker to discuss the importance of carbon tax. Matt suggested to have Greg speak or present on carbon tax. Greg recently spoke at a City Commission meeting for a resolution that Commissioner Anderson has been proposing for carbon border adjustment for imported goods coming in from other countries. Matt also mentioned that water conservation would be another great topic and will see if Miami-Dade Water and Sewer would be interested in presenting.
2. ***Recycling Event:*** Nicholas attended the recycling drive-thru event and suggested holding the recycling event three times a year. Matt explained that there are logistic challenges such as the parking lot availability, as we use the Church’s parking lot as well as City Hall to host the event. In addition, the hazardous waste portion of the event must be booked a year in advanced and cost between \$15,000 and \$25,000 per event. When the City first started hosting these events, the turnout during the summer was lower due to residents being out of town.
3. ***EV Charging Stations:*** Carmen inquired about the federal grants for the EV charging stations. Matt stated he has been looking into the federal and state funding and grant requirements along major corridors. The City continues to be at the forefront of EV fleet and EV Charging adoption.
4. ***Biscayne Bay:*** Piero mentioned that in October, Biscayne Bay was experiencing another fish kill. Fish are reaching the shore and dying in masses. This year’s amount was smaller than the one in 2020 but the geographic extent of this was larger. This is happening in the area of the bay that has poor circulation right in the middle. FIU has three buoys in the waterway with one being placed in the Coral Gables waterway, which is live 24/7 to document what is going on in the waterway. This is also connected to the City’s Smart City Platform available to the public.

5. **Florida Green Apple School Designation (FGASD):** Gabi presented the FGASD that is currently at Coral Gables Senior High School, MAST academy and several other schools in the district. The FGASD is an effort by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to encourage K-12 Schools to conserve and protect Florida's natural resources. Gabi stated the program is a great initiative that gives schools guidelines and criteria for being more sustainable. Matt suggested that this program would go well with the City's Green Business Certification Program and will be including it in the GBCP along with promoting the program. Solanch will also be sharing it in the November meeting with the School Community Relations Committee.

<https://floridadep.gov/osi/green-school-designation>

### **Updates/Recap on City/Sab Initiatives**

1. **Battery Pilot Program:** the program has collected over 1,039 pounds of batteries. There are five locations open to the public to dispose of the batteries, Development Services Center, City Hall, Police and Fire Headquarters, and Public Works.
2. **FIU ASLA Beautification Event:** on October 13<sup>th</sup> in partnership with City's Greenspace Division and three volunteers, 360 plants were planted at the entrance of Coral Way and Bird Road.
3. **Air Potato Removal Event:** On October 15<sup>th</sup> in the swale of the Biltmore Golf Course two buckets of air potatoes were collected. At the end of the event, they were able to play some trivia games, along with Commissioner Anderson who gave out Books and Books gift cards.
4. **Cleaner Planet Operations:** on October 15<sup>th</sup> in partnership with KCGB and 53 volunteers, the Clean Planet Operations was able to clean around Coral Gables Preparatory Academy and Philips Park and collected over 108 pounds of trash.
5. **Recycling Drive-Thru Event:** on October 22<sup>nd</sup> over 425 cars, more than 10,000 pounds of electronics were collected, along with 24,000 pounds of clothing that were donated to the Camillus House. Matt is waiting on the remaining numbers. He anticipates when he receives those, we will be over 400,000 pounds of material collected since 2016.
6. **Keep Florida Beautiful Annual Conference:** KCGB has received two more awards from Keep Florida Beautiful. KCGB received the 2022 outstanding project award for the mangrove project in collaboration with Coral Gables Garden Club and Commissioner Anderson, along with the national award from Keep America Beautiful, the 2021 innovation award for population of 30,000 to 1000,000 for the virtual litter index.

***ii. Upcoming Sustainability Events***

1. ***Downtown Community Cleanup:*** This event will be taking place November 7, 2022, at the Coral Gables Chambers Office at 5pm
2. ***Film Screening:*** Sponsored by Commissioner Anderson and Marlin. The film is called “2040” and will be screening at the Coral Gables Cinema on November 14, 2022, at 7pm. Tickets will go on sale the first of the month. Tickets will be \$8
3. ***Southeast Florida Regional Climate Summit:*** Matt will be attending this two-day meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 taking place at the Broward Convention Center. Coral Gables has been a part of the SE FL Regional Climate Compact since 2016.

***Next Meeting*** – December 14<sup>th</sup> ,2022 @5:00 PM.

**ADJOURNED: 6:02 pm**