

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
 BILTMORE HOTEL (GARDEN CLUB MEETING ROOM)  
 1200 ANASTASIA AVENUE  
 CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018 @ 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY:
	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	
Martin Pinilla	P	P	P	E	*	P	P	E	E	*	P	P	Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Sharon Trbovich	P	P	P	P	*	E	P	P	P	*	P	P	Vice Mayor Commissioner Quesada
Rhonda Anderson	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	P		Commissioner Lago
Greg Hamra	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	P	E	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	E	P	P	E	*	P	P	E	E	*	E	P	City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
Irela Bague	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	City Commission-As-A-Whole

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

**STAFF:**

Matthew Anderson, Sustainability Advisory Board Staff Liaison  
 Jeannette Reyes, Public Works Facilities Services Administrative Assistant  
 Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Landscape Services Director

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Chairperson, Irela Bague called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm

**GUEST:**

Leonard Goldstein, TREEmendous Miami  
 Teddy L’Houtellier, UM

**MOTIONS:**

**May 30, 2018 SAB meeting minutes - Sharon made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Martin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Sharon made a motion to cancel the August meeting, Enrique seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Coral Gables Landscaping/Tree Canopy/Tree Succession Discussion**

*The City's Tree Succession Program presented by Deena* - The tree succession program began in 2015 to ensure that the city's lush urban tree canopy remained healthy and sustainable in perpetuity.

The program was designed to plant 3,000 trees in the city common areas and swales between 2015 completing in 2017. However when hurricane IRMA hit in September 2017, it delayed the planting of the last 150 Oaks. These were completed in June 2018.

Currently, the city is in the process of purchasing 1,000 new trees to replace the trees that were lost in IRMA. The replacement trees are scheduled to be planted between August and December of this year. The public can access the "TREE KEEPER" mapping data base on the internet to research aspects of all city owned trees, such as species, size, condition, last date of pruning, canopy coverage and carbon sequestration data.

[www.coralgablesfl.treekeepersoftware.com](http://www.coralgablesfl.treekeepersoftware.com)

The Black Olive Study was established to address the staining left by the excrement of mites that chew on the leaves of Black Olive Trees. The City' Landscape Services Division will treat 3,000 trees per year with an insecticidal injection into the trunks of the trees which kills the mites feeding on the leaves. If residents wish to have Black Olive Trees growing in their swale treated, they can call the Landscape Services Division to be added to the list. Trees are treated every spring as it's the season the insecticide is most effective.

The City is proud to have over 38,000 trees growing in its common area, and has been a TREE CITY USA since 1985. This is a prestigious designation issued by the Arbor Day Society.

**Final Input on Coral Gables Green Business Recognition Program**

Over the past year, staff has been developing, in collaboration with the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, Coral Gables Economic Development Office and the City's Sustainability Advisory Board, the attached Green Business Recognition Program. This program aligns with the City's sustainability goals of reducing energy, water, fuel consumption, and waste while increasing recycling efforts, alternative transportation and sustainability education and outreach. With all of the great work our business community is doing in sustainability (eliminating the use of expanded polystyrene and single use plastic bags, increasing recycling efforts, green building, etc.) the group felt it was the perfect time to create this type of recognition/certification program. The goal of the program is to recognize and reward our businesses for all their amazing efforts. In addition, another goal of the green business recognition program is to educate business on additional sustainability initiatives they can implement. The Green Business Program focuses on the following areas:

- Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Energy Conservation



- Water Conservation
- Pollution Prevention
- Transportation Alternatives
- General Environmental Policy and Education

#### **4 Easy Steps to Getting Your Green Business Certified**

- Submit the Coral Gables Green Business Program Application to [greenbusiness@coralgables.com](mailto:greenbusiness@coralgables.com). Please complete the application to the best of your ability. For any questions filling out this form please contact Matt Anderson at [manderson@coralgables.com](mailto:manderson@coralgables.com) or call (305)-460-5008.
- City Staff from the [Sustainable Public Infrastructure Division](#) will follow up to verify application information and schedule a site visit.
- Once the site visit is complete, staff will review and provide feedback on your application and identify the recognition tier your business may receive.
- Enjoy not only helping the environment, but also all of the great benefits (listed below) of being a Coral Gables Certified Green Business.

#### **Tiered Incentives/Ideas for Green Business Recognition**

- Each certified green business will be given a window decal and certificate to display at their business, and a digital link to the green business logo to place on their business cards/merchandise/etc. (All tiers)
- Recognition on the City's ([www.coralgables.com/greenbusiness](http://www.coralgables.com/greenbusiness)) and Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce websites. (All tiers)
- Recognition in the City's E-News, Economic Development and/or Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce newsletters as a green business of the month and/or quarter. (Silver, Gold & Platinum tiers)
- Highlight certified green businesses on the [City's Green Map](#) (include "find a green businesses near you" section). (Gold & Platinum tiers)
- Recognition on City and/or Chamber of Commerce Social Media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram. (Gold & Platinum)
- Recognition at a City Commission Meeting and/or Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce event. (Gold & Platinum)
- Businesses qualify to receive a discount on their business tax renewal license (BTR). In order for BTR discount to roll over from year to year, the City would need to perform an annual site visit to verify sustainability initiatives are ongoing. (Platinum)
- Businesses qualify to receive a discount on a Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Membership. (Platinum)

Please note: All items listed above are ideas and would need final approval.

**MEMBER'S REPORT:**

Martin – advocating for new park located on San Amaro Drive, San Amaro Court and Campo Sano Avenue to increase walkability. The Park belongs to a family in Pinecrest.

Marlin – Coral Gables Earth Week would be scheduled for April 22, 2019, Easter falls on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Marlin would like to expand this event to Earth Month.

Greg – 12,000 Climate leaders were in Washington as a part of the Citizens Climate Lobby. James Hanson was recognized for his efforts on bringing to the forefront in a testimony to Congress 30 years ago on the issues related to human induced greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

Irela – Explore Plogging – The concept is having people pick-up garbage as they run or jog. Other cities are doing this. Matt said he will staff from the Parks & Recreation Department.

**Guest Comments:**

Teddy – how to activate large scale composting; can partner with the local public and private schools. Teddy will speak with Deena to do a partnership for Arbor Day.

Leonard Goldstein from TREEmendous Miami spoke about the organization. **TREEmendous Miami** was established as a Florida not-for-profit corporation in January 1999. In the first 10 years, **TREEmendous Miami** has planted nearly 10,000 trees and enlisted the help of more than 6,000 volunteers from the community. Website: <http://treemendousmiami.org/>

**Community Meetings/Events/Conferences**

***Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge Stakeholder Engagement (Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> : 5:30 pm -7:30 pm : Adult Activity Center)***

Matt thanked the board for their turnout at the Bloomberg Mayors Challenge stakeholder engagement meeting on the solar micro grid. Their input is crucial in the overall project and towards the success of the City's final application.

**Next Meeting - July 25, 2018**

**ADJOURNED: 6:42 pm**