

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

HYBRID MEETING (IN-PERSON AND ZOOM)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021 @ 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS	A 20	M 20	J 20	J 20	A 20	S 20	O 20	N 20	D 20	J 21	F 21	M 21	APPOINTED BY:
Martin Pinilla	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	P	P	P	Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Gordan Fales	*	*	*	*		P	P	P	*	P	P	P	Commissioner Fors
Rita Teutonic	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	A	P	P	Vice Mayor Lago
Greg Hamra	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	P	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	P	Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	*	*	*	*		P	P	P	*	A	P	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
VACANT	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	*	City Commission-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	P	C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	P	P	P	F.I.U. Representative

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

STAFF:

Matt Anderson, Senior Sustainability Analyst
Solanch Lopez, Assistant to the - City Manager
Jeannette Reyes, Administrative Assistant Public Works Facilities

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairperson, Marlin Ebbert called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

GUESTS:

Stephanie Leroux, Sustainability Compliance Auditor
Daniel Martinez, Resident
Francesca Uiso
Linda Lawrence
Paula de Carolis

MOTIONS:

January 27, 2021 & February 24, 2021 SAB meeting minutes – Enrique made a motion to approve the draft meeting minutes, Martin Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Martin made a motion to elect Mr. Bernal as Vice Chair of the Board until the end of his term, Greg seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PHYSICAL QUORUM (5): Monique, Enrique, Martin, Marlin, and Rita

Enrique announced that after 6 years of service with the Board, he will be resigning at the end of his term. Enrique said that it has been a wonderful and special experience serving. He will accept the position as Vice Chair until the end of his term.

The Chair announced that at yesterday's Commission meeting there was a Proclamation for Earth Month. Enrique was present at the Commission representing the Board and accepted the proclamation along with Matt. In addition, Enrique and Matt announced that the prescription drop-off box at the new Police & Fire Headquarters is going to be installed in the very near future as per Chief Hudak.

Matt mentioned that at the February 9, 2021 commission meeting, Miami Dade County and the Army Corp of Engineers presented the Miami Dade Back-Bay study. It looks at reducing the impact of storm surge and flooding throughout the County. At the beginning the City of Coral Gables was not included in any of their infrastructure plan. As they were re-running some of the flood modeling, they found if hit with a large storm there would be some flooding that would penetrate through the Coral Gables waterway and so they added proposed flooding infrastructure included into Coral Gables and the Coral Gables waterways. Solanch has the presentation, Matt wanted to mention it so that the Board is aware about it, the only thing that is funded now, is the study that they are doing, then it goes through Federal Funding in two to 3 years. Their main concern is protecting critical structures like Fire Stations, Police, Hospital's, and homes. What they are proposing is a flood gate at the Cartagena Circle waterway to only be closed when on-coming storm, to reduce flooding impacts inland, a smaller flood gate at the Snapper Creek canal (S22) and an associated flood wall. The Army Corp estimates the flooding structures would help reduce flooding impacts to approximately 8,500 structures in the City of Coral Gables. The study is still in its early stages and there will be an extensive amount of community engagement throughout each phase.

Updates/Recap on City/SAB Initiatives

- Matt mentioned that for Earth Month they are working on a social media campaign with the communications department. Environmental Tips will be going out all month (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).
- The Earth Month Proclamation at the Commission kicked off Earth Month.
- On Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 pm will be International Celebration of Earth Hour.
- April 1st through the 30th - Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation
- April 21st (12-1pm) - Biscayne Bay: The Health of Water
- HHW Collection Event - Saturday April 24th (9am-12pm) in the City Hall Parking Lot
- April 24th (1-2pm) - Virtual Earth Week EV Ride & Drive
- April 25th (2pm) - Screening of AQUARELA

Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program Updates

Grant Update:

- Florida Beverage Association grant results. We were not selected this year; but will continue to look for grant opportunities to help with the programming. Putting the application/information together has created a framework we can use for future grant applications.

Great American Cleanup Season:

Program Time Frame: March 20th – June 21st

Officially Kicked-off Plogging at Matheson Event

- Share report with board members.
- Date: Saturday, March 20th
- Event registration was capped at 59 volunteers.
 - 33 of which attended the event.
- Community Service hours were provided upon request.
- Advertisement:
 - Featured on City e-news on March 3rd & 10th.
 - Additional features were developed but not used due to registration reaching capacity.
 - Organic Posts on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram during the first two weeks of March until registration capacity was reached.
 - One boosted post totaling \$7.09 in ad spends.
 - Originally scheduled for one-week boost with \$50 budget but campaign was after two days due to registration capacity being reached.
 - Boosted Post Results: Reach 888 | Link Clicks 11.
- When discussing budget, presented water bottles to board members.
- Show event pictures.
- Collection Results: 165 pounds.
- Ask Merlin for her thoughts on event.

Solo Cleanups:

- Currently being planned.
- Potential Program Time Frame: April 5th – June 20th, 2021
- Participation will consist of registering online and self-tracking litter collection on the Clean Swell App. Supplies such as gloves, pick-up tool and garbage bag will be provided by to participants if needed and can be picked up at City Hall.
 - Upon return of the pickup tool provided, participants will receive giveaway items provided by KFB & Baynanza (dependent on availability).
- Community Service hours will be provided upon request.
- Social media component as participants will be asked to share pictures of their solo cleanups with specific hashtags.
- Contest: Most litter collected in terms of pounds throughout the season.

- Will be reaching out to our Green Businesses & Community Foundation for any interest in donating prizes.

HHW Event

- Advertisement for event has begun on e-news.
- In the process of revamping flyer and other marketing materials.
- Show giveaway item and present to board.

Litter Index Update:

Virtual spin.

- Test run completed by Matt, Solanch and IT
- GoPro 360 camera will be used to record the different segments within our five areas.
- Once recording is complete, SAB meeting will be scheduled to receive training and conduct Litter Index based on recordings.
- More information to come.

Review Goals Slide.

Teddy said they will have a litter index done on campus during the month of April.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Martin – the park space project he has been working on is moving along, he was able to speak to a past city official who provided information. He will keep the Board updated.

Enrique – the mood of the Country seems to be favoring going into renewable energy. How can the Board move closer to the momentum that is building up in the Country? Greg said people can do so much in the comfort of their own computer, they can write letters to the editors and have conversations with business people.

Monique – lives in a condo that is planning on putting in chargers for electric vehicles, does the City have any incentives on this. Enrique said you need to have insurance in case of a liability because the buildings do not have insurance. Matt said for existing buildings the City does not have any incentives right now. Matt will gather up more information for the next meeting.

Rita – suggested putting in some time for actual discussion of some of the priority areas to put on the agenda of the new Mayor and Commission from a sustainability perspective.

Teddy – just finished the Florida Food & Waste Prevention Week Hackathon, done statewide. He will share with Matt the UM Earth Week schedule to share with the Board. Suggested to Monique to reach out to FPL about the charging stations. FPL EVolution Program.

Gordon – asked if the Board needs to be aware of the bridge repairs at Cocoplum. Matt will get more information for next meeting. The City has been sharing information from the County on the bridge closing and any traffic impacts.

Sustainability Advisory Board
March 24, 2021

Marlin asked that everyone shut their lights off this Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 pm in celebration of Earth Hour and to be thinking about the Earth the entire next month.

Next Meeting – April 28th, 2021

ADJOURNED: 6:42 pm