



NEAT STREETS MIAMI/
FORMERLY THE COMMUNITY IMAGE ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING SUMMARY

May 27, 2015

APPROVED on June 24, 2015

CIAB Members Present

William Anderson, Greater Miami
Convention & Visitors Bureau
Lina Blanco, City of Miami
David Cardenas, MDPROS
Dr. Claudius A. Carnegie, (CTAC)
Tabitha Fazzino, Miami-Dade
County Public Schools
Kenneth Eric Gardner, (TARC)
Juan Carlos Garrido, Designee,
MDC Commission, District 7
Jack Haime, BioPlanet USA
Patricia A. Harris, Citizen
Rick Johnson, MDX
Gianni Lodi, Miami-Dade County
RER Department
Robert McClellan, MDT
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss,
MDC District 9
Teresa Olczyk, UF Extension
Gerard Philipeaux, Designee/
MDC Commission District 2
Susan Schrieber, MPO
Councilwoman Phyllis Smith,
North Miami Beach
Peter Trupia, Designee/
MDC Commission, District 3
Lynda Westin, South Florida
Regional Transportation Authority

Participants Present

Miguel Claro, NSM
Marcos L. Dixon, MDC, District 2
Dominick Dusseau (RER), Sustainability Aide
Herb Hiller, East Coast Greenway Alliance
George Navarrete, MDPROS
Diana C. Perez, Miami-Dade County,
District 9
Joseph Quinty, South Florida
Regional Transportation Authority
Rena Ragin, NSM
Juan David Rey, NSM
Jennifer Roderer, Downtown
Development Authority
Frankie Ruiz, Life Time Fitness
Patrice Gillespie Smith, NSM
Lester Sola, Miami-Dade Water and Sewer
Department
Susannah Troner, Office of Sustainability

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Moss thanked everyone that participated in the Green Up and Clean Up Video and Poster contest.

Chairman Moss welcomed everyone and thanked the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau for hosting the meeting. Member and participant introductions followed.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes from March 25, 2015 Board Meeting: Dr. Claudius Carnegie motioned to approve the minutes. Chairman Moss seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

B. Approval of New Board Candidate

Mr. Jack Haime, BioPlanet USA, was introduced by Ms. Patrice Gillespie Smith. Mr. Haime has taken on the special projects of Million Trees Miami since 2011. Mr. Haime offered his assistance to the Board in any possible way. Candidate Jack Haime was nominated by Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, District 4. The vote to approve Mr. Haime's nomination was moved by Dr. Claudius Carnegie and Mr. Gerard Philipeaux and seconded by Chairman Moss. The board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Jaime as its newest member.

On a related subject, Chairman Moss stated that Million Trees Miami needs a champion. He encouraged the Board to find a high profile business person with resources and the ability to marshall other resources. He stated examples of champions: Alvah Chapman, Homeless Trust; David Lawrence, Children's Trust; and Meg Daly, The Underline. The champion will leave a legacy to Miami and their families. Million Trees Miami needs momentum. Chairman Moss stated that he will bring the issue back to the Board.

C. Sunset Review Update

Ms. Gillespie Smith stated that the Board of County Commissioners approved Neat Streets Miami's Sunset Review Report for the past two years. The documents are on file for those that wish to review.

Ms. Gillespie Smith congratulated Councilwoman Phyllis Smith on her re-election.

D. Recognition of our Clean Up and Green Up Contest Partners

Ms. Gillespie Smith stated that the Clean Up and Green Up Poster and Video Contest generated about 1,500 posters. To recognize the helpers in the contest, Chairman Moss and Ms. Gillespie Smith presented Certificates of Appreciation to Ms. Tabitha Fazzino, Mr. William Anderson, Ms. Karen Tynes, Ms. Ginny Gutierrez, Mr. William Talbert, Ms. Rena Ragin, Mr. Juan David Rey, Dr. Claudius Carnegie, Mr. David Cardenas and Ms. Lina Blanco.

Greater Miami Convention Visitors Bureau

Mr. William Anderson stated that the hotel industry has increased jobs for the 64th consecutive month. Growth in hospitality/leisure last month was 4.5% which is the largest growth seen. He stated that between 2015 and 2019 there will be 41 new hotels added, with 8,000 new rooms. Occupancy for the first 12 months was 84.2%, # 1 for top 25 markets. Average Room Rates 241.70, up 8.5%, Rank #1. REVPAR,\$203.49, up 8.9%, Rank #1. There were more rooms sold this year than this time last year.

Mr. Talbert, GMCVB, made the following announcements: Air B&B is becoming more popular and secured 20,000 rooms for the 2016 World Cup. There was a press conference announcing the 1800 room hotel slated for downtown. Haitian Flag Day coming. There

was a new visitor's center opened in Little Haiti. Also, the new Vice President of Multi-Cultural Affairs will be on board June 1st.

Mr. Philipeaux, District 2, complimented Mr. Talbert for the opening of small offices of diversity within various neighborhoods.

III. Reports

A. Water and Sewer Department's Aesthetic Plan

Mr. Lester Sola, Director, Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD), presented an update on the Water and Sewer Department's Aesthetic Plan.

Since he was appointed, Director Sola's priorities have been: bettering customer service, servicing line breaks and accelerating the capital program.

WASD's network spans 8,000 miles and consist of 400 pump stations. Mr. Sola stated that there are 2.6M people that live in Miami. The whole system will require a \$13B investment in upgrades and expansions. Director Sola stated his commitment to aesthetics for the pump stations and showed several examples of how WASD has worked to ensure the infrastructure blends in with its surroundings.

Questions:

Dr. Carnegie asked if WASD is looking to change the formula for impact fees? Director Sola responded developers pay their fees, but WASD must use these fees to ensure adequate infrastructure is in place after they have connected to the system. The department has to make sure that everyone pays into the system.

Councilwoman Smith questioned rate increase and will there be reserves for landscape maintenance. Mr. Sola stated that the department has a very aggressive program in place.

Ms. Susan Troner, Office of Sustainability, stated that sustainability is a big item for the department. Mr. Sola stated that there has is an alternative energy component and that it will also help with power outages.

Mr. Gerard Philipeaux, District 2, stated that the pump station in North Miami Beach located near 151st Street has emitted a terrible odor for months. He asked what is the plan for that pump station? Mr. Sola stated that the pump station has experienced equipment failure for over 6 months. The department has ordered the equipment but they are waiting on replacement parts. Mr. Sola stated that the department has fixed the pump stations down south and a great job was done with the odor. To date, three stations have been fixed.

Mr. Juan C. Garrido, District 7, stated that WASD sometimes requires residential developments to expand the size of the water pipes, even though it only entails building one house. Mr. Garrido stated that many of the developers are not aware of the policy.

Director Sola explained that WASD is pursuing legislation to fix this problem.

Chairman Moss stated that Palmetto Bay's pump station needs to be moved from in front of the City's Town Hall and needs to be in a less prominent location. Director Sola said he will look into this issue.

Chairman Moss stated that back flow preventers near property take away from the aesthetics of the buildings. He stated that there needs to be policies regarding aesthetics related to pipes and the pump stations.

Chairman Moss applauded Director Sola's commitment to aesthetics, but said that this commitment needs to be codified so that when Director Sola is no longer with the department we continue to see an investment in aesthetics. Director Sola agreed and said he can have his staff work on a resolution.

Ms. Troner stated that there are no sidewalks on LeJeune. Mr. Sola stated that sidewalks will be built on LeJeune near schools.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked who should Neat Streets Miami contact within the department to help draft legislation? Mr. Sola stated that he would be the contact person.

Dr. Carnegie asked if WASD has sought out technological solutions to address the need for externalized plumbing and back flow preventers? Mr. Sola stated that he is not aware, but will get an answer.

B. WHEELS Conference

Mr. Herb Hiller, East Coast Greenway Alliance, presented on the WHEELS Conference that will be held this November. The presentation is available on the Neat Streets Miami website.

Mr. Hiller stated that WHEELS is the largest effort to get people out of their cars and to use public transportation such as bikes, peds, trains, trails to experience a sense of mobility.

Mr. Hiller stated that WHEELS attended the Miami-Dade County Transit Summit where Chairman Moss attended.

Mr. Hiller stated that there are videos on YouTube to show how to safely interface bikes with TriRail, and Metro-Rail.

Mr. Hiller complimented TriRail, FDOT and MDT who are helping provide free transit to those bicycling to the Conference. .

Mr. Hiller stated that there will be a conference meeting in South Miami.

Mr. Hiller has requested Neat Streets Miami to come up with a design for a location for a memorial plaque recognizing Mr. Munroe a prominent leader in the biking community, and assist with landscaping. He acknowledged that Frankie Ruiz, Life Time Fitness, is doing a fabulous job.

Mr. Frankie Ruiz thanked everyone for listening and that he is proud to partner with Mr. Hiller on the WHEELS conference.

Questions:

Ms. Alina Blanco, City of Miami, asked if there will be events held at the Kirk Munroe Tennis Center in Coconut Grove? Mr. Hiller stated that there will be an event on the Sunday of the event.

C. Expanding Coastal Rail Service to Downtown

Mr. Joseph Quinty, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, presented Expanding Coastal Rail Service to Downtown. The presentation is available on the Neat Streets Miami website.

Mr. Quinty stated that South Florida Regional Transportation Authority is working on expanding the system into Downtown.

He stated that TriRail began in 1989 and has sustained growth. Bicycle lockers have been added and it has dedicated bicycle cars.

Mr. Quinty stated that the plans for All Aboard Florida have changed everything. The downtown Miami line from West Palm Beach to Downtown Miami will cost \$68M. It will include the 79th Transfer Station, 79th and 5th Street, Midtown, and Downtown Miami. TriRail has secured almost all of the funding and is planning to launch its expanded commuter rail services in 2016.

Questions:

Chairman Moss asked about the \$1M payment to the FEC. He asked how will TriRail ensure long-term maintenance of FEC's line.

Chairman Moss stated that passengers would like to see the areas maintained and he is hoping that TriRail cleans and maintains the corridors. Many visitors come to South Florida looking for beauty, safety and care.

Mr. Quinty stated that TriRail will make sure that the corridors are clean and safe.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked if the cities who do not have stations are being considered in the planning? Bike access for those communities without a station will be important.

Mr. Quinty stated that it is all in the timing. It all depends on the time of day that it will be used and that great coordination with neighboring communities will be required to offset the cost of any type of complementary service or access.

Mr. Quinty stated that in fall of this year, the public meetings will begin.

Chairman Moss asked about the plans to replace the old locomotives.

Mr. Quinty stated that the 5 oldest locomotives have been retired. The other 5 will be kept to see about expansion opportunities. The new ones will be a real good experience.

Councilwoman Smith questioned the transport from TriRail into the city and that the budget has to start today.

Mr. Quinty agreed with Councilwoman and stated that before asking the City for funding, TriRail has to first know what the budget will entail.

Councilwoman stated that there needs to be a spokesman for North Miami Beach and Sunny Isles.

Mr. Quinty stated that El Portal is also waiting.

Dr. Carnegie complimented Mr. Quinty on an excellent presentation. Dr. Carnegie asked regarding futuristic opportunities. To what extent are other entities looking to seize the opportunities for economic development?

Mr. Quinty stated that TriRail has partnered with All Aboard Florida and they have connections. They are trying to avoid the acquisition of land for park and ride limitations because these types of negotiations can drag on for years and years. They do not want to drive development. They do not want to buy land. The project is open to partnerships and that TriRail sees a lot of good potential.

Mr. Gianni Lodi, Miami-Dade County Planning & Zoning, asked where will Aventura be on the project?

Mr. Quinty stated that it will be the west side of unincorporated Aventura by the tracks. The area needs a pedestrian bridge to enter the mall. The northern portion of the mall is where it may be right before the bridge on Ives Dairy Road.

Mr. Troner complimented the route that TriRail has connected to the Miami International Airport.

Chairman Moss announced that due to time constraints, Committee reports, and the recap of the action items from Ms. Rena Ragin will be skipped this meeting.

IV. Member Announcements

Ms. Gillespie Smith provided the following reminders:

- Tree Planting in Miami Gardens, Saturday, May 30th.
- Complete Streets Forum uploaded to website.
- Poster and Video Contest uploaded to website.
- Financial Disclosures due end of the month.
- Purchase Neat Streets T-shirts for \$25.

V. Recap of Action Items 5/27/2015

- Recruit a champion to become spokesperson for Million Trees Miami
- Explore moving the pump station from in front of Palmetto Bay's City Hall.
- Pursue legislation to improve the aesthetics of WASD's infrastructure.
- Review technological solutions for plumbing, such as back flow preventers.
- Identify a maintenance plan for TriRail's new commuter service.
- Request from Herb Hiller for Neat Streets Miami to assist in designing a memorial plaque along the M-path.

VI. Closing Remarks

Mr. Philippeaux announced that he has decided not to seek reappointment with Neat Streets Miami's board, due to his residence in Broward. He stated that he feels that he has seen Neat Streets' growth and most of the impact has been done because of Chairman Moss's plan "The Moss Plan". He has made good friends and his replacement will be Mr. Marcus Dixon, District 2.

Mr. Philippeaux thanked everyone, and Ms. Ragin.

Chairman Moss stated that Mr. Philippeaux is a very valuable member.

Chairman Moss requested Mr. Philippeaux to attend the next meeting in June, and also Councilwoman Marie Steril so that they may be recognized accordingly.

Mr. Philippeaux thanked Chairman Moss for his appointment with Neat Streets Miami (formerly known as the Community Image Advisory Board).

Chairman Moss asked Mr. Philippeaux not to be a stranger; that he did a wonderful job while he served and that Mr. Philippeaux was a great asset to the Board.

Chairman Moss thanked the GMCVB and everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.