



NEAT STREETS MIAMI Meeting Summary November 29, 2017

NSM Members Present

William Anderson, GMCVB
David Cardenas, MDPROS
Dr. Claudius Carnegie, CTAC
Aneisha Daniel, DSWM
Cesar Garcia-Pons, Perkins+ Will
Patricia A. Harris, Citizen
Rick Johnson, MDX
Gianna Lodi, MDRER
Robert McClellan, MDDTPW
Maria I. Nardi, MDPROS
Teresa Olczyk, UF IFAS Extension
George Puig, Kimley & Horn
Alyce Robertson, Miami DDA
Britany Ziems, Citizens for a Better South Florida
Pantaleon Dulce, City of Doral
Honorable Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, County Dist. 9
Edward Bann William, MDAviation
Omar Leon, City of Miami Beach

Participants Present

Henry Mayer, UF IFAS Extension
Hannah Bernat, City of Miami Parks
Gloria A. Antia, City of Miami Parks
Diana Amaya, District 9 Office
Ginny Gutiérrez, GMCVB
Jessica Foley, MDC Office of Resilience
Zach Bamman
Bill Talbert, GMCVB
Gabriela Lopez, NSM
Jennifer Llorente, NSM

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Commissioner of Dist. 9 and Chairman of Neat Streets Miami, Dennis C. Moss, warmly welcomes and thanks everyone present. Immediately after the welcome, Chairman Moss leads the introductions by first introducing himself, which leads to everyone individually introducing themselves. Upon completion of introductions, Chairman Moss thanks everyone again for their participation and formally shows gratitude towards the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) for hosting the Neat Streets Miami board meeting. Chairman Moss then calls upon the GMCVB, starting with President and CEO Bill Talbert to provide any updates available.

II. Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau Update

Bill Talbert

- The launch of the Art of Black Miami for its 5th year.
- Information on the South Dade Solutions Summit being hosted at Zoo Miami.
- 50% of business is international

Bill Anderson

- Occupancy - 74.6%, an increase of 11.3% compared to last year
- Room Rate - increase of 2%
- Rev Par - increase of 13.3%
- 94th consecutive month of employment growth, up 2.5% for the month of October, up 2.9% for 2017

Chairman Moss asks Mr. Talbert to share information in regards to the status of a convention center in Miami Beach. Mr. Talbert replied that the project is favored. Additional, Mr. Talbert informs us that Art Basel has received immense support and signed a 7-year deal. He believes that, if the convention center project continues to be pushed onto the ballot, that it will ultimately receive the votes necessary to begin the project.

Shortly after, Chairman Moss calls upon Alyce Robertson to introduce herself and share information. Ms. Robertson, Miami Downtown Development Authority, expresses her excitement to have Art Miami in downtown.

Neat Streets Miami Manager, Gabriela Lopez, relays that the Office Mayor of Carlos A. Gimenez contacted Neat Streets Miami on behalf of the City of Homestead prior NASCAR week to ask for assistance with post-Hurricane Irma cleanup. She highlights how David Cardenas, MDPROS' RAAM, and his team were able to clean up the streets,

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remove fallen trees and clear medians with extreme efficiency. Ms. Lopez then thanks Mr. Cardenas, his team, and DSWM for working with so much haste and efficiency. She relays that Mayor Gimenez' office said that this response was "the quickest response they've had to a request."

III. Action Items

- **Approval of the 10/25/17 Minutes**
Chairman Moss asks for the approval of minutes. The motion was initiated by George Puig of Kimley Horn, the motion was seconded by Cesar Garcia Pons of Perkins + Will.
- **Discussion and vote on appointment of Edward Bann Williams to the Aviation Department slot**
Motioned by Dr. Claudius Carnegie of CTAC and seconded by Rick Johnson of MDX. There was no dispute. Mr. Williams expresses his gratitude to be, once again, part of NSM and hopes to bring his best effort possible.
- **Discussion and vote on appointment of Omar J. Leon to the City of Miami Beach slot**
Motion initiated by Mr. Garcia Pons, seconded by Mr. Puig. Mr. Leon mentions his 13 years of experience in the public and private sector, and express his hope to help as much as possible.

IV. Reports

A. FPL's Restoration Process Post- Hurricane Irma

Iliana Rentz
Program Manager- Emergency Preparedness
Florida Power & Light

Unfortunately, FPL was unable to present during this meeting because its lead speaker had to be rushed to the hospital the night before. It was the sentiment of the NSM Board that all members hope for the best for Ms. Rentz' health.

B. City of Miami's Best Practices and Lessons Learned Post- Hurricane Irma

Gloria Antia
Park Naturalist
Recreation Division/Natural Areas, City of Miami

To begin her presentation, Ms. Anita relayed a message from Kevin Kirwin, the City of Miami's Parks Director, who apologized for his absence. Gloria relayed how the entire City's Parks department was able handle post hurricane activities. She highlighted how City staffers were able to effectively tackle every issue with efficiency as a result of unity, care for the environment, and appreciation towards their residents.

Gloria listed the post hurricane priorities set by Director Kirwin. The first was to ensure the safety of every employee and resident. Measures were taken to have emergency contact information collected for every employee prior to the hurricane so after the storm there was a way to have every employee accounted for. Another measure taken was to classify every employee as "essential," which gave the City the ability to mobilize every employee as quickly as possible following the storm. The next priority taken was in regards to trees. The City administered a "tree assessment and bracing" initiative, which was focused on trees because of how attached residents are to them. Lastly, Ms. Anita mentioned that the prioritizing of increased community involvement, raised awareness and strengthened the City's relationship with its residents and their environment.

Tree Assessment

- About 689 trees reported fallen within City parks
- 292 trees braced in four days
- 42 different tree species braced
- 15% of the sites attended to in 4 days

Ms. Anita then reported on the integration of different administrations, such as Aquatics, LHCC, Operations, Recreation and SDDC. This alignment and sharing of priorities led to a more efficient process of completing tasks (by mobilizing together rather than working separately).

Ms. Robertson brought up an important issue in which she experiences- during her time living in her home, she has seen the same trees knocked over and being replanted. She proposed the following question: "At what point do we stop replanting them?" Ms. Anita replied that as a result of this hurricane, new research data has and is currently being gathered. With the new data in bed, better assessments and decisions on how to proceed after

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future storms will be made. So in response to the question, the City will now be able see which trees are worth keeping and which are not once this new information is processed.

Post hurricane, many of the resident in the City of Miami lacked power and air conditioning. To help provide some relief, the City opened facilities such a Grapeland Water Park. The City enlisted over 400 volunteers, and recorded and posted the recovery process on social media to boost their residents' morale. The intent was to show residents that the City cares about its residents, and mobilizing as one was more effective than operating separately.

Chairman Moss asked, "How did you organize the volunteer efforts?" Hannah explained the methods included: reaching out through social media, sending out a press release, gathering community leaders, and having park managers on each site to give proper direction to volunteers.

Mr. Garcia Pons recommends we create a standard procedure for the next natural disaster. He states that with the amount of data being gathered we need to track how certain tree species performed so that better decisions will be made when planting to avoid should losses. Chairman Moss add that this sort of a procedure should be implemented Countywide.

Henry Mayer comments that this is a learning experience and suggested the City allocate more resources for inspectors prior to storm.

Chairman Moss asks, "How can we be a leader?" in regards to providing information to others that are subject to the hurricanes. Ms. Robertson brings up the Street Tree Master Plan that was created in 2007 as a result of the 2005 hurricane. She emphasizes that the plan is 10 years old and that we have learned a lot since that time and suggests an update. Maria Nardi, MDPROS Director, also suggests leading a tree education campaign to encourage people to prune their trees and receive necessary to properly prepare for a storm.

Mr. Cardenas mentions that the University of Florida has great literature in regards to resetting trees. He agrees with Alyce that the Street Tree Master Plan needs to be updated.

Rick Johnson of MDX agrees that the data gathered is essential. He agrees with educational is critical. Mr. Puig suggests that this information should be reintroduced and focused on at the next Leaf Summit. He envisions a tree portal that would house all resources regarding trees in one place such as the Street Tree Master Plan, Planting Guide and Landscape Manual.

Mr. Garcia Pons suggests selecting a date to get an update on what we can be done in regards to preparing for next season. May 2018 is suggested by Chairman Moss and is agreed upon. Mr. Johnson asks for members to join him on the Tree and Landscape Committee in order to put all the information gathered together and analyze it further.

Chairman Moss expressed his concern regarding looking for a Million Trees Miami champion- identifying someone whose passion is aligned with the Million Trees Miami initiative, has access to individuals who have resources, and has the ability to bring people together to lead the initiative.

V. Updates

A. Neat Streets Miami Office

Gaby Lopez

Reported on:

- Commissioner Sosa and Representative Avila providing funding to plant 10 trees in Miami Springs.
- Shade II- planted 70 trees in Little Havana and 70 tree in Miami Gardens. Tested tree tag that allows tracking of tree maintenance by the contractor.
- October 7th- Partnered with TD Bank to giveaway 200 trees at one of their branches' grand openings. At the event, 150 trees were adopted. 50 were leftover. Future plans to host additional events with TD Bank as they open more branches. TD Bank also expressed their interest in sponsoring larger tree giveaways independent of a branch opening.
- Article in Miami Today featuring NSM regarding how FEMA will not cover the cost of replanting tree canopy and how NSM will respond.
- October 24th- planting with Bank of America and American Forests at Serena Lakes Park. 60 trees were planted.
- October 29th- 2,760 trees were adopted at RER's Adopt-a-Tree event.

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- November 9th- Received a \$7,000 grant to plant at the Dog Park in Haulover Park. 42 trees were planted- 8 Gumbo Limbo and 34 Fire Bush.
- November 16th- The Parks Foundation raised \$10,500 for trees for Give Miami Day.
- November 17th- Spoke to City Managers about Million Trees Miami efforts at their monthly meeting.
- November 18th- Neat Streets Miami participated in the Miami Book Fair. The 50 trees left from the TD Bank giveaway in October were distributed at this event. Miami Book Fair expressed an interest in having Neat Streets Miami distribute trees in 2018 from a more central event location.
- November 20th- Held Sparkle Tour to prepare for Art Basel.

B. Street Tree and Landscape Committee

Rick Johnson

Reported on:

- Legislation introduced by Senator Steupe prohibiting local governments from (i) regulating the trimming, removal or harvesting of trees and timber on private property and (ii) requiring mitigation, including the planting of trees or payment of a fee, for the removal or harvesting of trees on private property.
- Possible impacts if new legislation if passed are not limited to the following: restricts County's ability to achieve a resiliency goal set in the CDMP to increase tree canopy, preempts County from protecting globally imperiled plant communities, and jeopardizes the applicability of the County's Landscape Code, Chapter 18A. The bill also directly conflicts with the authority granted in Section 403 FS "The Mangrove Trimming Preservation Act" and Section 373 FS as it relates to the dredging and filling of wetlands. The legislation also threatens the County's Tree Trust Fund, which threatens funding for Adopt-a-Tree events and the Street Tree Matching Grant.
 - Motion initiated by Chairman Moss to write a letter on behalf of the NSM Board opposing SB 574 and HB 521. Motion moved by... seconded by...
- Arbor Day Foundation plans to plant 5 million trees to aid in recovery efforts between Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Kickoff event to celebrate launch of Community Tree Restoration planned for January 20th.

C. Transportation Gateways and Corridors Committee

Dr. Claudius Carnegie

Reported on:

- Application for FDOT's Highway Beautification Grant for Eureka Park of Commerce.
- Art in Public Places project for PortMiami's Terminal F expansion titled "Bon Voyage."
- Continuation of MIA's "Harmonic Convergence" installation into MIA mover.
- 18 new Adopt-A-Road partnerships.

D. Marketing and Education Committee

Lina Blanco

Ms. Blanco had surgery on her shoulder so she was unable to attend the meeting.

VI. Recap of Action Items 10/25/17 Meeting

Jennifer Llorente

VII. Closing Remarks

Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss

Chairman Moss encourages all partners to identify efficiencies. He directs staff to explore a proposal that states NSM's capacity for tree planting Countywide.

Chairman Moss thanks the GMCVB and all members for participating in the meeting. Concludes by wishing all happy holidays.