



NEAT STREETS MIAMI/
FORMERLY THE COMMUNITY IMAGE ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING SUMMARY
March 25, 2015
DRAFT

CIAB Members Present

David Cardenas, MDPR OS
Dr. Claudius A. Carnegie, (CTAC)
Patricia A. Harris, Citizen
Rick Johnson, MDX
Gianni Lodi, Miami-Dade County
RER Department
Darian Martin, City of Miami Gardens
Robert McClellan, MDT
Maria Mitchell, Designee MDC
Commission District 6
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss,
MDC District 9
Teresa Olczyk, UF Extension
Alyce Robertson, Miami DDA
Susan Schrieber, MPO
Councilwoman Phyllis Smith,
North Miami Beach
Councilwoman Marie Steril,
City of North Miami/League of Cities
Peter Trupia, Designee/
MDC Commission, District 3
Rick Vasquez, FPL
Lynda Westin, South Florida
Regional Transportation Authority

Participants Present

Manuel Garcia, PWWM
Cesar Garcia Pons, Perkins Will
Patrice Gillespie Smith, NSM
Ginny Gutierrez, GMCVB
Kirk Hoosac, FDOT
LaTonda James, Neighborhood
Housing of South Florida
Victoria Mallette, Miami Dade
Homeless Trust
Quatisha Rashad Ountoyinbo, City of Miami
Dulce Pantaleon, City of Doral
Diana C. Perez, Miami-Dade County,
District 9
Rena Ragin, NSM
Roberto Schaps, Turkel Brands
Sergio Torres, City of Miami
Susannah Troner, Office of Sustainability
Bruce Turkel, Turkel Brands

I. Welcome and Introductions

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

Greater Miami Convention Visitors Bureau

Ms. Ginny Gutierrez, GMCVB, made the following announcements: She stated that a busy weekend is coming up with Miami Open on Key Biscayne; the City of Miami Beach Centennial celebration and the ULTRA music festival. A new eco-friendly, 480+ room hotel has been renovated, creating 500 jobs. Miami was #1 in all categories for the second month in a row. As a sponsor, a Brazilian bank chose the name "Miami Open" because we are such a destination. As a result, Miami receives free advertising.

Dr. Carnegie informed everyone, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. has teamed up with Florida International University to build a 132,500-square-foot facility dedicated to training students and entertainers for three of its lines. He said this is a perfect example of public/private partnerships.

II. Action Items

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

Vote on Board Candidates

- B.** Ms. Patrice Gillespie Smith gave a brief overview of the two candidates. Mr. Rick Vasquez, Florida Power & Light (FPL), has been involved with Neat Streets Miami (formerly CIAB) through the Tree Committee. He was a huge partner at the LEAF Summit, where FPL announced it will donate \$5,000 to Million Trees Miami.

Ms. Darian Martin, City of Miami Gardens serves in the City Manager's office and will be a great addition to the Board as the City of Miami Gardens is a leader in beautification and maintenance.

Dr. Carnegie moved to approve both appointees, and Chairman Moss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Bruce Turkel's Recognition

Chairman Moss, along with Ms. Gillespie Smith, thanked and presented Mr. Bruce Turkel, Turkel Brands, with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work and contribution to the Neat Streets Miami brand.

Mr. Turkel thanked everyone for the recognition. He stated that Neat Streets Miami does amazing work and now that the name has changed, the Board will get the credit that it deserves.

Ms. Gillespie Smith expressed her gratitude to Mr. Bill Talbert and the GMCVB, team, who connected the Board with Mr. Turkel.

III. Reports

A. Update from the Homeless Trust

Ms. Victoria Mallette, Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, presented an update on support for the homeless in our county. The presentation is available on the Neat Streets Miami website.

Ms. Mallette stated that twenty years ago Miami-Dade County had approximately 8,000 homeless, with 1,000 beds, zero funding, and no defined leadership. In 1992, the Food and Alcohol tax passed. Approximately, 85% of funding goes to the homeless, and 15% of funding goes to domestic violence. \$32M is from NOFA, a federal funding source.

Ms. Mallette stated that there are two census counts conducted per year. The last census reported 1,007 homeless on the streets, of which 616 are in downtown Miami. Thirty teams go block by block. They identified 3,145 sheltered individuals. There are no large encampments remaining. The homeless Help Line is 877-994-4357.

Ms. Mallette stated that there were 67 families hotels/motels when she started her job last year. Now it is down to nine families in hotels.

Ms. Mallette stated that the Homeless Trust has worked with the Miami Parking Authority to install an anti-panhandling meters.

Ms. Mallette stated that there are three goals of Homeless Trust:

- End veteran homelessness by 2015
- End chronic homelessness by 2017
- End youth homelessness by 2020

Questions

- Dr. Carnegie asked how much money is being collected from the homeless care meters? Ms. Mallette stated about \$10,000 a year. Additional meters are in the Seaport and Wynwood areas.
- Ms. Teresa Olczyk asked is the Help Line 24/7? Ms. Mallette stated that the shelter is trying to have a live person answer 24 hours a day. Mr. Sergio Torres stated that calls are answered until 10 p.m. at night, after which an employee answers calls from a cell phone. If messages are left, the calls are returned.
- Chairman Moss suggested a comprehensive answer center. He asked how does 311 tie into the Trust? Ms. Mallette stated that she is not aware, but the Trust does get service referrals from 311.
- Ms. Maria Mitchell, District 6, asked if foster children are an issue for being homeless? Ms. Mallette stated that foster children are on the streets.
- Mr. Cesar Garcia Pons, Perkins Will, asked about the locations of shelters. Ms. Mallette stated that there is a shelter down south, and there is the Hack, north at 1550 Miami Avenue with 800 beds. Also, a new domestic violence shelter is being built.
- Mr. Garcia Pons asked if representatives are providing support for the mentally ill?
- Ms. Alyce Robertson, DDA, responded that she has been working with Judge Liefman for four years. She stated that the mental health problem is significant and we need to do better. Now that those with mental illness are on the streets it just intensifies the problem.
- Ms. Mallette said that the Homeless Trust supports the Lazarus project, where psychiatric nurses go on the streets to medicate the mentally ill who are homeless.

- Mr. Torres stated that they have partnered with psychiatrists, and nurses. They assist ten to twelve serious chronic individuals a week. They are allowed to medicate up to 60 days on the street. There has been tremendous success.
- Chairman Moss stated that the approach for the care of the mental ill has to be different because they are dying before our eyes.
- Ms. Gillespie Smith asked if funding for homeless people with AIDS has been shifted to the homeless with mental illness.
- Ms. Mallette stated that Citrus Health Network works with those agencies. There are 3,100 to 3,300 beds in Miami Dade County. There are approximately 8,000 homeless off of the streets who would have been on the streets.
- Ms. Mallette stated that a goal of the Trust is to get the homeless permanent supportive housing. The sixty day housing limit puts the homeless back on the streets and isn't a permanent solution.
- Chairman Moss stated that the concern of Neat Streets Miami are the gateways that are trashed and littered. How do we respond to that?
- Mr. Rick Johnson, MDX, thanked Ms. Mallette for the work that the Trust is doing. He asked how the anti-panhandling meters can be promoted.
- Ms. Mallette stated that they are working on a logo. They are also working on ways to incorporate anti-panhandling messages into the schools and organizations.
- Ms. Mallette encourages indoor feeding to reduce the trash and litter. An alternative is the Miami Rescue Mission, which serves at 4:00 p.m. And the Chapman Partnership also serves meals.
- Chairman Moss asked if there are any attempts to place receptacles at any of the locations where litter from outdoor feedings is an issue?
- Ms. Mallette stated that they have garbage cans but that more public bathrooms are needed. Personnel are also needed to maintain cleanliness.
- Ms. Robertson suggested that the County should keep their facilities open overnight to reduce the problem.
- Dr. Carnegie stated that a major encampment is under the Julia Tuttle and asked if it has been cleaned.
- Ms. Gillespie Smith asked about under the 79th Street Causeway? Mr. Torres responded that sometimes people camp out but, hose causeways have been cleaned up. She questioned if there are any policies that we can pursue that would outlaw panhandling in the middle of the streets to reduce this safety concern?

- Ms. Mallette stated that the issue has to be addressed with long-term solutions.
- Ms. Latonda James, Neighborhood Housing of South Florida, asked if criminal background checks are performed before placing the homeless into shelters?
- Ms. Mallette stated that the homeless are given paperwork for signature, requesting them not to commit crime while in the facility.
- Ms. James asked are sexual predators admitted into the shelters?
- Ms. Mallette said no sexual predators are admitted into shelters. The overall safety is a major concern for the homeless. There is no easy answer.
- Ms. Quatisha Rashad Ountoyinbo, City of Miami, asked are there measures in place for non-homeless individuals taking advantage of the system to collect money?
- Ms. Mallette stated that individuals must be visually homeless to be served.
- Ms. Mitchell, District 6 Designee, stated that Camillus House collects prepared food to give to people. Ms. Mallette stated that it is a good alternative to outdoor feeding.

Chairman Moss thanked Ms. Mallette for all the Trust's work.

B. 79th Street Initiative

Ms. LaTonda James, Neighborhood Housing of South Florida, presented on the 79th Street Initiative. The presentation is available on the Neat Streets Miami website.

Ms. James stated that the 79th Street Initiative focuses on the neighborhoods between NW 81st Street to NW 62nd Street, and between NW 37th Avenue to NW 7th Avenue, west of I-95. The area includes two districts in unincorporated Dade; Commissioner Monestime (District 2) and Commissioner Edmonson (District 3).

Ms. James stated that the program is improving the area and to help businesses grow.

Ms. James stated that the program is mindful of residents and would like them to be involved in obtaining new development. Job training is also provided to residents.

Ms. James stated that the project is getting resistance from the County, which sometimes delays development for Poinciana Industrial Park.

Questions

- Ms. Patty Harris, Concerned Citizen, asked how many registered voters are in the area? Ms. James stated that she can get that information.
- Ms. Harris asked how many grocery stores are in the area? Ms. James stated that there is a new Wal-Mart in the area.

- Mr. Gianni Lodi, Miami-Dade County, stated that the Poinciana project is already rezoned. But that the neighborhood was not entirely supportive. Mr. Lodi stated that an educational component is needed.
- Ms. James stated that the resistance is coming from the County.
- Chairman Moss encouraged Ms. James to engage her local officials.
- Councilwoman Smith, North Miami Beach, asked how the County is dealing with code enforcement.
- Mr. Lodi stated that the County is trying to get the plan out and working on enforcement.
- Chairman Moss asked Ms. James to get with Mr. Lodi regarding the developers. He commended Ms. James for her efforts.

V. Updates

A. Office of Community Image/Neat Streets Miami Report

Ms. Gillespie Smith provided the following reminders:

- April 1st Public Space Challenge closes.
- April 21st Earth Day Eve “Friendraiser”.
- April 29th Complete Streets Forum will be held at Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
- The entire month of April poster winners displayed at Stephen P. Clark Government Center.
- Ms. Gillespie expressed her gratitude to the poster video judges.
- May 19th Poster winners at the Board of County Commissioners. Chairman Moss will be funding the reception to recognize the winners.
- 1,500 posters, 8 videos collected.
- Golf shirt samples next meeting.
- Have not received any pictures of roadways from Board members. We need this.
- Thanked FDOT for addressing the maintenance issues at 3rd Street Station.
- Ms. Robertson requested assistance from Neat Streets Miami to pick up barriers from the ePrix.
- Ms. Gillespie Smith thanked Stephen Ferreiro for providing free banners.
- Bike to work day in March featured “Another Project Brought to You by Neat Streets” signs. This was Bob McClellan’s great idea.
- Check out the Baynanza calendar, which features many great events.

B. Street Tree Subcommittee

- Mr. Johnson stated that the LEAF Summit was held in Coral Gables, with more than 100 attendees.
- Mr. Johnson stated that the basis of the LEAF Summit was to generate more Tree Cities USA in Miami-Dade County. Coral Gables celebrated 30 years as a tree

city and encouraged municipalities to get on board. The utility corridors and campuses are already getting on board.

- The Crown Award was awarded to Mr. Bob Brennan.
- The City of Tampa did an Urban Forest Management Plan. Its success was attributed to science; a strong public outreach program, commitment from the Mayor; and the development of a cohesive action plan.

Ms. Joy Klein, Miami-Dade County was very helpful to get tree ordinances.

Chairman Moss asked Councilwoman Steril to follow-up if the League of Cities could help get more Tree Cities in Miami-Dade.

Councilwoman Steril informed Chairman Moss, that she will not be running for reelection, and this next month will be her last Neat Streets Miami meeting.

Chairman Moss thanked Councilwoman Steril for her work as a member of Neat Streets Miami.

Chairman Moss asked her to revisit so that she would be presented with a certificate of appreciation. Councilwoman stated that she would be glad to.

C. Gateway/Corridor Committee

Dr. Carnegie stated that there has been a major shift on SR 826 and asked Mr. Rick Johnson to explain.

Mr. Johnson stated that 826 and 836 are near completion. It was a partnership with FDOT and MDX. The major shift took place last weekend.

Mr. Bob McClellan, Miami Dade Transit presented on Third and Fifth Street Metrorail Stations. The presentation is available on the Neat Streets Miami website.

Third Street

Mr. McClellan stated that the planned activities for landscape is to remove tree overgrowth, clear out old landscape material, hardscape and landscape the station perimeter, pressure clean and paint the station, install new LED lighting, replace missing ceiling slats, update passenger communications system, and repair fencing.

Mr. McClellan stated that the mural for 3rd Street is being redone with DDA.

Mr. Kirk Hoosac stated that the right-of-way survey will probably be next week.

Ms. Robertson asked if there will be enhanced lighting?

Mr. Hoosac stated that lights under the two bridges are not working. There will be plenty of lights.

Councilwoman Phyllis Smith asked if there will be cameras to deter incidents of graffiti.

Mr. McClellan stated that MDT is installing high resolution cameras at all stations.

Fifth Street

Mr. McClellan stated that the planned activities are to clear out dead material, remove overgrowth, create retention pond, hardscape areas under station, and improve maintenance.

Dr. Carnegie stated that TARC is looking for new members.

Member Announcements:

- Ms. Teresa Olczyk, UF Extension, stated that the Extension is offering training in English, Spanish and Creole in landscaping in Homestead for \$20.00.
- Ms. Olczyk stated that April 23rd is the GPS Tree Inventory between 8:30 to 4 p.m. Florida University and Florida Central. \$50.00 members, \$75.00 non-members.
- Ms. Olczyk stated that April 29th between 8:30 to 3:30 p.m. is the Landscape Symposium. \$10.00 for Florida's residents. Please check website.
- Ms. Robertson showed the new Biscayne Green video, which calls for reconfiguring Biscayne Boulevard to create new open spaces.
- Dr. Carnegie stated that this project is a perfect candidate for a private/public partnership.
- Chairman Moss stated that the major issue is parking.

Chairman Moss thanked Councilwoman Steril for serving the board for the last ten years.

Mr. Johnson announced Fairchild South Florida Plant Society Show and Sales.

V. Recap of Action Items 3/25/2015

- Pursue League of Cities help in creating more Tree Cities.
- Neat Streets Miami to respond to the gateways being trashed and littered.
- Ms. Robertson requests assistance from Neat Streets Miami to remove ePrix barriers.
- Have Councilwoman Steril return for recognition.
- Planning and Zoning to resolve the issues at Poinciana Park.

VI. Closing Remarks

- Chairman Moss congratulated newly approved Board members.
- Chairman Moss thanked the GMCVB and everyone for attending the meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.