



NEAT STREETS MIAMI
MEETING SUMMARY
January 25, 2017
FINAL

NSM Members Present

William Anderson, GMCVB
David Cardenas, MDPROS
Dr. Claudius Carnegie, CTAC
Councilwoman Patricia Cohen, Bal Harbour
Miami-Dade League of Cities
Cesar Garcia-Pons, Perkins + Will
Kenneth Gardner, TARC
Juan C. Garrido, Designee/MDC, Dist. 7
Camela Glean-Jones, The Beacon Council
Patricia Harris, Citizen
Rick Johnson, MDX
Robert McClellan, DTPW
Maria Mitchell, Designee/MDC, Dist. 6
Teresa Olczyk, UF Institute of Food and Agricultural
Sciences, MDC Cooperation Extension
Alyce Robertson, Miami DDA
Ricky Smith, Designee/MDC, Dist. 1
Peter Trupia, Designee/MDC, Dist. 3
Rick Vasquez, FPL
Lynda Kompelien Westin, South Florida
Regional Transportation Authority
Mark Williams, City of Miami Beach

Participants Present

Christine Crespo, FDOT
Patrice Gillespie Smith, NSM
Ginny Gutiérrez, GMCVB
Mavi Haime, BioPlanet USA
Susan Kawalerski, NSM
Jennifer Korth Llorente, NSM
George Navarrete, MDPROS
Leonard Salazar, FDOT
Kevin Schot, FDOT
Wanda Torres, NSM
Susannah Troner, RER
Natalie Yesbeck, South Florida Regional
Transportation Authority

I. Welcome and Introduction

Patrice Gillespie Smith opened the meeting and announced Commissioner Moss was currently tending to a conflict and handling a major CDMP amendment for the mega mall. He sent his apologies for not being at the meeting but he would try to make it. Ms. Gillespie Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) for hosting the Neat Streets Miami Board.

Ms. Gillespie Smith announced this will be Neat Streets Miami Board member Lynda Westin's last day with the board. She will be leaving the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and will take on a new position with the City of Miami Beach. Natalie Yesbeck was introduced and she will be transitioning into Ms. Westin's position on the Neat Streets Miami Board. This will be Christina Crespo's last board meeting. She will be moving to Tampa and Kevin Schot, with Keith & Schnars, will take over Ms. Crespo's landscape architecture responsibilities for FDOT.

Ms. Gillespie Smith congratulated the GMCVB, citing Miami International Airport record flights in 2016.

Bill Anderson reported the hospitality data:

- Hotel occupancy—was 75.9%; ranked #7 in the nation

- Room Rate - \$189.77; ranked #5
- Rev Par \$143.95; ranked #4
- 136,500 hospitality related jobs in 2016

Mr. Anderson reported there were 14,752,000 rooms sold in 2016, demonstrating a 1.4% increase overall.

Ginny Gutiérrez mentioned the GMCVB were faced with several obstacles in 2016, but are still making record numbers.

Ms. Gillespie commended the GMCVB on their accomplishment in light of everything they faced in the last year.

II. Action Item – Approval of 11/30/16 Minutes

Ms. Gillespie-Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Claudius Carnegie made a motion to approve the minutes and Rick Johnson seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Item – Discussion and Vote the addition of 3 Non-Profit and 3 At-Large slots to the Neat Streets Miami Board

Ms. Gillespie-Smith referenced that in November staff first raised the issue of creating more seats for non-profits and at-large members. This will expand the slots by 6 for a total of 52 slots.

Dr. Carnegie asked if this would be a net gain of six seats? Ms. Gillespie Smith responded, yes.

Peter Trupia asked what is the composition between public sector and at-large? Ms. Gillespie Smith responded we are very driven by the public sector and with the additional at-large slots, it helps bring greater balance between the public and private sector.

Alyce Robertson mentioned we have a large board. She asked are there other alternatives to bring people in without making them board members? Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned Ms. Robertson has a valid question. She said that originally, Commissioner Moss was considering eliminating the number of commissioned seats. Some seats are often sitting vacant for a period of time, however it is not easy to tell someone that they no longer can appoint residents to those seats. Currently, the Committees' composition allows non-board members to serve on a committee.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked Mr. Johnson if approximately 30 percent of his committee members are non-board members? Mr. Johnson responded yes. Ms. Gillespie Smith asked does anyone else agree that the size of the Board is too large? Dr. Carnegie responded he agrees the Board has too many members. He stated too many member sometime becomes cumbersome.

Mr. Johnson stated it goes to the success of Neat Streets Miami, the board has been trying to get more people involved. We've been able to vote on matters with no issues. He stated he supports the movement.

Ms. Gillespie Smith stated that based on the discussion, it appears the three options are: the Board can defer the vote until the next board meeting; there can be a vote today to see what the outcome is or the staff can be charged to look at the composition more closely. Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned one of the two slot for Higher Education has been difficult to fill; this is why George Puig was placed in the Higher Education slot, but actually he should be placed in an At-Large slot. Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned the composition has been looked at thoroughly, but staff can review the list more closely to see what happens with additional seats.

George Navarrete asked has Commissioner Moss weighed in on this issue. Ms. Gillespie Smith responded yes. She stated Commissioner Moss agreed to ask the Board to consider adding the additional slots.

Patty Harris stated she will make the motion for 6 additional slots. Ms. Gillespie Smith asked is that 3 Non-Profit and 3 At-Large. Mr. Johnson stated it would make it easier to have 6 that slots that were not earmarked.

Action Item- Vote on 6 additional slots to the Neat Streets Miami Board

Ms. Harris motioned to add 6 At-Large slots to the Neat Streets Miami Board. Camela Glean-Jones seconded the motion. Ms. Gillespie Smith stated she need to take a hand count. All in favor for 6 additional At-Large slots to be add to the Neat Streets Board composition. There were 13 members voted yes and there were 6 members who opposed. The motion to add 6 At-Large slots was passed.

Ms. Glean-Jones made a suggestion of a committee to the board who won't affect the decisions. She mentioned the Beacon Council has such a large board, they have a technique to track board members. She would like to share it with the Neat Streets Miami staff.

Dr. Carnegie asked what the likelihood of all Commissioners is appointing someone to the Board. Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned that it isn't an easy question to answer because some Commissioners appoint members very quickly while others may wait to find the ideal appointee.

Action Item

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned staff will revisit the composition of the Neat Street Board and report back to the board.

III. Reports

A. July Retreat Follow-Up and Neat Streets Miami 2017 Plans - Patrice Gillespie Smith Neat Streets Miami

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned she will be reporting the outcomes of the July Retreat and how it has influenced Neat Streets Miami's actions for 2017. She mentioned Commissioner Moss wanted an entire meeting dedicated to July's Retreat since members attended an entire day at the retreat. Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned she will give an overview of the retreat. A copy of her presentation can be found online.

Ms. Gillespie Smith stated the Neat Streets Vision and Mission remained the same with the exception of adding the word Livable to capture Neat Streets Miami's Complete Streets and Safer People, Safer Streets efforts. Our mission was retooled to use more action oriented words. Ms. Gillespie Smith stated that we together then have to answer, "How can we achieve the mission?"

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned when the Board members broke into their groups at the retreat, members were instructed to come up with a purpose and how to achieve that purpose.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned the Marketing and Education Committee reported that their main focus was how they promote Neat Streets Miami. Ms. Gillespie Smith shared and thanked Alyce Robertson for loaning the Marketing and Education Committee her marketing person to assist Neat Streets Miami with social media and reaching out to municipalities. She mentioned there has been more outreach with the municipalities and we are developing better relationships with the schools.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned Ms. Glean-Jones added to the Transportation, Corridors and Gateways Committee's mission. She suggested economic development—to enhance the quality of life.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked how many has the NSM logo on their website.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned Commissioner Moss asked at the previous retreat follow up, "How the goals for each committee are measured?" Ms. Gillespie Smith created a Dashboard which measures on a quarterly basis. She mentioned that if anyone was interested in looking at the dashboard more closely or would like to make any suggestions to improve it, to please contact her.

Ms. Gillespie Smith thanked everyone for participating in the post Retreat Survey. She reviewed the scores and on a 4 point scale, none of the responses were less than 3 points. Ms. Gillespie Smith said to let NSM staff know if there are ways to improve future retreats. Ms. Gillespie Smith thanked Ms. Robertson for setting up the venue.

B. Action Item – Review and Vote to Approve 2017 Street Tree Matching Grants –
Rick Johnson

Mr. Johnson provided an overview of the 2017 Street Tree Matching Grant applications. A copy of this presentation can be found online. He mentioned this was the second year for the Street Tree Matching Grant. Ms. Jennifer Llorente mentioned the Selection Committee was a diverse group. There were five committee members and two Neat Streets Miami staff:

- Julian Guevara, DTPW, Municipal Manager
- David Cardenas, RAAM, Chief
- Rick Johnson, MDX, Operations and Maintenance Manager
- Aneisha Daniels, DSWM, Assistant Director Fiscal and Internal Services
- Dorothy Mills-Mayers, PROS, Grant Specialist
- Patrice Gillespie Smith, Neat Streets Miami
- Jennifer Llorente, Neat Streets Miami

Ms. Llorente mentioned that the Street Tree matching grant is a program that helps the community achieve the Million Trees Miami goal of planting 1 million trees and a 30% tree canopy. She gave a quick overview of the grant program:

- The goal is to leverage the County's Street Tree Program by engaging municipalities, non-profits and community organizations in planting native or Florida-friendly trees on Miami-Dade's corridors and gateway's
- Matching grants between \$5,000 and \$25,000 for native or Florida-friendly canopy trees on County or local streets
- Submission cycle: November 7, 2016 to December 20, 2016

The selection committee evaluated all grant applications on the following 7 criteria:

- Existing tree canopy
- Income level
- Match
- Education/outreach component
- Impact
- Ability to implement
- Maintenance plan

The Selection Committee proposed awarding 13 entities a total of \$200,000.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that each year the Street Tree Matching Grant Committee are hoping they can get more participation each year so larger grants could be awarded.

Mr. Johnson commended Ms. Llorente for her efforts putting everything together.

Mr. Navarrete asked how many applicants applied. Ms. Llorente responded 17.

Ms. Harris asked about Tree City status as a criteria. Mr. Johnson responded it's one of the criteria.

Ms. Olczyk asked how maintenance was considered. Ms. Llorente responded the maintenance plan was considered, but in the future they will make the application more rigid to fully capture the responsibilities.

Ms. Llorente mentioned one goal was to get more non-profit participation and that this year there will be two non-profit awardees.

Ms. Gillespie Smith commended Mr. Johnson for his efforts. She mentioned he had put a lot into the grant process.

Maria Mitchell mentioned her city didn't apply for the grant because she thought only communities below the poverty level were eligible. She thought her city wouldn't be considered. Mr. Johnson responded it wasn't the city over all but the census block within the city. Corrice Patterson responded Village of Palmetto Bay didn't apply due to the income level preference. Ms. Llorente responded this is good feedback because this was the first year we used this criteria. Mr. Johnson mentioned each year changes are being made to the application. Ms. Mitchell asked if the income level can be clarified for next year. Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned Commissioner Moss introduced legislation to ensure a preference for low income areas that are lacking tree canopy, but that wasn't to exclude other communities.

Action Item – Ms. Llorente will offer additional technical assistance to municipalities regarding Street Tree Matching Grant in the future

Dr. Carnegie asked have you looked into in-kind contributions. Mr. Johnson responded we could look into it. Ms. Llorente mentioned the Street Tree Matching Grant is a 100 percent reimbursement grant.

Councilwoman Patricia Cohen asked have we pursued nurseries for tree donations. Mr. Johnson responded there are other components—tree grades, standards and quality of tree.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned she pursued nurseries before but people didn't want them because there was no maintenance included and no warranty.

Ms. Olczyk mentioned quality is important.

Mr. Johnson asked the Neat Streets Miami Board for a motion to approve the Street Tree Matching Grant's 13 awardees. Dr. Carnegie motioned to approve the 13 Awardees for the Street Tree Matching Grant. Cesar Garcia-Pons second the motion. The motion to the approval of the 13 Awardees for the Street Tree Matching Grant was unanimously approved by the Neat Streets Miami Board

IV. Updates

A. Office of Neat Streets Miami

Patrice Gillespie Smith

- The Neat Streets Miami's promotional piece: 15 years of creating a beautiful, green and livable community was complete. She thanked Alyce Robertson for her models who are featured on the cover.
- The poster contest has launched and thanked all the board members who are helping with promotions.
- The Town of Miami Lakes will plant a tree in Penny Lambeth's honor on Arbor Day. Thanks to Ginny Gutierrez for offering the great suggestion.
- She thanked Rick Johnson and Dulce Pantaleon for supporting Million Trees Miami and Chris Rupp from the Preservation Trust for facilitating the Sip of Science presentation.
- Complete Streets Open House. She's presented to North Miami Beach and thanked Commissioner Smith for hosting her; will be speaking with the City of Miami Gardens this evening and the City of Miami later in February
- The Quick Build Contest will launch on January 30 and will host its first public meeting at 6:00pm that day.
- Biscayne Green's last hoorah: January 26 from 7:00 – 10:00pm
- Commissioner Moss' efforts on Litter Pick up and the reconvening of the Litter Taskforce
- Canopy Action Plan: Members can expect to enjoy an online tool that will show how many trees we need to plant in each neighborhood by early spring.
- HeadsUpMiami – A campaign with the Department of Health to reduce road related fatalities by reducing distracted driving is being launched early this year.

B. Street Tree and Landscape Subcommittee

Rick Johnson

- 2017 Street Tree Matching Grant
 - Committee reviewed awardees. Requested that criteria was included when discussed at the Neat Streets Miami Board next week.
- LEAF Summit
 - FIU Biscayne Bay Campus will host on March 23, 2017
 - There is a desire to have more private sector participation
 - In addition to ISA, FNGLA and LIAF CEUs, we should also get ASLA CEUs
- Million Trees Miami Crown Award
 - Nomination Form questions were reviewed by committee
 - Nomination Form will be linked to Registration Form for LEAF Summit to increase attendance
- Canopy Action Plan
 - Questions, such as the following were discussed:
 - Can municipal plans, such as the Cutler Bay Tree Master Plan, be incorporated into the plan?
 - Can tree tags be incorporated?
 - Teleconference with consultant, Plan-it Geo, was scheduled for next month's Tree and Landscape Committee.
- FDOT
 - Reviewed current stand-alone landscape projects
 - Observed that landscape architects are not involved in the beginning of complete streets projects or the PDE process
 - FDOT is publishing their Complete Streets Policy, which will mandate a specific process and baseline that all projects must achieve. The Tree committee advocates that landscaping be included in the initial design process.

Mr. Johnson asked Christina Crespo to share FDOT's projects. Ms. Crespo reported:

- Four Palmetto Express Projects – Landscape enhancements with DOT right-of-way
- NW 14th Street to NW 154th Street
- SW 107th – from SW 111th to Flagler Street
- I-75 – NW 128th Street to NW 162 Street
- US1 (Coral Gables/South Miami)

Wanda Torres reported emails were sent to municipalities and agencies in December requesting their tree counts for 2016; out of 45 only 12 have responded.

C. Gateway/Corridor Subcommittee

Dr. Claudius Carnegie

Dr. Carnegie thanked Committee members for attending meeting. Dr. Carnegie reported priorities for this coming year:

- South Miami Metro Stop beautification
- N.E. 5th Street wrap columns
- FDOT Maintenance Schedule for key corridors
- Setting up meeting regarding progress of Aesthetics Master Plan

Bob McClellan reported:

- MDX ground breaking on 836 Park and Ride
- The Board of County Commissioners approved for the purchase of 300 buses; buses will operate on Compress Natural Gas (CNG)
- Pedestrian overpass at the University Station is almost complete
- Smart Plan – Park & Ride—first implementation

Alyce Robertson reported on Biscayne Green.

- Biscayne Green was in the making for many years. The Miami Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) envisioned Biscayne Green as the future of Biscayne Boulevard.
- Ms. Robertson mentioned Biscayne Green was not just about place making and space but pedestrian safety also.
- She talked about Biscayne Boulevard is currently eight lanes of traffic; then narrowing to six lanes at the American Airlines Arena. Ms. Robertson stated the two extra lanes could be used for Complete Streets to make Biscayne Boulevard safer for pedestrians.

Ms. Llorente asked what other events are upcoming. Ms. Robertson responded January 26, Biscayne Green Closing Ceremony.

- Ms. Robertson thanked the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, Patrice Gillespie Smith, FDOT, Knight Foundation and other partners.
- Ms. Robertson mentioned the Community has been responsive to Biscayne Green. She shared the idea of Biscayne Green was to dream.
- Ms. Robertson mention The DDA has received a \$400,000 Tap Grant for 2018. She mentioned FDOT will be conducting a study for Pedestrian Safety.
- Cesar Garcia-Pons thanked Ms. Robertson for her leadership. He mentioned it is a great achievement with having FDOT on board to do the Study for Pedestrian Safety.

Ms. Llorente asked have you heard any complaints about the parking. Ms. Robertson responded it has been mostly positive. There was one negative editorial, but you got get with new thinking.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned that Sue Kawalerski held a family bike ride that started on Biscayne Green.

Mr. Johnson asked if the DDA had presentation boards of its vision. Ms. Robertson responded yes.

Dr. Carnegie asked if the DDA is educating media. She mentioned the DDA has gotten some positive feedback from the press and media.

- Dr. Carnegie asked Mr. McClellan to share information with the Board information about the new MetroRail trains.
- Mr. McClellan shared the Department of Transportation and Public Works would like to invite board members to a tour of the new MetroRail trains sometime in August.
- Dr. Carnegie asked when the new trains will make their debut. Mr. McClellan responded depending if testing is complete by the ending of 2017.

D. Marketing and Education Subcommittee

Lina Blanco

In Ms. Lina Blanco's absence, Maria Mitchell reported:

- Poster/Video Contest
 - Review of Poster/Video Contest timeline
- Marketing Plan
 - Email Distribution
 - Next year, if not cost prohibited, can send out posters to each Miami-Dade County School
 - Send out and email via ITD to all Miami-Dade County Schools
 - As poster entries are received, if there are less from High Schools, Middle or Elementary Schools, we can target that school level
- Judging
 - Ideally on a Friday, March 3rd or March 10th
 - Possible judging locations: Marlin Stadium, Glenn Curtiss Mansion or Miami Springs Women's Club
- LEAF Summit
 - Marketing Plan
 - Get a list of all municipalities and make sure that they have a representative attend. The committee discussed tying each municipality into part of the agenda, to increase attendance
 - Circulate flyers and email blast

V. Recap of Action Items 10/26/16 Meeting

Wanda Torres

Due to time constraints there was no recap of action items.

VI. Closing Remarks

Ms. Gillespie Smith thanked the GMCVB for hosting the Neat Streets Miami Board meeting and everyone for coming to the meeting. She reminded everyone that in February we'd meet on a Tuesday, Feb. 21 and that we would send out a notice to alert all members. She asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting and JC Garrido seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm