

Cocoanut Grove Village Council

Monthly Meeting Minutes



Marcelo Fernandes, Chairman
Linda Williams, Vice Chair
S. Larissa Ozols, Secretary
Rachel Cardello, Treasurer
Thaddeus Scott, Sergeant at Arms
Steven Dloogoff
Sacha DuBearn
Courtney Omega
Hank Sanchez-Resnik

*Miami City Hall
3500 Pan American Drive
Miami, FL 33133*

Monday November 19, 2018

6:30 PM

www.coconutgrovevc.org

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – quorum Rachel Cardello, Steven Dloogoff not present
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. House Keeping
 - a. October minutes approved
 - b. Cozie Corner renaming will be under application soon.
 - c. FPL will be repairing lights in this area and any lights that are out should be reported to the Village Council so we can coordinate their repair.
5. Announcements
 - a. Coconut Grove Village Council Meeting, Friday **December 14, 2018** 6:30 PM - City of Miami City Hall, Chambers; 3500 Pan American Dr. Miami, FL 33133; **Meet and greet @ Grove Bay Grill after 12/14 adjournment;**- 3381 Pan American Dr.
 - b. Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board Meeting • **December 5, 2018** • 6:00PM - City of Miami City Hall, Chambers; 3500 Pan American Dr. Miami, FL 33133;
 - c. Miami City Commission Meeting • **December 13, 2018** • 9:00AM - City of Miami City Hall, Chambers; 3500 Pan American Dr. Miami, FL 33133
 - e. Colzie Corner renaming will be under application soon.
6. Public Comments
 - a. Grove Gala award recipients recognized. Next year there will be a more formalized process for charities to be selected. The more the charities promote the Gala the greater the success of the event and more funds raised.
 - b. See below.
7. Discussion Items
 - a. NCD – Proposed changes – commission deferred until January, 2019. Chair solicited public to find specific items to keep neighborhoods preserved so NCD, especially NCD 2 can move forward and commission can consider most important public concerns. Keep comments specific to planning and zoning.
 - b. Abandonment Properties/Demolition by neglect. City Chief of Code Compliance officer, Lazaro-Daniel Orta, offered comments.
 - The NET office produced unoccupied structures report. They would be able to furnish it. Unsure of interval it is published.

- Two parts to consider when a property is vacant: unsafe structures and vacant structures. Vacant properties are registered through the NET office. No Trespassing affidavit is signed so police can access the property directly
- If property is under construction with permits, no need to register
- Brochure being developed by code compliance to increase awareness on vacant structures
- Owner registers, if not, Code enforcement can put them on notice and schedules a citation
- Ticketing occurs then owner appears before the board and fines are accrued daily until brought into compliance.
- Overgrown and unkept yards are separate citations from unregistered vacant structures
- If there is access, the City has the right to correct violation of overgrowth. If locked code compliance can do nothing,
- Fines are in fact a lien on the property until property is brought into compliance.
- Resident spoke regarding the unsecured vacant property. Safety hazards, security concerns, pool, overgrown vegetation. Living next to this we want the developers to be responsible for the property they should be maintaining.
 - 311 may register the complaint but calling the NET office or code enforcement is the best way to make sure the vacant or overgrown property is taken care of.
 - 311 closes complaints – code compliance gets a whole picture of the complaint and can answer to the status of a violation.

c. Grove Gala award recipients recognized. Next year there will be a more formalized process for charities to be selected. The more the charities promote the Gala the greater the success of the event and more funds raised.

d. Sea Level Rise presentation by Grove 2030 – Amy Clement presented the Grove 2030 sea level rise report and requested that the Council weigh in on the report. Parks and public spaces sub-committee strategic plan to prepare our waterfront for sea level rise and climate change. Workshop 5/18 topic: What will Grove waterfront look like in response to ongoing threats of climate change: increase resilience to increased flooding improve long term access and functionality environmental health within Grove's public waterfront? Create climate resilient parks - 6 initiatives: 1. design install green infrastructure to manage and treat flood storm water. 2. Design and maintain park access points, 3. identify and plant salt tolerant landscaping natural barriers, 4. Install maintain water monitoring network, 5. Outreach activities to raise awareness of impacts 6. ID and modify human use needs along Grove waterfront.

- Kennedy Park in particular flooding and Irma, impacts use of the park and is an opportunity to be a first climate resilient park in Florida.
- Plan puts green and natural system first and people at the heart of the plan. Green network
- Chair comment on CIP meeting long term improvement plan along S. Bayshore Drive and desire to coordinate CIP design with other city/county initiatives.
- City has a department of sea level rise and Grove 2030 public parks and public spaces coordinate with other agencies in the city. Sea level rise committee coordinates with (city) staff.

- Grove 2030 aims, not for a top down but a citizen up process. Need to work in citizen input from design to implementation. Ideally coordinate all the little projects toward a common end. Solicit feedback from citizens to realize the specific initiatives and priorities to the City and other agencies.
- Chair proposes forthcoming resolution in support of the Grove 2030 plan.
- Member commented on the need for Grove 2030 to have a more public impact. Council member perception that Grove 2030 is not residents on radar any longer.
- Member noted that there will be a Member Makers fair – citizen led input for climate change. Flood monitoring boxes collect the data. There is an opportunity there for Grove 2030 to propose simple solutions for data that will be collected from water sensor monitors.

Public comment:

- Resident asked if Village Council was responsible to monitor the funding for all these projects accountability of these projects.
 - VC facilitates project dissemination: Goal of Village Council is to gather agencies and residents on a quarterly basis so all issues can be presented by city or maybe even the county and multiple stakeholders can inform and be informed. Council is here to help residents navigate the city organizations and its projects.
 - CIP – BID and other city budget are three funding sources for projects.
 - Council will upload CIP plan to the website.
 - Council member reported that we follow the projects. For example, South Bayshore reconfiguration redesigned 1.5M set aside for that. Project was completely revamped – road raised 2 feet to combat flooding. Now budget is 18M. Project scheduled for 2019. 30% design at present.
 - Resident is concerned that if design raises crown of road 2' then properties along South Bayshore will be flooded.
 - Resident suggested that Village Council track agencies involved in getting the RFPs so we know the Bids that are coming in and work being awarded. Track the different agencies to get the holistic view of the reconstruction. There are DERM, drainage and Public works and coordinate the whole picture. That would be great. Be the Hub for all the projects and see if they are adequately coordinated
- e. Transportation Committee items –
- 32nd / Day Ave. traffic circle update – installing pipes and culverts for drainage. Ground breaking occurred and should be done in 3 months. Traffic circle result of neighbors gathering data, tracking numbers of crashes to see inherent danger at this intersection. City could not say no once data was presented.
 - Trolley route staffing and logistics - Deferred
 - Scooter pilot program – Deferred
 - Sidewalk reconstruction – residents voiced concerned about center grove sidewalks. Grand Ave. sidewalks project is almost done. Main Highway BID has funding for rebuilding sidewalks but reconstruction is challenged by large trees that are in the sidewalk envelop
 - Tight envelope on Main highway and McFarlane
 - Grand and Commodore had gumbo limbo relocated from Bird Ave.

- Resident discussed development next to Greenstreet on Main. No sidewalk ingress. And no signs to say sidewalk closed cross street here. Water main reconstruction occurring on sidewalk envelope.
 - Water mains, drainage, backflow from Canals – lots of elements from county that we are waiting for. City can be proactive but stalls at the county.
 - Public comment general: Former Council member suggests that Council members should attend city meetings and comment to boards about Council's support (or non-support) resolution of Grove issues. HEPB, P&Z and Commission.
 - Gets to the board and voted on its too late.
 - Take action at the board level – support appeals or doing the appeals
 - There was a requirement that Grove projects had to come before VC before going to the city board.
 - Take a stand, have an “expert” of each board.
 - Next steps by viability Committee will get a proxy from other organizations to show we have the support of them and our resolutions have weight and backing from rove residents and organizations.
8. Unfinished Business
- a. Playhouse: Spring's original plan is moving forward, original height. Construction plans are at 60%. Last week P&Z board passed waivers to reduce greenspace and setbacks so garage can get started
 - b. Charles Avenue Reconstruction. Plans will be posted on the website. Planters will be kept. 5 speed humps. Including information about speed humps policy if residents seek speed humps on their street. It will remain a bi-directional road.
9. Adjournment 7:53PM