



Cocoanut Grove Village Council

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

Friday, February 21, 2020

6:30 PM

www.coconutgrovevc.org

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – quorum –
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. House Keeping
 - a. January minutes approved.
5. Announcements
 - a. Call for nominations for 2020 Preservation Awards by Dade Heritage Trust are due March 18, 2020. Individuals or organizations can be nominated.
6. Public Comments
7. New Business
 - a. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee:** Introduction of the new Miami Police Dept. Commander for Coconut Grove, Commander Weslyne Lewis-Francois.
 - Sworn in on February 27, 2020.
 - Contact Cell phone 786-318-1118 27551@miami-police.org updated contact sheet.
 - Focus on wholistic approach to the community at large to build trust, handle crime-related issues and continue on with projects that Commander Butler had started.
 - Commander rotation occurs for personal growth or where City rotates staff so city receives best leadership and service. No staff changes are expected at this time.
2. Discussion Items
 - a. **Transportation and Mobility Committee:** Update on status of the scooter program by Allan Dodd of Department of Resilience and Public Works that oversees transportation division scooters trolley and other micro mobility operations.
 - Changes to pilot program in 2-month intervals, extensions were granted so that problems with the program discovered during the pilot study could be addressed.

- Source of revenue generation for mobility improvements in District 2 – specifically bike lanes and improvements in ROW.
 - Pilot program serves to see what will best meet Miami’s needs. Lessons learned:
 - Limit number of vendors providing scooters to no more than 4.
 - RFP for fleet limited to 2499. Increase threshold at 4 rides per scooter per day. Current number is 3800 scooters on the road.
 - Improve compliance issues, enforcement remains difficult, not police, but a code enforcement jurisdiction. Citizens can report reckless riding via 311
 - City sees safety the priority over revenue
 - Scooters can go anywhere a bicycle can go. But not private property.
 - Daily rebalancing, average scooter lifespan 2-3 months.
 - RFP scoring: 30-safety marketing and awareness; 10-experience operating scooter programs past performance, 5 pts personnel qualifications, 15 points approach to providing services, distribution of scooters, 10- data sharing metrics; 10-meeting application requirements, 10- type of equipment 10- compensation to the city.
 - Complaints to move scooters, call 305-416-1200, call MPA or the best way, email scooters@miamigov.com
- b. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee:** NCD proposed legislation presented by Jeremy Gauger. Commissioner can ask for item that is indefinitely deferred to be brought up. Changes would need to be noticed and possibly reviewed again by PZAB if changes to legislation are seen as significant.
- FLR is contentious but used throughout the other parts of Miami 21 code, current NCDs use lot coverage, a ratio used nowhere else in the code. Editing the language to be in line with Miami 21 helpful for zoning staff to enforce NCDs.
 - Discussion of affordability linked to up-zoning if parameters clearly outlined in code, up front, t30-t4.
 - Discussion of West Grove’s patchy zoning, - effectively zoning modified case by case however if going to create T4 because of bonuses and patchy zoning, define it, zone it. - Use current tools, don’t create de-facto special zoning designations.
- b. 6-month deferral automatically re-appears on the agenda. Tweaking the boundary “language” description may solve the “legality” and move legislation forward.
- c. Staff has not committed time on re-visiting NCD re-write.
- d. Strategy to bifurcate again so it is legal. Combining the two was too much of a perceived change.
- e. Strategy going forward: VC Workshop, report on most contentious points, request splitting documents, prepare a market study- define conversation – outline what the VC would like to see come forward, share with Gauger feedback, then special meeting to present to public—every month do something.
- Gauger proposes one approach – don’t change anything all that is done to align with Miami 21 zoning interpretations are consistent.
 - Vice Chair expressed concern about the NDC2 not being the blanket of protection that it was promised to be. What made NCD 2 weak? Gauger reminds all that “Caribbean” architectural standard in commercial areas and Charles Avenue only.

UDRB board (large projects) reviews both and perhaps something's lost in translation. Market pressure and current code permits building to continue in West Grove developments.

- Member asked how Ad-hoc board review of Miami 21 probably won't be focused on T3 – 20 some areas are targeted for review. Affordability, resiliency, TODs were directives by commission; not necessarily the better protection of certain neighborhoods or T3/duplex lots.
 - Member asked about existing non-conforming uses. Existing shed could possibly stay. A question, pictures, tax card. Rule of thumb: if structure met standards at the time it was built then non-conforming structures have a case. With respect to actual single-family home, if house is too close to property line and – rules of estoppel will play into the favor for this case by case decision.
2. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee.** Reminder that there is a call for nominations for 2020 Preservation Awards by Dade Heritage Trust are due March 18,2020. Individuals or organizations can be nominated.
 3. **Visibility Committee:** *The Spotlight* started by VC member; Hank Sanchez would fill void the *Grapevine* leaves behind. *The Spotlight* sent to those on VC mailing list. Topics would be articles specific to the Grove, VC input, calendar of Grove events, etc. Discussion in support of the blog followed.
 - a. Chair comments on how we structure Spotlight in relation to VC is important. Must be understood that this is not the voice of VC. We are not collectively approving every article and so it can't be a VC publication. Needs to be done well and consistently.
 - b. Member commented that solve individual blog and VC representation – set the parameter of the blog. Need to figure out what the outline is: the format frequency how message is conveyed, basic format base then supplement with opinion elements along the way? – Need an understanding in place that we will agree to endorse any publication produced by VC member so as long as it fits a set criterion (TBD).
 3. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee:** Tree legislation item deferred.
 4. Unfinished Business
 - a. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee:** Grove Harbour Bay Walk-deferred

Adjourned 8:20 pm