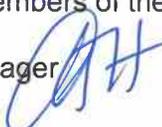


MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager 

DATE: October 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Report Of The September 20, 2021 Neighborhood And Quality Of Life Committee Meeting

Attachment

MIAMI BEACH

Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee
September 20, 2021 - 8:30 AM

Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Chair
Commissioner Steven Meiner, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Michael Gongora, Member
Commissioner David Richardson, Alternate

Eric Carpenter, Liaison
Christina Baguer, Support Staff

A meeting of the Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee was held on Monday, September 20, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. via the Commission Chambers and Zoom. Commissioners in attendance: Micky Steinberg, Steven Meiner, Michael Góngora, Mark Samuelian and David Richardson. Members from the Administration and the public were also in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRIME IN MIAMI BEACH.

February 14, 2018 - R9 X

Commissioner Gongora

POLICE

Major Doce provided the Committee an update on citywide statistics for arrests and crime during Labor Day weekend. Chief Acosta explained the calls for service numbers and an initiative introduced by Chief Clements to go out on self-initiated calls.

Commissioner Meiner will sponsor this item moving forward.

Direction: Return to NQLC in December.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT SUCH AS CAMERA TECHNOLOGY, LICENSE PLATE READERS, AND NOISE LEVEL MONITORS.

June 23, 2021 - C4 K

Commissioner Meiner

POLICE

The Police Department provided the Committee an overview of their current public safety equipment and the progress they are making on several other technology projects.

Direction: Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

3. **DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY'S WEBSITE AND THE STRATEGIC MARKETING PLAN FOR 2021.**

February 10, 2021 - R9 T

Commissioner Steinberg and Commissioner
Meiner Communications; I. T.

Direction: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

4. **DISCUSSION REGARDING A LOCATION FOR A "COMMUNITY FRIDGE" AS BEING HOSTED IN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES.**

April 21, 2021 R9 U

Commissioner Gongora
Office of Housing and Community Services

Direction: Deferred to the December 2021 NQLC meeting.

5. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE STORMWATER GENERATOR ON PALM ISLAND.**

September 16, 2020 - C4 H

Commissioner Meiner
Office of Capital Improvement Projects

David Martinez, Director of The Office of Capital Improvement Projects, updated the Committee on the status of the project. Mr. Martinez provided recent positive resident feedback and timelines for additional work on the island.

Direction: Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

6. **DISCUSSION REGARDING WASHINGTON AVENUE TO INCLUDE THE CURRENT LANE CLOSURES.**

February 10, 2021 - R9 W

Commissioner Gongora
Transportation & Mobility

Direction: Add the discussion to the September 23, 2021 workshop. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

7. **DISCUSSION REGARDING BRINGING THE SPORT OF PADEL TO THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.**

May 12, 2021 - C4 M

Mayor Gelber
Parks and Recreation

John Rebar, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided the Committee with an overview of the game of Padel and several proposed locations.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with a recommendation and more information on proposed location.

8. **DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO INDECENT OR OBSCENE BUSINESS NAMES/SIGNAGE.**

June 23, 2021 - C4 J

Commissioner Meiner

Planning

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item. Tom Mooney, Director of the Planning Department addressed the Committee and provided an update on the City code that regulates signs.

Direction: Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

9. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE RE-ESTABLISHING OF THE MIAMI BEACHCOMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD.**

April 21, 2021 R9 R

Commissioner Gongora

City Manager's Office

Direction: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

10. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF INCORPORATING ART TO PUBLICINFRASTRUCTURE.**

May 12, 2021 - C4 N

Commissioner Meiner

Tourism and Culture

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item. Lissette Arrogante, Director of Tourism and Culture addressed the Committee and provided an overview of the proposal as presented in the staff memo.

Motion: By acclamation the Committee moved the item to the full Commission with a favorable recommendation. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

11. **DISCUSSION REGARDING TEMPORARY PROGRAMMING FOR PRIDE PARK**

June 23, 2021 - C4 I

Commissioner Gongora

Tourism and Culture

Direction: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

12. **DISCUSSION REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE BUSINESS TAXRECEIPT CRITERIA.**

April 21, 2021 C4 E

Commissioner Samuelian

Office of Management and Budget

John Woodruff, CFO, presented the Committee with an update of the BTR process as outlined in the staff memo. Aleksandr Boksner, Deputy City Attorney, gave an overview of the legal ramifications for bad operators.

Direction: Return to NQLC in 90 days with an update.

13. **DISCUSSION REGARDING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON THE BEACHWALK**

December 11, 2019 - C4G

Commissioner Steinberg and Commissioner Meiner

Transportation & Mobility

Commissioner Steinberg introduced the item and expressed the residents safety concerns for pedestrians on the Beachwalk. Jose Gonzalez, Director of Transportation and Mobility provided an overview of the proposed pilot that would divide the Beachwalk into two sides, giving pedestrians a dedicated lane.

Commissioner Meiner will meet with Transportation and Mobility to discuss the proposed pilot in further detail.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

14. **DISCUSSION REGARDING ATTRACTING WORLD CLASS FASHION WEEK TO MIAMIBEACH.**

May 12, 2021 - C4 I

Commissioner Gongora

Tourism and Culture

Commissioner Gongora introduced the item. Lissette Arrogante, Director of Tourism and Culture, addressed the Committee and explained the department's intent to collaborate with the Greater Miami Visitors and Conventions Bureau, Miami Beach Visitors and Convention Authority and the Council of Fashion Designers of America to gauge industry interest for this event in Miami Beach.

Direction: Return to NQLC with an update in six to eight months.

15. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT/RESTRICTIONS ON PROFANE/OBSCENE MUSIC IN PUBLIC SPACES.**

July 28, 2021 C4 H

Commissioner Meiner

Legal

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item. Aleksandr Boksner, Deputy Attorney, addressed the Committee and explained the limitations the City has with regulating the lyrics of the music coming from cars. Mr. Boksner explained the City can only regulate the loudness of the music.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with updated information on regulating the loudness of the music.

16. **DISCUSSION REGARDING NOISE CONCERNS IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.**

October 14, 2020 C4 N

Commissioner Samuelian and Commissioner Meiner

Code Compliance; Legal

Commissioner Samuelian introduced the item and gave the Committee an overview of the proposal. Aleksandr Boksner, Deputy Attorney, provided the Committee with an explanation of the draft ordinance included in the agenda packet.

Motion: By acclamation the Committee moved the item to the full Commission with the addition of waterborne vessels to be included in the ordinance.

Direction: Return to NQLC with the decibel readings study when available.

NEW BUSINESS

17. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF MOBILE ARREST-PROCESSING CENTERS TO DECREASE THE TIME POLICE OFFICERS SPEND AWAY FROM THEIR ASSIGNED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 V

Commissioner Meiner

POLICE

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item. Major Doce and Chief Acosta provided an overview of the current process and the issues with the mobile arrest process.

Commissioner Meiner stated he would bring the item back to discuss in the future.

Direction: Remove from the NQLC agenda.

18. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE EXCESSIVE SPEEDING OF WATERBORNE VESSELS ALONG THE BISCAYNE POINTE AND NORMANDY WATERWAYS.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 I

Commissioner Meiner and Commissioner Steinberg

POLICE

This Item was heard in conjunction with item #21

Commissioner Steinberg introduced the item and expressed resident concern with speeding of waterborne vessels in the area. Major Doce addressed the Committee and explained that there is consistent enforcement and Miami Beach PD is working with the Coast Guard, City of Miami and the County to address illegal charter vessels. Code Compliance is giving violations and working with Marine Patrol and the Coast Guard to stop the illegal Charters.

Motion: By acclamation the Committee recommends starting the State legislative process to change the speed zones on our waterways. Remove Item #18 and 21 from the NQLC agenda.

19. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE TOPS PROGRAM: OFFDUTY POLICE.**

October 30, 2019 - C4 G

Commissioner Samuelian

POLICE

Direction: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

20. **DISCUSSION REGARDING A STATUS UPDATE ON CRIMINALACTIVITYOCCURRINGNEAR THE JEFFERSON AVENUE PROPERTIES ABUTTING MERIDIAN COURT, AND THE CITY'S APPROACH TO ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 J

Commissioner Meiner

POLICE

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item and expressed the concerns of residents that have been reaching out to him.

Members of the Police Department and Code Compliance addressed enforcement and provided statistics on citations, traffic details, towing and arrests.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with an update on continued measures taken to address crime in the area and all legal actions that can be taken to correct the problems.

21. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ILLEGAL CHARTER VESSELSOPERATING IN MIAMI BEACH WATERWAYS.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 M

Commissioner Meiner and co-sponsored by Mayor Gelber and Commissioner Steinberg POLICE

This item was heard in conjunction with item #18.

Direction: Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

22. **DISCUSSION REGARDING METHODS TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

July 28, 2021 C4F

Commissioner Meiner

Organizational Development Performance Initiatives

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item. Dr. Leslie Rosenfeld provided the Committee with information on the current voter registration program for high school students.

Direction: Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

23. **DISCUSSION REGARDING OPTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PRESSURE WASHING ANDOTHER EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE CLEANLINESS OF CITY STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.**

June 23, 2021 - C4 L

Commissioner Meiner

Public Works

Joe Gomez, Director of Public Works, presented the item. Commissioner Gongora asked staff about adequately budgeting for cleanliness across the City. Mr. Gomez

explained the enhanced services offered throughout the weekend and that the loss of staff during COVID is still impacting the Department. Mr. Gomez stated that staffing is starting to get better but not back to 100%.

Motion: By acclamation the Committee recommends reinstating the cleanliness index and staffing as budget allows.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with a full schedule and details of citywide pressure cleaning.

24. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF UNDERGROUND TUNNELS TO ALLEVIATE SURFACE LEVEL TRAFFIC CONGESTION.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 E

Commissioner Meiner

Transportation & Mobility

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item and stated he wanted to start a conversation on alternatives to alleviate traffic. Jose Gonzalez, Director of Transportation and Mobility, addressed the Committee and stated that the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization is preparing a comprehensive study to evaluate advancements in tunneling technology.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC for further discussion.

25. **DISCUSSION REGARDING NAMING THE NORTH SHORE BASEBALL FIELDS AFTER MANNY LAFONT, A VICTIM OF THE SURFSIDE CONDO COLLAPSE.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 C

Commissioner Gongora

Parks and Recreation

Commissioner Gongora presented the item and welcomed the LaFont family to say a few words about Manny LaFont and his contributions to the community.

Commissioner's Steinberg, Meiner, Gongora and Samuelian expressed their condolences to the family and praised the LaFont children for the bravery they displayed while speaking about their father at the podium.

Motion: By acclamation the Committee moved the item to the full Commission with a favorable recommendation. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

26. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NAMING OF THE 500-700 ALTON ROAD PARK.**

May 12, 2021 - C4 K

Parks and Recreation

John Rebar, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided the Committee with the suggested names for the Park as stated in the staff memo.

The Committee discussed all the names and scaled down the list.

Direction: Create a poll for the Community and return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with the results.

27. **DISCUSS CREATION OF A SEARCHABLE CITY DATABASE TO ENHANCE CONDOMINIUM TRANSPARENCY**

July 28, 2021 - C4 K

Commissioner Meiner

Finance/Building/Communications

Direction: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

28. **DISCUSSION REGARDING CO-NAMING OF MERIDIAN AVENUE, BETWEEN DADE BOULEVARD AND 18TH STREET/HARVEY MILK WAY, AS CELIA CRUZ WAY IN HONOR OF THE LATE CELIA CRUZ.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 A

Mayor Dan Gelber

Transportation & Mobility

Commissioner Gongora asked to be a co-sponsor on this item. Commissioner Steinberg asked that when her term is up that remaining Commissioners follow the code and name streets after people who contributed to Miami Beach and also use the Hall of Fame when honoring someone who does not fit the street naming criteria but has contributed to the community in a meaningful way.

Commissioner Meiner is not in favor of naming streets after people who are not from Miami Beach.

Motion: Move to full Commission without recommendation and with the concern that the continued "amendments" to the City's Ordinance defeats the purpose and intent of the Ordinance itself. Motioned by Commissioner Gongora and seconded by Commissioner Steinberg. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

29. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE POTENTIAL DESIGNATION OF A YET TO BE DETERMINED CITY STREET AS "RABBI SOLOMON SCHIFF WAY" IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE RABBI'S LEGACY AND IMPACT IN THE MIAMI BEACH COMMUNITY.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 B

Mayor Dan Gelber

Transportation & Mobility

Motion: Move to full Commission without recommendation and with the concern that the continued "amendments" to the City's Ordinance defeats the purpose and intent of the Ordinance itself. Motioned by Commissioner Gongora and seconded by Commissioner Steinberg. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

30. **DISCUSSION REGARDING WINTER PARTY'S REQUEST FOR EXTENDED HOURS.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 D

Commissioner Gongora

Tourism and Culture

Commissioner Gongora introduced the item and explained to the Committee that this request has been granted by the Commission every year.

Motion: By acclamation move the item to the full Commission with a favorable recommendation. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.

31. **DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPROVING RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT PROCESS AND COMPLIANCE WITH NEW STATE LAW.**

July 28, 2021 - C4 L

Commissioner Meiner

Building Department

Ana Salgueiro, Director of the Building Department addressed the Committee and provided the details of the new legislation and how it affects the City's current process.

Commissioner Steinberg expressed concern over the potential of some unintended negative consequences for our residents.

Direction: Return to NQLC in a few months with an update.

DEFERRED ITEMS

32. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY TO EXTEND THE OUTDOOR SEATING PROGRAM IN SELECTED AREAS.**

March 17, 2021 C4 0

Commissioner Meiner

Public Works

Status: Withdrawn by sponsor.

33. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CREATION OF A NEW MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER IN THE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.**

Tourism and Culture

Commissioner Gongora

Tourism and Culture

Status: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

34. **DISCUSSION REGARDING LIGHTING IN LUMMUS PARK AND MARINE TURTLE PROTECTION.**

March 18, 2020 - C4 H

Environment and Sustainability

Status: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

35. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NORTH BEACH REGIONAL PARKING PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

October 30, 2019 - C4

F Commissioner

Samuelian Parking

Status: Deferred to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting.

36. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF
EXTRANEOUS ANDPOTENTIALLY OUTDATED LEGISLATION IN MIAMI
BEACH.**

July 25, 2018 - C4 E

Commissioner

Gongora Office of the

City Attorney

**Status: Deferred pending recommendations from each department. City attorney
to bringback comprehensive multi-department recommendation to NQLC
meeting when ready.**

ADDENDUM

37. **DISCUSSION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 70
OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ENTITLED
"MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES," BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, ENTITLED "PUBLIC
PLACES," BY AMENDING DIVISION 2, ENTITLED "BICYCLING,
SKATEBOARDING, ROLLER SKATING, IN-LINE SKATING, MOTORIZED MEANS
OF TRANSPORTATION, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, MOPEDS, MOTORCYCLES,
MOTORIZED BICYCLES, AND MOTORIZED SCOOTERS," BY AMENDING
SECTION 70-70.2 THEREOF, ENTITLED "RESPONSIBILITIES OF PERSONS AND
BUSINESS ENTITIES PROVIDING RENTALS OR LEASES OF ELECTRIC
BICYCLES AND MOTORIZED SCOOTERS," BY CLARIFYING THE CITY'S
ABILITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS TO PERMIT THE USE
OF CITY PROPERTY OR RIGHTS OF WAY FOR THE RENTAL OR LEASE OF
ELECTRIC BICYCLES,CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER 82 OF THE CITY CODE.**

Commissioner Richardson

Legal

Commissioner Richardson introduced the item and gave the Committee an overview of the proposal. Aleksandr Boksner, Deputy Attorney, provided an explanation of the ordinance.

The Committee did not agree with all the provisions in the ordinance. Commissioner Richardson stated he would work with legal on the language and provide an updated ordinance for review in the next meeting.

Direction: Return to the October 29, 2021 NQLC meeting with a revised draft ordinance.