

MIAMI BEACH

Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee

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December 16, 2020 - 8:30 AM

Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Chair
Commissioner Steven Meiner, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Michael Góngora, 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 Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. Commissioners in attendance: Micky Steinberg, Steven Meiner, Michael Góngora, and Mark Samuelian. Members from the Administration and the public were also in attendance.

Meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **CRIME UPDATE**

February 14, 2018 - R9X

Commissioner Gongora

Police

Chief Clements updated the Committee on crime trends, arrest data and police planning throughout the City. The Chief reported on Operation Broken Fences, providing the Committee with statistics on arrests and reduction in crime.

Direction: Return to NQLC in February to provide a Spring Break update and discuss technology implementation, financial needs for more technology and report on how technology is helping.

2. **DISCUSS RECENT HAZARDOUS USE OF WATERBORNE VESSELS AND UNRULY PASSENGER BEHAVIOR ON MARINAS AND WATERWAYS CITYWIDE**

October 14, 2020 - C4 T

Commissioner Meiner

Police

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and explained his two concerns, the marina, and the waterways.

Chief Clements addressed the Committee, providing data on violations given on our waterways. The Chief explained the No Wake Zones that have been enacted to be able

to control the jet ski operations. MBPD is also working with the City of Miami to control the unruly behavior by the bridges. The Chief stated they would continue to monitor and modify their course of action as needed to rectify the situation. Chief Clements stated that anyone observing loud parties or illegal behavior can report the incident by calling (305) 673-7901.

Direction: Return to NQLC January 2021 with updates.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING METHODS TO REDUCE EXCESSIVE VEHICULAR SPEEDING IN MIAMI BEACH.

October 14, 2020 - C4 Q
Commissioner Meiner
Police; Transportation

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and gave a brief overview of the complaints he has received. Specifically, two incidents, one on Normandy Drive by Temples Moses and the other by Terra Beachside Villas on Collins, where cars have swerved onto the sidewalk because of speed when turning,

Chief Clements addressed the Committee and provided an explained how MBPD uses speed measuring devices with an end goal of acquiring compliance.

Commissioner Steinberg explained her efforts in working with the Chief on these issues and discussed the problem is not just enforcement but also street design.

Commissioner Samuelian inquired as to the effectiveness of slow streets. Mr. Gonzalez stated that there were some improvements in the areas with slow street concepts.

Jose Gonzalez, Director of Transportation and Mobility addressed the Committee and explained his Departments efforts to correct these issues. He is working with FDOT to come up with meaningful solutions that will address these recurring issues.

Motion: By acclamation, the Committee motioned for the Administration to take a resolution to the full Commission in January 2021 urging FDOT to add bollards to the problem areas. Also, to add the full Committee as sponsors to the item.

Direction: Return to Committee in 90 days with update on the bollards for the specific problem area of the Normandy Drive by Temples Moses and Terra Beachside Villas on Collins Avenue.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE POLICE CITIZEN RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S MOTION EXPRESSING CONCERN AND REQUESTING ENHANCED REVIEW OF SIDEWALK CAFE PERMIT APPLICATIONS.

October 14, 2020 - R9 H

Commissioner Samuelian and Commissioner Meiner
Public Works

Commissioner Samuelian opened the discussion and expressed his concerns regarding sidewalk café permits and the renewal process. He discussed not providing permits for those businesses with several violations and past acts of bad behavior.

Roy Coley, Director of Public Works gave the Committee an overview of the process for obtaining sidewalk café permits and the current situation with violations.

Raul Aguila, Interim City Manager addressed the Committee. He requested the Committee provide the Administration objective criteria that can be used to revoke or deny sidewalk café permits, to the end goal of rectifying the bad behavior from some vendors.

Motion: Move to Commission with recommendation to authorize the Administration to continue approving month to month permits, until new criteria is established that will address businesses with chronic violations. Motioned by Commissioner Meiner and seconded by Commissioner Gongora.

Direction: Return to NQLC in January with amended ordinance addressing specific criteria for denying permits.

5. DISCUSS METHODS TO PROMOTE SEC. 82-384 OF THE CITY CODE ALLOWING, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, A SIDEWALK CAFÉ TO EXPAND 50 FEET IN BOTH DIRECTIONS FROM RESTAURANT FRONTAGE.

October 14, 2020 - C4 X

Commissioner Meiner

Public Works

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and explained the importance of promoting restaurants, with sidewalk café permits, ability to expand.

Roy Coley, Director of Public Works addressed the Committee and stated his recommendation is to provide the Neighborhoods Affairs Division the necessary information, for them to notify businesses, regarding their ability to expand their sidewalk café area under the City Code.

Direction: By acclamation, the Committee supports Mr. Coley's recommendation. Remove from NQLC agenda.

6. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE BENEFITS THE CITY PROVIDES MILITARY VETERANS BOTH RESIDING AND VACATIONING IN MIAMI BEACH.

October 14, 2020 - C4 U

Commissioner Meiner

Human Resources; Procurement; Economic Development

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and expressed his desire to see military veterans receive benefits when residing or vacationing in Miami Beach.

Michael Smith, Director of Human Resources explained the various ways the City shows preference to military veterans through hiring and procurement processes.

Direction: The Administration will work with Commissioner Meiner on additional options that could be made available for veterans. Remove from NQLC agenda.

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING A NEW LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TO CHANGE STATE OF FLORIDA STATUTES TO ALLOW FOR MIAMI BEACH MUNICIPAL JUDGES TO ENFORCE CITY ORDINANCES.

October 14, 2020 C4 S

Commissioner Meiner

Office of City Manager; Legal

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and explained to the Committee his intent to contact our legislators and pursue this initiative. Commissioner's Steinberg and Gongora offered their support and assistance with contacting our legislators.

Commissioner Gongora explained that his upcoming NQLC agenda item, a Community Court initiative, could accomplish many of the things Commissioner Meiner is looking for in his item. Commissioner Meiner asked to be added as co-sponsor to the Community Court item.

Direction: Remove from NQLC agenda

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF YEAR-ROUND HOLIDAY LIGHTING ALONG A PORTION OF THE 71ST STREET BUSINESS CORRIDOR.

September 16, 2020 - C4 F

Commissioner Meiner/Commissioner Gongora

Property Management

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and explained his thoughts on the need for lighting on the 71st Street business corridor.

Adrian Morales, Director of Property Management presented the item. Mr. Morales explained the fiscal impacts for this type of lighting project. Seeking direction to pursue funds in the current budget year or add this request to the upcoming budget process.

Motion: Recommend to the Commission that the administration locate the funds in the current budget to implement the lighting on 71st Street. Motioned by Commissioner Gongora and seconded by Commissioner Meiner.

Direction: Return to NQLC when type of lighting is identified.

9. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NORTH BEACH REGIONAL PARKING PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS

October 30, 2019 - C4 F

Commissioner Samuelian

Parking

Commissioner Samuelian opened the item providing an explanation of his overall thoughts on the plan. Monica Beltran, Acting Director of Parking, presented the Committee with an update on the plan.

Direction: Return to NQLC March 2021.

10. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT'S PERMITTING PROCESS INCLUDING WALK-IN CUSTOMERS AND THE TIMELINE TO OBTAIN PERMITS.

January 15, 2020 - R9 Y

Commissioner Steinberg

Building

This item was heard in conjunction with item numbers 11 and 12.

Ana Salgueiro, Director of Building, presented. Ms. Salgueiro addressed the Department's improvements since the start of the pandemic and the improvements made after comments received from the NQLC Building Workshop.

Direction: Remove item numbers 10, 11 and 12 from NQLC agenda. Add a Building Department quarterly update to agenda beginning in March 2021

11. DISCUSSION REGARDING ESTABLISHING A FAST PASS TRACK FOR SMALL BUSINESSES FOR THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT PERMIT PROCESS.

February 12, 2020 - C4 K

Commissioner Gongora

Building

This item was heard in conjunction with item number 10.

Direction: Remove item numbers 10, 11 and 12 from NQLC agenda. Add a Building Department quarterly update to agenda beginning in March 2021

12. DISCUSSION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON THE ELECTRONIC PLANS FILING FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES.

February 12, 2020 - C4 M

Commissioner Góngora

Building

This item was heard in conjunction with item number 10.

Direction: Remove item numbers 10, 11 and 12 from NQLC agenda. Add a Building Department quarterly update to agenda beginning in March 2021

NEW BUSINESS

13. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE LAZARUS PROGRAM FOR THE HOMELESS.

November 16, 2020 - R9Y

Commissioner Michael Gongora

Office of Housing and Community Services

Commissioner Gongora opened the item and explained that this was a pilot program and has not been budgeted this year.

Valerie Navarette, Chair of Homeless Committee stated that the program medicates the homeless population with mental illness. She explained the importance of medicating these individuals.

Maria Ruiz, Director of Housing and Community Services explained the reason the funding was not budgeted for this year was because the program did not meet their objectives.

Commissioner Meiner asked about the County building a shelter and asked how it would impact this program.

Ms. Ruiz explained that this program is about medicating the homeless, so that they may be able to make decisions to accept shelter and services, so the County shelter by itself would not completely help these individuals.

Motion: Refer to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee to explore if there is funding available for an extension of the Lazarus program. Motioned by Commissioner Gongora and seconded by Commissioner Meiner.

14. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS ON A SEMI-ANNUAL BASIS.

October 14, 2020 C4 R

Commissioner Meiner

Marketing & Communications

Direction: Deferred to the January 2021 NQ:C Meeting.

15. DISCUSSION REGARDING FERRY SERVICE OPTIONS BETWEEN THE CITIES OF MIAMI AND MIAMI BEACH

September 16, 2020 - C4 N

Commissioner Meiner

Transportation and Mobility

Commissioner Meiner opened the item and stated that since he placed this item on the agenda

there is now a service being provided by Poseidon. He asked the Administration for an update on this service.

Jose Gonzalez, Director of Transportation and Mobility, updated the Committee on the Poseidon Ferry and advised the began on November 29th with services from Miami to Miami Beach. Mr. Gonzalez stated the service, while only in operation a few weeks, is going well.

Direction: Remove from NQLC agenda.

16. DISCUSSION REGARDING CO-NAMING OF 18TH STREET IN HONOR OF THE LATE HARVEY MILK.

November 16, 2020 - C4B

Commissioner David Richardson

Transportation & Mobility

Direction: Deferred to the January 2021 NQLC Meeting.

17. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE OCTOBER 29, 2019 ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MOTIONS REGARDING ANIMAL ADOPTION EVENT, ANIMAL LIAISON, AND CODE COMPLIANCE EVIDENCE.

March 18, 2020 - C4 E

Commissioner Gongora and Commissioner Samuelian

Public Works

Direction: Deferred to the January 2021 NQLC Meeting.

18. DISCUSS THE ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE'S MOTION URGING THAT THE CITY COMMISSION ENDORSE THE USAGE OF THE VACANT BUILDING ON 8128 COLLINS AVENUE FOR THE PURPOSES OF HOUSING THE CITY'S TRAP, NEUTER, VACCINATE, AND RELEASE PROGRAM AND OTHER ANIMAL WELFARE RELATED SERVICES.

PUBLIC WORKS

Direction: Deferred to the January 2021 NQLC Meeting.

DEFERRED ITEMS

19. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TRAFFIC ANALYSIS FOR THE 63 STREET COMPLETE STREETS STUDY PROPOSING ELIMINATION OF ONE EASTBOUND LANE ON 63 STREET TO ACCOMMODATE PROTECTED BICYCLE LANES.

November 16, 2020 - C4A

Transportation & Mobility

Status: Deferred to the NQLC January 2021 meeting.

20. DISCUSSION REGARDING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON THE BEACHWALK.

December 11, 2019 - C4G

Commissioner Micky Steinberg

Transportation & Mobility

Status: Deferred to the NQLC January 2021 meeting.

21. DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE WAYS TO IMPROVE THE HOMELESS ISSUE IN MIAMI BEACH.

February 12, 2020 - C4 S

Commissioner Steven Meiner

Office of Housing & Community Services

Status: Return to NQLC in January 2021.

22. DISCUSSION REGARDING CONSTRUCTION SITE FENCING.

November 16, 2020 - C4 D

Commissioner Steinberg

Office of Capital Improvements

Status: Deferred to the NQLC January 2021 Meeting.

23. DISCUSSION REGARDING LIGHTING IN LUMMUS PARK AND MARINE TURTLE PROTECTION.

March 18, 2020 - C4 H

Environment and Sustainability

Status: Return to NQLC in January 2021.

24. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE TOPS PROGRAM: OFF DUTY POLICE.

October 30, 2019 - C4G

Commissioner Samuelian

Police

Status: Return to NQLC in January 2021.

25. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INTEREST OF THE COMMISSION IN OPERATING ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AT ALL AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A FUTURE PILOT PROGRAM

July 25, 2018 - R9V

Commissioner Góngora

Transportation & Mobility

Status: Return to NQLC in January 2021.

26. DISCUSS AND IMPLEMENT A POLICY REQUIRING PROMPT NOTIFICATION TO HOMEOWNER AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS ON UPCOMING PROJECTS AND MEANINGFUL CHANGES TO PROJECTS WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE NEIGHBORHOODS.

July 29, 2020 - C4 D

Commissioner Meiner

Marketing & Communications

Status: Return to NQLC in January 2021.

27. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF EXTRANEIOUS AND POTENTIALLY OUTDATED LEGISLATION IN MIAMI BEACH.

July 25, 2018 - C4 E

Commissioner Góngora

Office of the City Attorney

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

ADDENDUM

28. DISCUSSION REGARDING NOISE CONCERNS IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.

October 14, 2020 - C4 N

Commissioner Samuelian

Code Compliance

Commissioner Samuelian opened the item and asked the Administration to update the Committee on noise related to water vessels, loud cars, noise between buildings and restaurants.

Eric Carpenter, Assistant City Manager addressed the Committee and explained that the water vessels were discussed earlier during the meeting and is being handled by Police. The issues in the MXE District are being addressed by adding additional Code Compliance resources into the area. The AC unit on Belle Isle continues to be a matter that our Legal Department has stated is a civil issue.

Hernan Cardeno, Director of Code Compliance updated the Committee on noise compliant statistics and on procedure for handling the complaints and issuing violations.

Direction: Return to NQLC January 2021. Add Commissioner Meiner as a co-sponsor.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.