

MEETING MINUTES

Quality of Life Committee Meeting

200 S. Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2929 Miami, FL 33131

Thursday, January 12th, 2017 | 9:00 A.M

DDA Conference Room

Committee Members:

Jose Goyanes, Chair and Miami DDA Board Member

Kim Stone – Miami DDA Board Member (via phone)

Gary Ressler – Miami DDA Board Member

Andres Althabe

Bill Fitch

Amal Kabbani

Alvaro Puento

DDA Staff & Members of the Public (see sign-in sheet for additional attendees):

Christina Crespi

Jennifer Rodero

Karry Maravilla

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Committee Chair welcomed all the guests and asked them to introduce themselves.

2. MPD/NET Brickell & Downtown Service Areas

a. Introduction of new Commander for Wynwood/Edgewater NET Area

Invited: Commander Albert S. Guerra

Commander Guerra from the Wynwood/Edgewater NET area introduced himself to the Committee. He is the new Commander for the northern section of the DDA District.

Commander Guerra has made addressing quality of life issues such as homelessness, abandoned properties, and other issues in his area a priority for 2017. The Commander has been meeting with residents from the area, and mentioned that he is already working with the BNA (Andres Althabe) to learn more about the concerns of the residents.

Commander Fernandez, the Downtown NET Commander reported that the five officers allocated by Chief Llanes began in Downtown on January 8, 2017. Chief Llanes and Commander Fernandez are also talking about adding additional police officers at a later time in 2017. The new officers will be providing the area with much needed weekend coverage and covering later shifts in the CBD. Two additional officers have been allocated to Officer Bernat to help address homeless concerns in the area. Commander Fernandez also mentioned that he would like to request that the DDA and the City work on repealing the Pottinger agreement. He is currently training the new officers on the Pottinger agreement. Additionally, he asked that the Downtown residents also become involved in the process to repeal the Pottinger agreement.

Committee Chair, Jose Goyanes recommended that the Homeless Task Force look into eliminating the Pottinger agreement and present the matter to the Board for discussion.

Commander Fernandez added that the new officers would be patrolling the area in both vehicles and bicycles. **Commander Fernandez requested that Jennifer Rodero send him the latest demographic report and information pertaining to the number of vehicles in Downtown.**

3. DWNTWN Enhancement Team

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (“DDA”) OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, BY A FOUR-FIFTHS (4/5THS) AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, AFTER AN ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING, RATIFYING, APPROVING AND CONFIRMING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DDA’S FINDING OF A SOLE SOURCE; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING PROCEDURES AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CAMILLUS HOUSE, INC. IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE ATTACHED FORM, AS A SOLE-SOURCE CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE THE DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENT TEAM (“DET”) PERSONNEL AND SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$ 400,000.00) FOR AN INITIAL TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS, WITH THREE (3) ONE (1) YEAR OPTIONS TO RENEW, SUBJECT TO CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL AND DDA BUDGET APPROVAL.

Jennifer Rodero provided an overview of the DWNTWN Enhancement Team Program. Committee Chair Jose Goyanes mentioned that DDA Board Chair, Commissioner Russell had expressed that he would like to have a similar program throughout the City of Miami. Mr. Goyanes asked staff to look into increasing funds to expand this program for the next fiscal year.

Jose Goyanes, Committee Chair made the motion to present this item to the Miami DDA Board. All the committee members voted in favor. Item was moved to Board for approval.

4. City of Miami Initiatives – NET

Invited: William Plasencia, Downtown/Brickell NET Administrator

William Plasencia reported that at the last City Commission meeting the lease for the NET office in the Olympia Building was approved. The anticipate move in date for the office is scheduled for April. Mr. Plasencia explained that they objective of placing the office in the CBD (with street access) was to have it accessible to residents and businesses. There are two new NSWs Michael and Jose that will be working in the Downtown NET area. NET also has two additional positions that will be filled during this fiscal year, but the hiring process has been delayed and may take some additional time to process as they are bargaining unit positions. These two additional workers will be working part time in the River/Brickell area.

Mr. Plasencia reported that NET has partnered with the Omni CRA and the NET office is temporarily located at the OMNI CRA offices. NET is working on the northern side of the Omni CRA area in an effort to help them with vacant land and quality of life concerns in those areas. Josie Correa will be working with CRA on a new façade program within the OMNI area. Mr. Plasencia mentioned that NET will be coordinating with the OMNI CRA on writing a food truck ordinance. Code Compliance Supervisor, Lazaro Orta suggested that Mr. Plasencia look into the current food truck permitting guidelines for Wynwood.

5. Discussion - Securing and Storage of Commercial Dumpsters

Jennifer Rodero introduced the item requested by Amal Kabbani. Committee member Amal Kabbani proposed looking into the proposed changes to City of Miami Beach ordinances that pertain to securing and storage of commercial dumpsters. Miami Beach is proposing an ordinance that would set rules for commercial dumpsters. Committee Chair Jose Goyanes recommended that Amal provide the Committee a list of the commercial dumpsters that are creating the nuisance in Downtown. **Amal Kabbani agreed to get a list of dumpster locations. DDA staff will follow up with Solid Waste and research if there is a City of Miami ordinance that pertains to securing of commercial dumpsters.**

6. Goals for Quality of Life Committee

Jennifer Rodero provided an updated list of the Goals discussed in the December meeting. A few tasks were added by the Committee. The Committee members approved the Goals. An updated list will be provided to the Board Chair.

7. Program Updates

a. Enhanced Services

Jennifer Rodero provided the monthly Enhanced Services report highlighting all the tasks accomplished by the Enhanced Services teams for December 2016.

b. Pit Stop

Jennifer Rodero reported that the usage for the Pit Stop Program (one trailer and the permanent restrooms at Bayfront Park) is currently at 10,481 uses. This number is double what it was used as compared to last year at this time.

c. Business Concierge

Antoine Williams was not able to attend the meeting. Committee Chair Jose Goyanes recommends that the Business Concierge reach out to businesses along Miami Avenue to help address the quality of life concerns along this corridor.

8. New Business

Sunshine Law

Xavier Alban, Assistant City Attorney, provided an overview of the Sunshine Law applicable to the new committee members. **Next steps include, the Board Secretary to schedule ethics training for the new committee members, so they can have a better understanding of the law.**

Noise Ordinance

Amal Kabbani requested that the committee explore the idea of getting involved in modifying the current noise ordinance as noise in the club (entertainment area) is affecting residents. After further discussion among the committee members, Committee Chair Jose Goyanes recommended the creation of a task force, through the D-2 Commissioner's office, to explore the modification the ordinance. In addition, a recommendation was made to have Amal Kabbani and Bill Fitch research the current ordinance, propose changes and meet with Commissioner Russell, so he can assist with this issue.

Book Fair

George Sanchez from Loft II requested the possibility of scheduling a meeting with Miami Dade College to explore the option of changing the street closures for the Book Fair as it affects the

residents and vehicular traffic. Gary Ressler agreed that his is a nuisance for the residents in that area. **DDA staff was tasked with coordinating this meeting a few months before the Book Fair in November.**

Andres Alhabe mentioned that lights in the downtown area are too yellow and if it was possible for DDA to reach out to Public Works/FPL to correct this issue. Mr. Alhabe also discussed two lots located on NE 18th Street and 4th Avenue that are not being utilized and could potentially be a green space. These lots are owned by the City. Mr. Alhabe would like to have benches and trash receptacles placed there for residents to be able to use the area. Jennifer Rodero asked Mr. Alhabe to send her the exact location as those lots are believed to be outside of the DDA boundary. If determined to be outside of the boundary, she will forward the request to the City to see which department could assist Mr. Alhabe with his request.

Jennifer Rodero mentioned that Ultra Music Fest was scheduled for March 24, 25, and 26 at Bayfront Park. The annual Ultra Music Fest Coordination meeting (City Services Coordination) will follow next month's QOL meeting on February 2nd.

Next Meeting: February 2nd, 2017

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