

Miami River Commission Meeting Minutes October 1, 2018

The Miami River Commission (MRC) public meeting convened at noon, October 1, 2018, 1407 NW 7 ST.

Miami River Commission (MRC) Policy Committee Members and/or Designees attending:

Horacio Stuart Aguirre, MRC Chairman, Appointed by Governor Scott
Frank Balzebre, MRC Vice Chairman, designee for Miami-Dade County Mayor Gimenez
Patty Harris, designee for Governor Scott
David Maer, designee for Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle
Neal Schafers, Downtown Development Authority
Manny Prieguez, Member at Large Appointed by City of Miami
Tom Kimen, designee for Neighborhood Representative Appointed by City of Miami
Philip Everingham, designee for the Marine Council
John Michael Cornell, designee for Luis Garcia Appointed by Governor Scott
Sandy O'Neil, designee for Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Bruce Brown, President, Miami River Marine Group

MRC Staff:

Brett Bibeau, Managing Director

Others attending interested in the River:

Please see attached sign in sheets.

I) Chair Report

The Miami River Commission unanimously adopted the July 9, 2018 public meeting minutes.

Please note our regular meeting location is a popular polling location, therefore due to the upcoming election the MRC's November 5 public meeting will be held in the Lummus Park Community Center, 250 NW North River Drive.

I'm pleased to announce that later this week the Board of County Commissioners will nominate County Commissioner Eileen Higgins to serve on the MRC.

A clean and fresh smelling waterfront is vital to economic growth, tourism, quality of life and an improved natural environment. Therefore, on behalf of the Miami River Commission, I thank Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Mayor Carlos Gimenez, and the Board of County Commissioners for including \$140,000 for the excellent services provided by the Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel.

The Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel removes floatable debris, and every hour decontaminates 600,000 gallons of water and injects 150,000 liters of oxygen into the water. This significantly improves water quality, aesthetics, and removes foul odors.

The Miami River is a destination landscape for residents and tourists alike. The Miami River's over 10,000 residences, 15 restaurants, 10 public parks, 6.5 miles of constructed public Miami River Greenway, etc. all appreciate and benefit from the Scavenger Vessel's tremendous services.

Support letters for the Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel are on file from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, City of Miami, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

I also welcome the owners of the Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel, Sophie and Mark Mastriano, Water Management Technologies.

Frank Balzebre, MRC Vice Chairman, provided the following update on the Miami River Voluntary Improvement Plan (VIP):

- The MRC recently reported and coordinated the removal of a derelict vessel, and reported a clogged storm drain which was thankfully cleaned out by FDOT.
- The MRC was pleased to coordinate and provide supplies for volunteers working to beautify the public Miami River Greenway on:
- July 13 – 35 volunteers from the Miami Dolphins removed invasive plant species in Sewell Park.
- July 17 – 35 volunteers from the Miami Dolphins pulled weeds in the public Riverwalk's community vegetable and fruit garden here at 1407 NW 7 ST, and picked up garbage along the public Riverwalk.
- August 1 – 35 volunteers from the Miami Dolphins picked up garbage along the shore in Sewell Park
- August 25 and September 29 – 12 volunteers from Hands on Miami picked up garbage along the public Riverwalk and pulled weeds from the community vegetable and fruit garden here at 1407 NW 7 ST
- The MRC's next volunteer Miami River Greenway beautification events will be:
- October 13 - Volunteers from UM's "Gandhi Day" will work along the Miami River Greenway on North River Drive from I-95 to the 5 ST Bridge, and will paint over graffiti on the 1 ST and 5 ST Bridges, spread mulch, and pick-up litter

- October 27 - 30 volunteers from UM's "Hurricanes Help the Hometown" will maintain the Community vegetable and Fruit Garden and pickup garbage along the public Riverwalk here at 1407 NW 7 ST

II. Consider City of Miami's Application to Amend Land Use and Zoning at 1491, 1501, 1603, 1611, 1631, 1645, 1665, 1675, 1701 NW South River Drive and 1001, 1007, 1015 and 1111 NW 17 CT

The MRC's Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee's distributed 9/11/18 public meeting minutes state:

"Ryan Shedd, City of Miami Planning Department, presented the City of Miami's Application to Amend the Land Use and Zoning at 1491, 1501, 1603, 1611, 1631, 1645, 1665, 1675, 1701 NW South River Drive and 1001, 1007, 1015 and 1111 NW 17 CT, from Single Family Residential, T3-L, to Low Density Multifamily Residential, T4-R. Mr. Shedd presented the following documents:

- Comprehensive Plan Amendment Staff Analysis
- City of Miami Analysis of Rezoning
- Future Land Use Map Proposed
- Future Land Use Map Existing
- Comprehensive Plan Amendment Aerial
- Miami 21 Existing
- Miami 21 Proposed

Mr. Shedd stated three parcels INSERT ADDRESS in the subject area were recently rezoned from T3 to T4 for a private sector development which provided a voluntary covenant to include a public Riverwalk, new seawall on 16 Ave and improvements to the 16 Ave public greenspace / median. Miami 21 requires new developments to include a public Riverwalk's in T5 and T6. Attendees noted the subject existing single-family homes will never have to provide a public Riverwalk, yet the City and property owners agreed to requiring a future redevelopment in the proposed up zoned and amendment to the comprehensive plan parcels to include a public Riverwalk.

Attending subject property owners provided a statement of support for the land use and zoning amendments signed by all of the riverfront property owners.

MRC Urban Infill Working Group Chairman Jim Murley suggested the Miami River Commission recommend approval of the item with the condition that any future redevelopment include the public Riverwalk."

Mr. Shedd stated since the MRC subcommittee meeting, the Planning Department did add on the few remaining T3 parcels in this connected subject stretch of riverfront. Mr. Shedd stated the City has not included changing the public park space to Parks (CS) zoning as recommended by

the MRC subcommittee Chair Murley. Mr. Shedd stated instead of a voluntary covenant to require a public Riverwalk if the subject parcels are ever redeveloped in the future, the City will be doing a text amendment to Section 3.11 of the zoning code. Mr. Prieguez stated the potential text amendments to Zoning Code 3.11 should be considered first by the City Commission, and Mr. Shedd replied it hasn't been drafted yet. **The MRC adopted a unanimous resolution to defer this agenda item, and the potential amendments to Zoning Code 3.11, to the MRC's November 5 public meeting, noon, Lummus Park, 250 NW North River Drive.**

III. MRC Subcommittee Reports

A. Greenways Subcommittee –

Since the City and County's adoption of the *Miami River Greenway Action Plan*, of the planned 10-mile public Miami River Greenway, 6.5 miles are complete. Currently the public Riverwalk is under construction at River Landing, Aston Martin, and One River Point. The MRC is continuing to advocate for funding to finish construction of the remaining 3.5 miles of the public Miami River Greenway from the following sources:

1. Voter approved "Miami Forever" City GO Bond Issue
2. State Sun Trail Grant (City submitted \$1 million application)
3. Rails to Trails Application for a \$2 million cost share Volkswagen Settlement Cost Share
4. New TPO Grant Funding Program
5. County GOB Bond Issue (expend remaining "Miami River Greenway" line item balance due plus additional pledged \$1,000,000)
6. Expend \$1,000,000 2016 TAP grant awarded to the City of Miami
7. FIND 50/50 matching grants
8. Private sector developments

I thank the City Commission for approving at 1st reading and ordinance which maintains the zoning code's current requirements for the public Miami River Greenway. Upon final approval at 2nd reading, the MRC will drop their appeal of a Zoning Interpretation, filed over a year ago.

The Miami River Greenway is significantly improving the natural environment and economy, with over 8,000 connecting new residential units, additional 7,450 approved residential units, major hotels with an additional 3 approved hotels featuring 1,160 new rooms, 23 operating restaurants with an additional 23 planned restaurants, over 550,000 square feet of retail currently under construction, etc.

The Miami River Greenway serves as a safe transportation route for alternate forms of transportation like bicycles and pedestrians, and directly connects with 2 Metro-Rail stations and 2 Metro-Mover stations, therefore reduces vehicular traffic, gas consumption, and carbon emissions. In addition, walking and biking on the Miami River Greenway improves your physical health.

The MRC's next public Greenways and Urban Infill Subcommittee's meeting is October 19, here, at 3 PM.

B. Stormwater Subcommittee

The Miami River Commission's Stormwater Subcommittee held a public meeting on September 5. The meeting minutes will be distributed in the near future. The increased services of the Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel will provide significant needed improvements to water quality in the Miami River.

C. Economic Development and Commerce Subcommittee – Chair Philip Everingham

The MRC's Economic Development and Commerce Subcommittee is scheduling an informational presentation regarding the \$30 million renovation and modernization of the RMK Merrill Stevens Shipyard which we can see under construction outside our window today. The project includes a new seawall, new workshops, and new ship lift. In addition, they have re-established the Merrill-Stevens Yachts sales and brokerage business, and now represent Sealine Yachts as the South Florida dealer as well as Service and Warranty Center for Sealine, Fjord, and Maori Yachts.

III. New Business

The meeting adjourned.

**Miami River Commission
 Public Meeting**

Monday, October 1, 2018
 Noon
 1407 NW 7 ST
 Miami, FL

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE & E-MAIL</u>
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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE & E-MAIL</u>
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LORI OTT	Homeowner	305 710-1326
ADAM GETTINGER	Home Owner	305-562-6778
MARCO DEL TRO	Home OWNER	786-407-8978
Jacqueline Fundora	homeowner	786-402-8944
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