



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance: Board Members** – Present: Anamarie Melo (AM), Alicia A. Casanova (AC), Melinda Pearce (Absent), Deborah Lake (DL), Esteban Porcelli (EP), Charlotte Tomic (CT), Michelle Redlich (MR) and Jorge I. Acosta (JA)

Video Link: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGXkUg-bTc4fPYS6Rbgd9LIAv4HNkyC\\_F](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGXkUg-bTc4fPYS6Rbgd9LIAv4HNkyC_F)

- I. **Registration and Zoom Instructions:** AC meticulously vetted each person and requested they identify themselves. AM acknowledged all MBNA Board of Directors being present.
- II. **Call to Order and Determination of Quorum:** The meeting was called to order by MBNA President, Anamarie Melo (AM), at 6:01 pm. after verifying a quorum of the Executive Board of Directors.
- III. **Welcome and Introductions:** AM welcomed everyone. She explained that we do not plan on having an August meeting. However, it may depend on the August 18<sup>th</sup> election. AM requested that everyone mute themselves and AC reminded everyone to use the Zoom “chat” feature to ask questions or request to speak.
- IV. **Approval of June Minutes:** DL made a Motion table the May, 2020 Minutes. JA seconded. All in favor; Motion passed.
- V. **Treasurer’s Report:** Since Treasurer was not able to be in attendance, AM reported on the financials and membership update. We currently have 52 active members (38 condos and 14 hotels). No expenses this month. Current balance in Iberia Bank: **\$5,048.51**
- VI. **MBNA Hosting a special meeting July 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 6:45 pm:** AM spoke about the upcoming MBNA Special Meeting where MAST Capital will be presenting their proposal for the new Alton Bay Condo project at 4000 Alton Road. Also during this Special Meeting, Aman Hotels will be presenting their proposal for their project at 34<sup>th</sup> and Collins Ave. Both projects are proposing modifications to approved plans, including height increases.
- VII. **Census:** AM encouraged everyone to complete the US Census.
- VIII. **41st Street improvements:** Commissioner Steven Meiner talked about tree lighting being proposed for the entire stretch of 41<sup>st</sup> street. The City is planning a full lighting initiative throughout the City. The proposal for 41st includes lighting up 251 trees year-round with LED lights at a cost of \$80k. AM and AC expressed their concerns about the blackout areas seen during the Holiday lighting of random trees, and wanted reassurance that the spacing between light bulbs would be evenly distributed.
- IX. **School Board Update:** Josh Levy spoke about the re-opening options for schools. He stated school board is voting on four different models including brick and mortar, hybrid, online virtual, or partial classroom and partial virtual. He described the concerns/questions being asked as by parents, including face shields or masks requirements, sports, etc. He understands there are concerns and was looking forward to addressing these issues.

- X. **Indian Creek Project:** AM said she will table this issue until next meeting. She stated that project updates and videos of the project's progress are posted on the MBNA website and social media.
- XI. **Sidewalk Utility Markings:** Jack Levenbrown stated he is in the "information gathering" phase. He spoke with Commissioner Higgins' office and with Public Works Dept. to learn more about the utility markings that are an eyesore throughout the City. Due to Florida Statute chapter 556 section D, it is up to the State to regulate utility markings. Hence, the City cannot adopt or enforce the rules regarding paint, size, etc. Commissioner Higgins said that the County right-of-way does not define the word temporary and code enforcement could litigate it. She was hoping to get a definition of what is "temporary." Commissioner will use her lobbyist to try to legislate changes regarding type of paint being used for the markings. She will continue to work with us on this.

## **XII. Beachwalk**

1. **Bollards:** Tathiane Trofino, Aide to Commissioner Steinberg, said that Commissioner Steinberg will investigate the Bollards that were installed on 46<sup>th</sup> street and the beach. Steve Feldman mentioned that the GO Bond will be allocating funds for this safety concern. He will be meeting with Public Works.
2. **Surveillance Cameras:** AM mentioned that we're not on the Oversight Committee in regards to cameras or safety bollards. Kevin mentioned that Robert Rabinowitz attends all the GO Bond meetings. The voices of the residents are being heard. David Gomez will talk about the beach walk design which will include the 3 "wavy" brick patterns to create some visual directionals as requested by the MBNA. Captain Feldman talked about the Surveillance Cameras. The cost estimate is 4 million from 1<sup>st</sup> street to 80<sup>th</sup> street. The request is approx. 1.25 million for 45<sup>th</sup> to 63<sup>rd</sup> Streets. John Woodrow (the City's CFO) is concerned about safety and quality of life so this is a valuable component.
3. **Signage:** PMBNA is working with City regarding need for signing on Beach Walk such such as "Slow Down" and "Yield to Pedestrians". Steve Huntoon mentioned that the City has a certain design style (standards) for each sign and these will be presented to the MBNA for review before manufacturing and placement.

## **XIII. Collins Avenue**

1. **Traffic lights:** After receiving complaint from MBNA, Jose Gonzalez, CMB Transportation Director, agreed to improve the signal light change request and revert to where pedestrians will once again need to press the signal button to cross intersections. This had been changed due to the pandemic.
2. **Temporary Bike Lane:** Based on the feedback, the City will evaluate the installation of a temporary 12-foot bike lane that would be installed southbound on the west lane from 63<sup>rd</sup> to 43<sup>rd</sup> . Busses would also have access to this lane. AM expressed numerous concerns regarding this bike lane pilot program.
3. **Trolley Service:** The City will relaunch the trolley service on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **IV. Sargassum:**

1. Adrian Morales, CMB Property Management Director, spoke about working with Miami Dade County Parks Dept in regards to mechanical cleaning of the beach. In May they had 674 cubic yards removed and in June 4600 cubic yards were removed. The seaweed comes in and out and removal is a daily task. They have a budget and are reviewing the hot spots given that they are settling into the new sand.
2. Betsy Wheaton, CMB Environment and Sustainability Director, mentioned that we need to continue to work with our local universities to understand the source of sargassum. Betsy mentioned that this will be an on-going challenge and that she will continue to work with our partners. She also stated that the Beach Re-nourishment Project was completed a couple of weeks ago so now the sand needs to settle.
3. County Commissioner Eileen Higgins stated that Sargassum is a State-wide discussion not only a County-wide discussion and that she will continue to work on this situation and keep us updated.

## **IV. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.