



MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Attendance: Board Members – Anamarie Ferreira de Melo, Alicia Casanova (absent), Justin Jacobs & Esteban Porcelli. Deborah Lake, Oscar Vazquez (absent), Michelle Redlich, and Jose Flores.

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=il7B53tqlhg>

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by MBNA President, Anamarie Ferreira de Melo (AFM), at 6:00 pm.
2. **Welcome and Introductions:** AFM provided all the members with some reminders and also introduced various persons in attendance:
 - **Meetings:** MBNA meets on the first Wednesday of every month from January to June and then again from September to November. The links to the meetings can always be found on our website on the homepage, www.midbeach.net.
 - **Active Working Groups:** Beachwalk, Beach & Water Quality (meets the 3rd of every month at 4 pm), Public Space, Collins North, Collins South (24th to 44th), and Indian Creek. You can see all these working groups and their progress on our website.
3. **Updates on New Improvements in Mid Beach Area:**
 - **Dog Park (37th Street & Collins):** Elizabeth Estevez from the Parks & Recreation department, who is the Capital Projects Manager provided an update. The dog park has been added to their five-year capital plan and for funding in the FY 26. It can be funded sooner, but that would be up to the Commission to prioritize all improvement capital projects. The commission is also considering the uses for the green space that is being proposed for the dog park and others have proposed a pickleball area as well. Currently this area is not a park space but a green space. However, if approved, they would be happy to make it a dog park similar to the one built in Allison Park. Alex Fernandez confirmed the dog park was not funded for this fiscal year but was for 2026 as there is other construction occurring around that area.
 - **Miami Beach Drive:** Commissioner Fernandez provided an update on this matter. Fernandez outlined the concerns which were raised about this area. There was confusion about the ownership of parts of the drive and the responsibility for maintenance of such, however, that has now been clarified and it is back with the City of Miami Beach. The Public Works department will be working on this area for improvements to have it preserved as a Promenade. Rodney Knowles, Asst. Director of the Public Works Department, provided a brief update on their current efforts in this area.
 - **Indian Creek Pedestrian Pathway:** Rodney Knowles, Asst. Director of the Public Works department, provided a brief update. The notice to proceed was granted to the landscape contractor. There was some corrective work that had to be done for proper elevation. This has pushed the completion

date to the end of December. There were some questions on the final design of the landscaping. Rodney explained that the directives from Commission would be carried out as approved in the construction plans. If there was any conflict between vegetation and pathway width, vegetation would supersede. There was additional concern on vegetation walls being present in the pathway. AMF suggested that this be further discussed, and the design be reviewed at a Committee meeting along with our MBNA Working Group Chair and also discuss the temporary bus stop to this review.

- Properties in despair (24th & 41st Street): Several residents expressed their concerns with properties in despair in this area and we would like to know what the status of these properties are in regard to the building and code enforcement departments (permits or violations) and with the police department (safety).

Kevin Pulido, Tom Code and Captain Baldwin provided some updates. Since October of last year, they received 381 calls and issued 210 violations in this one area. They stated they work hand in hand with the building department on these matters. Tom recommended residents to report any issues and call the number, as emails take a little longer to be filtered through to the correct department.

AFM recommended a site visit and also mapping out the area with the inventory to have a more specific plan to work with. Captain Baldwin provided an update on his department as it relates to the safety of this area. Baldwin has directed an Officer to include this area on his route for directive patrol. The police department relies on calls and reports to be able to address these matters. Kevin summarized the process and stated a particular building of concern was issued a violation and that building is required, while it is under construction, to have the building secured which would include a fence and boarding up any broken windows.

If this is not complied with the building department has other avenues for enforcement, all the way up to the Miami Dade County Unsafe Structure Board where they could eventually issue a demolition permit order. Commissioner Fernandez requested a site visit of this area with Code and finding other measures and faster solutions.

4. **Adjournment:** Next meeting will take place on November 1, 2023. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.