



Town of Surfside

SPECIAL DOWNTOWN VISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 16, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Commission Chambers –
9293 Harding Ave, 2nd Floor, Surfside, FL 33154

Opening Items:

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

The following Members introduced themselves:

Chair Shaun Grenald
Vice Chair Elliot Kula
Fred Landsman
George Kousoulas
Marianne Meischeid
Sandra Oliva

Absent: Asmaa Benkirane

Also present: Guillermo Olmedillo, Town Manager
Duncan Tavares, Assistant Town Manager
Lindsay Fast, Tourism Director
Frank Trigueros, Marketing & Special Projects Coordinator
Frantza Duval, Recording Clerk

2. Approval of Minutes: April 11, 2019

Committee Member Meischeid made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion received a second from Committee Member Landsman and all voted in favor.

3. Meeting Recap

Tourism Director Fast mentioned that she had ask the Town Clerk to include the Committee Charter in their packet as a way to stay on track.

Committee Kousoulas asked for a moment of privilege to convey some of the proceedings from the Town Commission. He stated that the Committee had two items that were the hurricane shutters and parking. He believes that the parking recommendation was misunderstood by the Town Commission. He suggested that a member of the committee attend the meeting in order to properly present any items moving forward.

Committee Meischeid stated that she was upset at the fact that the shutters item was not heard. Tourism Director Fast explained that now that the April minutes were adopted it will provide the commission a better background as they will have the adopted minutes as well as the memorandum in their agenda packets.

Some discussion took place related to the parking recommendation and what the Commissioners concerns were.

Some discussion took place related to the minutes, the adoption of the minutes and when the adopted minutes are included in the Town Commission agendas.

Chair Grenald recommended that the Committee take the opportunity to nominate two to three members of the Committee to represent the Committee in front of the Town Commission during the Town Commission meetings.

Committee Member Kousoulas made a motion to appoint two members to be available to speak at the Town Commission meetings. The motion received a second from Committee member Meischeid and all voted in favor.

There were 4 members of the committee that volunteered to be available at the Town Commission meetings. The volunteer members are:

Fred Landsman
Shaun Grenald
George Kousoulas
Marianne Meischeid

A. Off-Street Parking Rates

Tourism Director stated that she would like to bring this item back to DVAC in order to discuss further and then subsequently bring back to the Town Commission for their discussion and approval at the July Town Commission meeting.

Committee member Landsman requested to speak about giving employees a parking discount at the next meeting wrapped into the parking conversation. Discussion ensued about permits given by the Town for employee parking, and the fact that there currently are a limited number of permits.

They allowed Sandra Oliva to introduced herself as the newest member of the Committee.

Assistant Manager Tavares explained that under this item the Commission did not discussed the loading zones. He mentioned that staff needs to evaluate if this is something that needs to go back to the Town Commission or just direct staff to do it without Commission approval. We will advise at our next meeting.

B. Main Street Program

Tourism Director Fast introduced the item to the committee. She stated that Assistant Town Manager Tavares has reached out to them but has yet to hear back. She stated that they would potentially like to invite a representative from Mainstreet America to present at their next meeting via Skype. Assistant Town Manager Tavares provided a brief overview of the program and answered some questions posed by the committee.

There was some discussion related to the restrictions that may be placed on the Town in terms of participating in the Main Street Program.

Committee Member Landsman made a motion to invite a representative from Mainstreet to their next meeting. The motion received a second from Committee Member Kousoulas and all voted in favor.

Chairman Grenald mentioned that he spoke to a few property owners downtown in regards to a BID, and the response was wishy-washy. He infers that we might have the same issue as the past in non-participation in terms of getting approval on the BID, and is hopeful that Main Street might be the better option but has some concerns about the potential restrictions.

4. Discussion Items

A. Unified look

*** This item was discussed after item 4C.*

Discussion between the committee members took place as to what they would like to see happen in the downtown district.

After a lengthy discussion, Board Member Landsman made a motion to request the Planning and Zoning Board to review the design guidelines for downtown district. The motion received a second from Board Member Meischeid and all voted in favor.

B. Walkability

Chair Grenald spoke on the item regarding his findings as he walked around the downtown area. He believes that there are a couple walls that could be used for Instagramable moments. One of them is the Big Daddy's and Café Ragazzi. He spoke about the possibility of getting local artists to create a mural on one of those walls to inspire people to take photos at those locations.

Conversation took place regarding the Town's lack of an ordinance that would allow or govern art in public places.

Committee Member Landsman made a motion to encourage staff to bring to the Commission DVAC's in creating an "Art in Public Places" ordinance. The motion received a second from Committee Member Kula and all voted in favor.

Conversation took place on the process that an ordinance in regards to "Art in Public Places" would come to the Commission in the form of a discussion item, which would have to eventually be reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board and then final approval by the Town Commission.

Tourism Director Fast offered to bring this item and the idea to the Tourist Board for their discussion and feedback.

Committee member Kousoulas mentioned some things downtown help work in the favor of walkability, but we need to identify where we have opportunities. The Instagramable moments are one aspect to help improve walkability, but there are other topics that can also be investigated. Town

Manager Olmedillo mentioned engaging a student at University of Miami to examine other walkability opportunities this summer.

C. Alleyways

Town Manager Olmedillo presented the item and stated that he will be placing an item regarding the Alleyways on the June 11, 2019 Regular Town Commission meeting. He spoke about the two real platted alleys that are in Town, and the issues therein related.

Committee Member Landsman made a motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. The motion received a second from Committee Member Kula and all voted in favor.

Further discussion took place among the members in regards to the University of Miami student expectations, and new sidewalk proposal from Public Works.

Committee Member Oliva left the meeting at 8:05pm.

**Item 4A was discussed next.

5. Future Meeting Dates

*** Thursday, June 6, 2019 – 6:00 pm (Conflicts with Community Beach Renourishment Meeting, so needs to be rescheduled)*

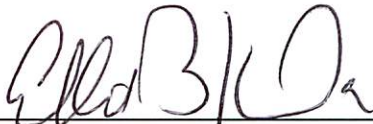
Committee Member Kousoulas made a motion to schedule their next meeting for June 20, 2019. The motion received a second from Board Member Meischeid and all voted in favor.

6. Adjournment

Committee Member Meischeid made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion received a second from Committee Member Landsman and all voted in favor.

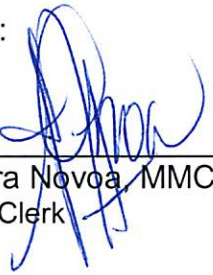
Respectfully submitted:

Accepted this 20th day of June, 2019



Shaun Grenald, Chair
Elliot B. Kula
Vice Chair

Attest:



Sandra Novoa, MMC
Town Clerk