



MINUTES
COMMISSION IN THE COMMUNITY
Log Cabin - 640 NE 114th Street
Biscayne Park, FL 33161
Saturday, February 6, 2016 at 10:30am

At 10:34am, Mayor Coviello welcomed everyone in attendance.

In attendance were Mayor David Coviello, Commissioner Bob Anderson, Commissioner Fred Jonas, Commissioner Roxanna Ross, Village Manager Heidi Siegel and Village Clerk Maria Camara.

Tracy Truppman: Congratulates everyone on the new building.

Jorge Marinoni: Incredible all the things that have been done. Please focus on the roads. A lot of deterioration. Instead of a study, get quotes from companies for a plan to repair. Would not mind an assessment to pay for repairs.

Commissioner Ross: Certain criteria to follow to contract or purchase. City has to put out a bid request for such a large amount and a plan is required to be included. As in the study being done for storm water, this will identify roads that need repair. It will give us a more global view of what needs to be done.

Dan Keys: Instead drive around and make a list, then ask for a proposal. For many years the roads have not been addressed. 1994 was last time a repair was done.

Tracy Truppman: As the community what the issues are and then prioritize as opposed to letting the few that attend here make a list, or the commission to make a list.

Gary Kuhl: Most recently roads were in good shape. The Waste Pro trucks are impacting the roads more now. They are driving on swales and destroying medians. Roads failing more because of these heavy trucks. No attempt from Waste Pro to respect medians or swales on private property.

Commissioner Jonas: Same would have happened if we did not outsource as the Village would have had to purchase bigger trucks.

Tracy Truppman: Have seen other vehicles make poor turns. Roads were not originally designed for modern technology. Our roads are narrow. If you tear up roads, you have to deal with water pipe issues. There are serious infrastructure issues with water. It is our biggest challenge. Suggest looking at the County for water service. North Miami has increased their rates, but has done nothing for basic services, water pressure, etc.

Manager Siegel: County (WASA) has no interest in servicing us. Their main priority is to modernize their water treatment plant. Prior City of North Miami Manager committed that if the Village did road repairs, they would utilize that opportunity to improve/replace the water pipes.

Mayor Coviello: Need to finalize a contract with City of North Miami.

Dan Keys: Current agreement that has been drafted sounds very basic. Need to add more in it such as replacement of pipes and road repair.

Dan Keys: On storm water drainage plan, it may identify bad spots and will be a lot of work to be done. Concerned it will put Village in a position that it cannot afford down the line.

Barbara Kuhl: People I speak with do not see a flooding issue. Why spend money on that. Why did we do this plan to begin with. Roads do need repair. But we don't need a study when any idiot can tell if a road needs to be repaired. Take the top 10 worst roads and get a quote for that. Massive studies to do common sense repairs? We don't have money for erroneous studies. I want every dollar spent well.

Janey Anderson: Storm water is not anyone's fixation. Should not just accept what the study will report. Residents are talking about code issues. Tackle what people are talking about.

Tracy Truppman: If there is a benefit from the plans that will tackle the problems of the roads and water pipes, then does not object.

Manager Siegel: Just returned from a gathering of professionals where there was a discussion on "regionalism". Many cities struggle with this where we only focus on our own city or Village. Need to work with our neighbors collectively.

Harvey Bilt: On code enforcement, about time to hire a professional attorney for new ordinances written. Our code on portable storage units is not enforceable. Language needs to be tightened. Code must be easily understandable. Clear on how to enforce.

Gary Kuhl: There are contradictions on our code. If a professional were hired, they can put it in a correct format. We don't have the expertise. Last commission meeting very positive. A real interest in code enforcement. However Reggie is still overwhelmed. If we are serious about code enforcement, then Village needs to look at itself. Screen the trash cans at Village Hall. Public Works is a mess. It is an embarrassment. Hedges not maintained. If Village does not show pride, then the community does not show pride.

Barbara Kuhl: Our code is difficult to understand. Information out to residents is lacking. On the newsletter, less ads and instead more important information such as not driving over medians, garbage cans out. Many throw out the newsletter, they don't care about events. Why doesn't the Commission inspire to have beautiful lawns. Have a landscaping expo. Have a driveway expo.

Tracy Truppman: Expo idea is great. Have a different focus each month on issues.

Dan Keys: Biscayne Park pride program should be attempted. Look at your home. Point out successes and failures. Many people don't care what their home looks like. On survey idea, focus on specific items. Home improvement expo a good idea. Get Home Depot, tile companies, etc. to participate. Need more events to show our pride. Make the quarterly trash pick up more beneficial for residents.

Janey Anderson: Any time code changes, make better effort to communicate it out such as website, e-mail, flyers, etc. The more the better.

Commissioner Ross: Get Waste Pro to help educate. Consider magnets. Include information from the Chief on Crime Watch. Focus on a campaign to inform and educate.

Carl Bickell: Concrete poles added, but wood poles remain. Street lights that have been out over 6 months. Where there is new construction, medians are being destroyed by trucks. School buses, garbage trucks are destroying swales on corners.

Manager Siegel: A bond is requested from the property owner during construction. If repairs are not made to median, bond is kept.

Chuck Ross: Can vendors advertise to the Village on their services. Utilize their resources.

Janey Anderson: If you consider extending the deadline for compliance, many will wait until the last minute to comply. Problem will persist. Deal with residents on an individual basis. This will provide significant improvements to the Village.

Barbara Kuhl: North Miami Senior Foundation gives seniors a list of vendors that provide services to the elderly/handicapped. What process did they use to qualify those vendors. Doing the same will give comfort to our residents.

Harvey Bilt: On the narrower streets, consider making them one-way.

Tracy Truppman: Or consider lower the speeds on those narrower streets.

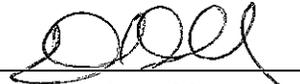
Jenny Johnson-Sardella: On our code, difficult to read. Contradictions not enforceable.

Mayor Coviello: Thanks everyone again for their attendance and participation.

Meeting was concluded at 12:20pm.

Commission approved on March 1, 2016.

Attest:



David Coviello, Mayor



Maria Camara, Village Clerk