



VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK
Village Commission Agenda Report
REGULAR MEETING

Item # 5.b

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the Biscayne Park Village Commission
FROM: MacDonald Kennedy, Vice Mayor
DATE: October 6, 2020
TITLE: Presentation of Sanctuary and Oasis Awards, Fall 2020

Background

At the July 7 commission meeting, we unanimously created the new quarterly home and garden awards:

- The Sanctuary Award for outstanding exterior home renovation
- The Oasis Award for outstanding front yard garden

In September, residents nominated their favorite projects for the Fall 2020 awards, and two village volunteer boards selected the winners: Planning & Zoning for the Sanctuary Award; Parks & Parkways for the Oasis Award. Much appreciation to all involved and congratulations to the many properties that were nominated.

Presentation

The Commission of the Village of Biscayne is proud to present these first quarterly awards for outstanding contributions to the aesthetics of the village.

Oasis Award: Outstanding Garden for Fall 2020

Juan and Georgiana Di Polo, 785 NE 119 Street (at the northwest corner of 8th Ave.)

Initially created by Urban Habitat but expanded upon and lovingly maintained by the Di Polos, this hedgerow on a prominent village corner extends fully along both sides with a lovely corner presentation into the intersection. Truly, this garden is a showstopper that many passersby stop to admire on their daily walks. Additionally, the plant choices create habitat and food sources for birds in our sanctuary and a variety of insects. In every season, the garden boasts a bounty of berries and a wide range of flowers. On the corner sits a majestic saw palmetto with a number of fast-growing Dade County Pines that will contribute to our tree canopy for many, many decades.

Sanctuary Award: Outstanding House Renovation for Fall 2020

Tara and Dario Alfie, 11060 Griffing Blvd.

Tara moved from Chicago to marry Dario, originally from Argentina, and began extensive renovations to their first home together, starting with important matters like impact windows and a septic drain field before moving on to the fun stuff like a pool. Then, they tackled the exterior front of the property with a significant facelift, for which we award them tonight, with a goal to achieve a “contemporary, rustic” appearance. Improvements include a modern roof and gutters, gates into the backyard, a new paint scheme, a pea gravel driveway for aesthetics and drainage, an enlarged walkway and front porch, a garage conversion to third bedroom/laundry room, and finally replacing the lawn with professional landscaping.

Please join the Biscayne Park commission in thanking Juan, Georgiana, Tara, and Dario for their contributions to our village. Public Works will install award signs in their front yards so neighbors can also congratulate them for the Fall quarter, October through December. The next quarterly awards will be announced at the January commission meeting for Winter 2021, and the village will send out a call for nominations in November.

Attachment(s)

- Photos of yard signs for Sanctuary Award and Oasis Award
- Photos of both outstanding properties
 - o Oasis Award: 785 NE 119 Street (garden)
 - o Sanctuary Award: 11060 Griffing Blvd. (before and after house renovation)

Prepared/Sponsored by: MacDonald Kennedy, Vice Mayor







