

Miami River Commission Public Meeting Minutes March 3, 2025

The Miami River Commission's (MRC) public meeting convened at noon, March 3, 2025, in the Downtown Library Auditorium, 101 W Flagler. Sign in sheets are attached.

Miami River Commission (MRC) Policy Committee Members and/or Designees attending:

Horacio Stuart Aguirre, Chairman, Appointed by the Governor
James Murley, Vice-Chairman, designee for Miami-Dade County Daniela Levine Cava
Megan Kelly, designee for City of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez
Eddie Marti Kring, designee for County Commissioner Eileen Higgins
Betty Hermida, designee for City of Miami Commissioner Gabela
Philip Everingham, designee for Marine Council
Theo Long, Neighborhood Representative appointed by Board of County Commissioners
Eileen Broton, Neighborhood Representative Appointed by City of Miami Commission
Richard Murphy, designee for Neighborhood Representative Appointed by City of Miami Commission
Bruce Brown, Miami River Marine Group
Spencer Crowley, Member at Large Appointed by the City Commission
Alvaro Coradin, designee for Member at Large Appointed by the County Commission
John Michael Cornell, designee for Member at Large Appointed by the Governor
Neal Schafers, designee for the Downtown Development Authority

MRC Staff:

Brett Bibeau, Managing Director

I) Chair's Report and "Voluntary Improvement Plan" (VIP) Update

The Miami River Commission unanimously adopted their February public meeting minutes.

MRC Chairman Horacio Stuart Aguirre provided the following report:

The Miami River Commission's February public meeting minutes were emailed in advance of today's meeting. Do I have a motion on the minutes?

Before you is your invitation to the free 26th Annual Miami Riverday, which will be held April 5, 2025, 1-6 PM, Lummus Park, 250 NW North River Drive, featuring free boat rides, live music, environmental education, historic reenactors, children's activities, food and drinks. We thank all of our listed generous sponsors which allow Riverday to remain free to the public, many of whom are represented here today such as Commissioner Higgins, Commissioner Gabela, John Michael Cornell from Hurricane Cove, Spencer Crowley from FIND and Akerman, and Alvaro Coradin from Antillean Marine.

MRC Vice Chairman Jim Murley provided the following Miami River Voluntary Improvement Plan (VIP) Update: The Miami River Commission has been actively assisting the efforts of the City, County, State, and private sector to clean up the Miami River District. The MRC pays professional maintenance companies every day to remove litter, invasive plant species, graffiti and provide landscaping, pressure washing, vacuum truck, and Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel services along the Miami River. In addition, the MRC thanks the Hands on Miami volunteers whom picked up garbage along the Miami River in Sewell Park on February 16, and in Curtis Park on February 23.

II. Discussion Regarding 22 Avenue Bridge

Ryan Fisher, Miami Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works, distributed and presented, "Fact Sheet - Miami Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works – Project No. 20250026 Emergency Repairs at NW 22 Ave Movable Bridge No. 874383". The document stated in part, "expected to be completed by August 2025".

III. Update Regarding Removing Designated Derelict Vessels From the Miami River

City of Miami Marine Patrol LT Tameron stated the City recently received FIND grant awards which provide a 50% cost share for the City of Miami to remove the 3 currently designated derelict vessels from the City of Miami's portion of the Miami River in the near future. The FWC has pledged the funding for and is planning the removal of the large "Borocho" derelict shipping vessel located in unincorporated Miami-Dade County.

IV. Presentation Regarding City of Miami Owned Public Right of Way Aling NW 20 ST from Miami River to NW North River Drive

Attendees viewed pictures of the City of Miami Owned Public Right of Way Aling NW 20 ST from Miami River to NW North River Drive which a U-Haul business without City permission put a fence around and is storing vehicles without paying the City rent. Mr. Goldstein would like to include this City owned Right of way in his adjacent planned affordable housing development.

V. Presentation Regarding the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve Draft Management Plan

Griffin Alexander and Bethany Tober, Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve, presented the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve Draft Management Plan.

VI. New Business

The public meeting adjourned.

Miami River Commission

Public Meeting

March 3, 2025 - 12:00 PM

101 W Flagler, Miami FL - Main Library Auditorium

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