



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022 – 7:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

A meeting of the Mayor and Village Commission of the Village of Biscayne Park, Florida was held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 7:00 at the Log Cabin, 640 NE 114<sup>th</sup> Street, Biscayne Park, FL in person and via Zoom Meeting ID: 813 3335 3635

**2. Roll Call**

Village Clerk Shantay Bingham called the roll with following Commission members in attendance.

Mayor Groth  
Vice Mayor Amsler  
Commissioner Gonzalez  
Commissioner Kennedy  
Commissioner Olivera

**3. Pledge of Allegiance-**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Groth

**4. Additions, Deletions or Withdrawals to the Agenda**

*There were no additions, deletions or withdrawals to agenda.*

*Commission Gonzalez moved, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy to accept the agenda as presented.*

**5. Presentations**

**5.a Proclamation- The 89th Anniversary of the Village of Biscayne Park**

Mayor Groth read the Proclamation into the record.

**5.b Nomination of Vice-Mayor**

The Village Clerk respectfully requests that **Veronica Amsler** be nominated for the office of Vice-Mayor from December 2022 to May 2023.

**5.c Village Financial Overview**

Paul WinkleJohn gave an overview of the financials.

**5.d Village Safety Overview**

Police Chief Luis Cabrera and Commander Nick Wollscheger gave an overview of the item.

**5.e Commission Recognition**

Mayor Groth both proclamations into the record.

**6. Public Comments**

Janet Goodwin-A resident of Miami Shores Village addressed the Commission regarding the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Urged the Commission to write the letter to the Miami Shores letter in opposition.

Carol Repondek- A resident of Miami Shores Village addressed the Commission regarding the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Urged the Commission to write the letter to the Miami Shores letter in opposition. Thanked the Commission for their support.

Alek Bernhard- addressed the LDC and urged the Commission to take a good look at the proposed ordinance, addressed speeding, and mentioned that Officers know the problem areas and have the capability to recommend problem areas, saving money on the Traffic Study.

Dan Keys- spoke in regard to the setback requirements, and windows editions in the proposed Land Development Code. The zoning map doesn't show separate zoning which is should. Requested a public meeting for back-and-forth discussion to discuss the LDC changes of what is needed in Biscayne Park.

Mayor Groth made a recommendation to move 11.d up to allow Mr. Caserta to leave the meeting early.

#### 11.d [RESO 2022-55 Agreement with David Caserta](#)

Attorney Ed Dion read the item into the record.

David Caserta gave an overview of the item.

The Village Manager gave an overview of the item and the services provided by Mr. Caserta.

Moved by Commissioner Kennedy, seconded by vice Mayor Amsler. Reso No. 2022-55 passes 5-0

Vice Mayor Amsler asked about the deadline for items, asked if the contract, scope of work, and fees stay the same.

### **7. Commission Reply to Comments**

Commissioner Gonzalez- thanked the residents from Miami Shores Village. Mentioned that the Commission can't dictate what the MSV does. Mentioned that what happens over there will affect Biscayne Park. Will stand with the residents in solidarity because it will affect the Village.

Commissioner Kennedy- thanked the residents from Miami Shores Village for attending. mentioned that he would hold his comments for the LDC item.

### **8. Reports**

#### Board Reports

Marisah Gruen provided an update from the Board of Parks and Parkways.

Alek Bernhard provided an update from the Sustainability and Resilience Advisory Board

8.a

### Managers Report

Village Manager Mario Diaz provided an update to the Commission. Met with District Secretary of Florida Department of Transportation, feedback on signage, permitted and ready to go, an extended median of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave and 121<sup>st</sup> street to prevent accidents along 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, addressed Board vacancies, provided an update on the storm drain project, provided an update on Public Works, CAP will provide staff for Engineering, Issa Thornell will manage the Administration part, and will use the rest of the salary is to hire a part-time Landscaper/Arborist, will ask Public Works to increase the numbering of days of watering of trees, Coffee with Staff will be the Friday before the Commission meeting. Asked the Commission for a nomination for Holiday Judges and mentioned Miami Water Keeper, a great resource, and will put them in touch with Sustainability and Resilience Board.

8.b **Commission Report**

**Commissioner Kennedy** thanked Commissioner Gonzalez for his help with manatees along the canal. Provided LDC at a Glance for the benefit of the Commission and residents. Attended the Coastal Mayors workshop, provided a recap as the backup to agenda, addressed Board openings, watering of trees, especially Oak trees on Griffing Blvd, would like to figure out a solution and addressed how the Commission could assist staff. Would love to assist with updating the website.

**Vice Mayor Amsler**- addressed the Commission, and attended the Comprehensive workshop at Miami Shores Village. Met Mayor Harris, Vice Mayor, and staff of Miami Shores attended the Miami Dade League of Cities, Coffee with Staff, a wonderful opportunity to connect and receive feedback, and attended Ethics training. Thanked Marisah Gruen for her report and energy and hope to attend an upcoming meeting.

**Mayor Groth**- attended the Miami Dade League of Cities, excited to strengthen the bond between other jurisdictions and Biscayne Park.

9. **Consent Agenda**

**Moved by Commissioner Kennedy, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passes 5-0**

9.a **Commission Minutes**

**Approved on Consent Agenda**

9.b **Board Minutes**

**Approved on Consent Agenda**

9.c **RESO 2022-51 Interlocal Communications Service Tax Agreement**

**Approved on Consent Agenda**

10. **Ordinances**- There were no Ordinances.

## 11. Resolutions

### 11.a RESOLUTION 2022-52 COMMISSION MEETING DATES FOR 2023

Attorney Ed Dion read Resolution into the record.

Commissioner Olivera brought up streamlining meetings, Vice Mayor Amsler recommended having workshops to streamline the meeting process, and Commissioner Kennedy proposed a start time of 6pm, two meetings a month (one meeting is a discussion and the second would be the meeting to vote).

Commissioner Gonzalez does not agree with changing the format. Commissioner Kennedy likes the idea of starting at 6pm. Vice Mayor Amsler asked if we could look into how other municipalities handle meetings. Commissioner Kennedy moved, Seconded by Vice Mayor Amsler to approve the amended Resolution to include a start time of 6pm. Motion passes 5-0

### 11.b RESO 2022-53 GMS Financial Services Contract Renewal

Village Attorney Ed Dion read the Resolution into the record.

Village Manager Mario Diaz gave an overview of the item.

Commission discussion- Commissioner Gonzalez asked about the contract amount. Attorney, Valerie Vicente mentioned that the Cost of Living was not included in the Resolution. Commissioner Gonzalez asked why isn't the contract going out to bid. Village Manager Diaz provided an explanation as to why the bidding process was waived. Commissioner Kennedy is very pleased with GMS, and very happy to approve the contract.

Commissioner Kennedy moved, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to approve the item. Motion passes 5-0

### 11.c RESO 2022-54- Appointment to the Code Compliance Board

**A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF A BOARD MEMBER TO THE CODE COMPLIANCE BOARD; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Attorney Ed Dion read the Resolution into the record.

Commissioner Kennedy moved, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to approve the item. Motion passes 5-0

## 12. Discussion-Old Business- No Old Business

## 13. New Business

### 13.a Strategic Plan Initiative-

The Village Manager gave an overview of the item. A plan in place for the community, discussion over the past for two years regarding cost, received cost in the amount of \$30k, would love to seek the assistance of an intern student, Managers in Training, provided a resume for Alex Cohen. Will use Traffic Study funds for the budget. Was able to use CITT funds for the Traffic Study. Can dictate the timeline on when to complete the plan. Can complete the first quarter of 2023.

Commissioner Kennedy- really happy and excited to move forward. Residents completed a project to show what a process could look like. If you don't have a vision, you aren't going anywhere. Without a vision, no plan to go anywhere. What are we? What do we desire to be. Happy to see the accountability. How we measure the Manager and how to get the Village there. Two things would love to see it. Vision and a Plan, not happy about the Traffic Data funds used for the plan, but happy that the Manager went to CITT for funding for a traffic study. Would like someone very skilled to facilitate meetings to make sure we get the best of our residents. Vice Mayor Amsler makes her very happy to have a plan in place, consider the process and make sure that the right person is selected. Village Manager is to bring the item back at the January meeting.

13.c **Miami Shores Density Resolution**

Commissioner Kennedy gave an overview of the item. Commissioner Kennedy drafted a letter on behalf of the Commission to send to the Miami Shores Council in opposition of the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Olivera addressed the letter and believe that the Commission should show solidarity, read the letter, and thought it was perfect. Mayor Groth read the letter and thought it was a gentle reminder and appropriate to send. Vice Mayor Amsler, is also in agreement to send the letter. Commissioner Kennedy asked that Mayor Groth would deliver the letter and attend the meeting on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Kennedy to drop off the letter to Village Clerk Shantay Bingham for the execution of signatures by the Commission.

13.b **Pledge of Allegiance**

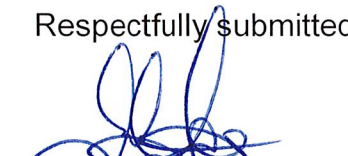
Commissioner Kennedy gave an overview of the item. Commissioner Gonzalez, fine with rotating Commissioners, don't believe we need a formal rule. Vice Mayor Amsler- great idea with having someone for the Pledge of Allegiance, not sure if it will take too much time, but love the idea. Mayor Groth, likes the idea, if someone comes great, If someone can't then fine. Will start in reverse order in January.

**14. Placement of Items on next meeting agenda- Village Manager proposed a Special Meeting for January 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**15. Announcements**

**16. Adjournment-** A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzalez to adjourn and a second was received by Commissioner Kennedy. Mayor Groth called for the vote and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan E. Groth  
Mayor

  
Shantay J. Bingham  
Village Clerk