

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

DATE: December 11, 2025

SUBJECT: BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – CITY COMMISSION / AT-LARGE APPOINTMENTS

RECOMMENDATION

The Item, at the direction of the Mayor, will be deferred to the Commission Meeting on February 3, 2025. We respectfully request that this Item be heard during the Commission Meeting on February 3, 2025.

ANALYSIS

The applicants who have filed with the Office of the City Clerk for the below At-Large appointments are included in Item R9 A.

BOARD AND COMMITTEES:

1. AD HOC CITY LIGHTING PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (3):

- One South Beach resident.
- Two North Beach residents.

2. AD HOC CITY SANITATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (4):

- One South Beach resident.
- One Mid-Beach resident.
- One North Beach resident.
- One member from the City as a whole.

3. AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (6):

Six members shall be appointed at-large by a majority vote of the Mayor and City Commission and must include members from at least six of the following categories:

- Actively engaged in the residential home-building industry in connection with affordable housing. (Category # 1)
- Actively engaged in the banking or mortgage banking industry in connection with affordable housing. (Category # 2)
- Representing those areas of labor actively engaged in home building in connection with affordable housing. (Category # 3)
- Actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing. (Category # 4)
- Actively engaged as a for-profit provider of affordable housing. (Category # 5)
- Actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing. (Category # 6)
- Actively engaged as a real estate professional in connection with affordable housing. (Category # 7)
- Actively serves on the local planning agency pursuant to Florida Statutes §163.3174 (Planning Board member) (Category # 8)
- Resides within the jurisdiction of the local governing body making the appointments. (Category # 9)
- Represents employers within the jurisdiction. (Category # 10)
- Represents essential services personnel, as defined in the local housing assistance plan. (Category # 11)

Five true vacancies and one vacancy to replace term-limited member Barbara Montero (Category # 9).

The Committee has one member in Category 1, one member in Category 2, one member in Category 7, and one member in Category 10.

Note: If the City, due to the presence of a conflict of interest by prospective appointees or other reasonable factors, is unable to appoint a citizen actively engaged in these activities in connection with affordable housing, a citizen engaged in the activity without regard to affordable housing may be appointed.

4. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

VACANCY (1):

- One member who shall possess a high degree of competence in the evaluation of art history and architectural history, art, architecture, sculpture, painting, artistic structure design, and other appropriate art media for display or integration in public places. *To replace term-limited member Aaron Resnick.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- Three members who shall possess a high degree of competence in the evaluation of art history and architectural history, art, architecture, sculpture, painting, artistic structure design, and other appropriate art media for display or integration in public places.

1. Ann-Kathrin Seif, Chair
2. Gabriel Paez
3. Sara de los Reyes

5. BLACK AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- One At-Large member licensed and actively practicing in the field of human relations/people development, communications/entertainment, art/culture, or education. (Category C)
1. Dorrie Foster

6. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (5/7 vote required)

VACANCY (1):

- One member representing one of the following professions (no more than one member per profession): 2) engineering, 4) certified public accounting, and 5) financial consultation. *To replace term-limited member Andres Asion.*

Currently, the committee has one member in Category 1 Law, one member in Category 3 Real Estate Development, and one member in Category 6 General Business.

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (2):

- Two citizens at large.
1. Daniel Nagler
 2. Steven Kreinik

7. BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCY (1):

- One Certified Public Accountant.

8. CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL (3-year term)

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- Three At-Large members - Best Interests of the Arts Within the City.
 1. Alberto Ravelo
 2. Sarah Leddick
 3. Tiffany Lapciuc

9. DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

VACANCIES (2):

- One Landscape Architect registered in the State of Florida or a professional practicing in the field of landscape architecture. (Category # 3)
- One architect registered in the United States, or a professional practicing in the fields of architectural or urban design or urban planning, or a resident with demonstrated interest or background in design issues; or an attorney in good standing licensed to practice. (Category #4). *To replace term-limited member Samuel Sheldon.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (2):

- One architect registered in the United States or a professional practicing in the field of architecture or architectural design. (Category # 1)
 1. Shawna Meyer
- One person who is a resident At-Large and who currently resides in the city and has resided in the city for at least (3) three consecutive years at the time of appointment or reappointment. Additionally, strong preference shall be given to individuals who have previously served on a Miami Beach board or committee and/or completed the Miami Beach Leadership Academy course and to individuals not currently working in the fields of real estate development, real estate brokerage/sales, real estate law, or architecture. (Category # 5)
 1. Mayra Diaz Buttacavoli

Note: Residency and or place of business - All regular members shall reside in or have their primary place of business in the county, except for the water management expert appointed pursuant to

subsection (a)(6), who need not reside in or have a principal place of business in the county, and except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(5). The At-Large member and one of the registered landscape architects, registered architects, or professionals practicing in the fields of architectural or urban design or urban planning shall be residents of the City.

10. GENERAL OBLIGATION (G.O.) BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (3):

- One City resident from any geographic area of the City with experience working with cultural/arts organizations, including with respect to operations, facilities management, or design.
- One City resident from the Mid-Beach Area. *To replace term-limited member Jack Glottmann.*
- One City resident from the North Beach Area. *To replace term-limited member Laura Veitia.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (2):

- One City resident from the South Beach area.
 - 1. Dana Wolpert Martorella
- One City residents from the North Beach area.
 - 1. Shari Gurkin

11. HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (6):

- One member shall be an administrator from an adult congregate living facility (ACLF); and/or an assisted living facility (ALF). (Category # 3)
- One (1) member shall be a representative of the nursing profession. (Category # 4)
- One member shall be a health benefits provider. (Category # 5)
- One individual from the corporate level. (Category # 7a)
- One private individual. (Category # 7b)
- Ex-Officio, Miami-Dade County Health Department.

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- One member shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or its designated administrator from Mount Sinai Medical Center. (Category # 1)

1. Gino Santorio

- One member shall be an administrator from an adult congregate living facility (ACLF); and/or an assisted living facility (ALF). (Category # 3)

1. Frank Mena

- One member shall be a physician or an individual with medical training or experience. (Category # 8)

1. Aimee Kamat

12. HEALTH FACILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD

VACANCY (1):

- One individual in the field of general business who possesses good standing in the community.

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1)

- One accountant.

1. Arthur Unger, Chair

13. HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- A representative from the Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL) selected from three names nominated by such organization. (Category # 1)

1. Laura Weinstein-Berman

- A representative from Dade Heritage Trust (DHT) selected from three names nominated by such organization. (Category # 2)

1. Linsey Lovell, Vice-Chair

- One at-large member who has resided in one of the City's historic districts for at least one year and has demonstrated interest and knowledge in architectural or urban design and the preservation of historic buildings. (Category # 3)

1. Brian Ehrlich

Note: All members of the Board except the architect, university faculty member, and water management expert shall be residents of the City; provided, however, that the City Commission may waive the residency requirement (if applicable) by a 5/7th vote in the event a person not meeting the residency requirement is available to serve on the Board and is exceptionally qualified by training and/or experience in historic preservation matters. All appointments shall be made on the basis of civic pride, integrity, experience, and interest in the field of historic preservation.

14. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (5):

- Five members who shall reflect, as nearly as possible, the diversity of individuals protected under the City's Human Rights Ordinance. *Four true vacancies and one vacancy to replace term-limited member Dale Stine.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (2):

- One member who shall reflect, as nearly as possible, the diversity of individuals protected under the City's Human Rights Ordinance.

1. Amanda Knapp, Chair

- One member shall possess, in addition to the general qualifications set forth herein for members, a license to practice law in any United States Jurisdiction (including the District of Columbia and any territory of the United States); be an active member of and in good standing with their respective bar association; and have experience in civil rights law. Preference will be given to a committee member who possesses a license to practice law in the State of Florida, is an active member of and in good standing with the Florida Bar, and has experience in civil rights law.

1. Kara Skorupa

15. NEXT GENERATION COUNCIL (1-year term)

Note: Members must be eighteen (18) years through thirty-six (36) years of age at the time of appointment.

VACANCIES (2):

- One member must be a business owner in the City. (Category A)
- One member must be licensed and actively practicing in the field of architecture or engineering. (Category C)
- One member of the Millennial Action Council of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce shall be selected by the Chamber's Executive Board of Governors. (Category # 3)

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- One member must be licensed and actively practicing in the field of real estate. (Category B)

1. Francis Kosarek, Jr.

16. NORMANDY SHORES LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- A member of the Executive Committee of the Normandy Shores Homeowners Association.

1. Laura Taylor, Chair

17. NORTH BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VACANCY (1):

- One member who is an attorney with experience in land use, real estate, or other related practice area, residing generally within the City of Miami Beach or maintaining a full-time law practice and physical office located in North Beach. (Category # 4)

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (2):

- One member who currently resides, for a minimum of five (5) years, within the North Beach area, generally considered as that portion of Miami Beach located north of 63rd Street. (Category # 1a)

1. Thomas Richerson, Vice Chair

- *Ex Officio Normandy Fountain Business Association Member.* The nonvoting ex-officio representative of the Normandy Fountain Business Association shall be nominated by the Association and subject to the approval of the City Commission. (Category # 6)

1. David Sexton

Note: The five (5) year minimum residency requirement for Category 1a may be waived upon a 5/7ths vote of the City Commission in the event a resident within the applicable geographic area is available to serve on the committee and is exceptionally qualified by training and/or experience.

Each of the members must have demonstrated interest in neighborhood leadership issues, including, without limitation, neighborhood business groups, homeowner or condominium associations and cooperatives, civic groups, and/or other similar qualifications.

18. PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BOARD

VACANCY (1):

- One member who has demonstrated a high degree of interest, participation, and/or expertise in the sport of baseball.

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- One member who has demonstrated a high degree of interest, participation, and/or expertise in the sport of tennis.

1. Joshua Lifshultz

19. PERSONNEL BOARD (5/7 vote required)

VACANCIES (2):

- Two citizens of Miami Beach, not employed by the City, and not having the same vocation as any other member of the Personnel Board. (Excluded vocations: Executive Director/Political Party, International Sales Manager/Consultant, Clinical Pharmacist, and Concert Producer/Impresario.) *One true vacancy and one vacancy to replace term-limited member Raquel Pacheco.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- One citizen of Miami Beach, not employed by the City, and not having the same vocation as any other member of the Personnel Board.

1. Ricardo Barboza – International Sales Manager/Consultant

20. PLANNING BOARD

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- One architect registered in the State of Florida; or a member of the faculty of a school of architecture in the state, with practical or academic expertise in the field of design, planning, historic preservation, or the history of architecture; or a landscape architect registered in the state of Florida; or a professional practicing in the fields of architectural or urban design, or urban planning. (Category # 1)

1. Matthew Gultanoff

- One person who is a resident at-large and who currently resides in the city and has resided in the city for at least (3) three consecutive years at the time of appointment or reappointment. Additionally, strong preference shall be given to individuals who have previously served on a Miami Beach board or committee and/or completed the Miami Beach Leadership Academy course, and to individuals not currently working in the fields of real estate development, real estate brokerage/sales, real estate law, or architecture. (Category # 5)

1. Melissa Beattie

Note: On December 3, 2024, Ms. Beattie submitted an Oath of Withdrawal, officially withdrawing her candidacy for the position of City of Miami Beach Commissioner, Group I.

- One (a) licensed professional engineer, licensed professional architect, or licensed professional landscape architect with expertise in water resources; (b) a person licensed by the State of Florida in hydrology, water, or wastewater treatment; (c) a person with a degree from an accredited college or university in a field of study related to water resources; or (d) a floodplain manager or a principal community administrator responsible for the daily implementation of flood loss reduction activities including enforcing a community's flood damage prevention ordinance, updating flood maps, plans, and policies of the community, and any of the activities related to administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) (a "water management expert"); or (e) a person who is a resident at-large and currently resides in the city and has resided in the city for at least three consecutive years at the time of appointment or reappointment. (Category # 6)

1. Scott Needelman – Water Management Expert

Note: Except as provided in subsection 118-53 (b)(5), no person except a resident of the City who has resided in the City for at least one year shall be eligible for appointment to the Planning Board. The residency requirement in this subsection shall not apply to the water management expert appointed to the planning board pursuant to subsection 118-53 (b)(6).

21. SENIORS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (4):

- One resident of the Blackstone Apartments who shall be recommended by the residents of the Blackstone Apartments and ratified by the City Commission. (Category # 4)
- One resident of Stella Maris House selected by the board of directors of Stella Maris House. (Category # 5) *To replace term-limited member Gaby Baglietto.*
- One resident of Council Towers North who shall be recommended by the residents of Council Towers North and ratified by the City Commission. (Category # 7)
- One resident of Council Towers South who shall be recommended by the residents of Council Towers South and ratified by the city commission. (Category # 8)

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (1):

- An individual selected by the board of directors of Jewish Community Services of South Florida.

1. Jessica Perez Waleck

22. SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

VACANCY (1):

- One (1) member shall be appointed at large and shall be a representative of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. *To replace member Brittnie Bassant who is not seeking reappointment to the Sister Cities Committee but has been nominated by the Chamber of Commerce for appointment to the Next Generation Council.*

23. TRANSPORTATION, PARKING, AND BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES COMMITTEE

VACANCIES (2):

- One South Beach neighborhood association member. (Category # 2)
- One Mid-Beach neighborhood association member. (Category # 4) *To replace term-limited member Esteban Procelli.*

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENT TO BE MADE (3):

- One Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce's Transportation and Parking Committee member. (Category # 1)
 1. Eva Dias, Chair
- One Mid-Beach business owner or a Mid-Beach business association member. (Category # 5)
 1. Linda Kolko, Vice-Chair
- One North Beach business owner or a North Beach business association member. (Category # 7)
 1. Patricia Heano-van Beek

24. VISITOR AND CONVENTION AUTHORITY

Note: Members must reside in Miami-Dade County.

POSSIBLE REAPPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE (3):

- Two At-Large members.
 1. Adrian Gonzalez
 2. Faye Goldin
- One Hotel Industry member.
 1. Mohan Koka