

Miami River Commission Meeting Minutes November 1, 2021

The Miami River Commission (MRC) public meeting convened at noon, November 1, 2021, RMK Merrill-Stevens, 1270 NW 11 ST, Miami, FL.

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

Horacio Stuart Aguirre, MRC Chairman
Patty Harris, designee for Governor
Eileen Higgins, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins
Nancy Jackson, designee for Miami Dade County Commissioner
Jim Murley, designee for Miami-Dade County Mayor Cava
Megan Kelly, designee for City of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez
Philip Everingham, designee for Miami Marine Council
Neal Schafers, designee for Downtown Development Authority
Bruce Brown, Miami River Marine Group
John Michael Cornell, Designee for Luis Garcia
Tom Kimen, Neighborhood Representative appointed by City of Miami
Sallye Jude, Member at Large Appointed by Miami-Dade County

MRC Staff:

Brett Bibeau, Managing Director

Others attending interested in the River:

Sign in sheets available upon request.

I) Chair's Report

MRC Chairman Horacio Stuart Aguirre provided the following report:

I'm so pleased to welcome everyone to the recently modernized historic RMK Merrill-Stevens. I extend the Miami River Commission's appreciation to our gracious hosts. Before I turn over the floor for an exciting presentation and walking tour, a few quick items of business.

The Miami River Commission's October public meeting minutes were emailed a week in advance of today's meeting. We have a few copies here available if anyone needs them. Do I have a motion on the minutes?

The Miami River Commission's 2022 Calendar will be distributed next month. On behalf of the MRC, thank you to all our generous sponsors for renewing their annual support.

The Miami River Commission thanks Commissioner Higgins and the Board of County Commissioners for unanimously and wisely approving an increase of four County Marine Patrol Officers the City of Miami Commission for unanimously and likewise wisely approving an

increase of five City of Miami Marine Patrol Officers in their respective Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budgets. Together, along with United States Coast Guard and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, they will enforce all laws in the Miami River, including the idle no-wake speed zone, in order to protect the threatened Manatee, shorelines, docks, and boats. I applaud Senator Ileana Garcia for expressing her strong support of, and meeting with various law enforcement agencies on the Miami River.

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. In addition to the maintenance professionals the MRC pays daily to remove litter, invasive plant species, graffiti and provide landscaping services along the Miami River, the MRC thanks the volunteers from Hands on Miami, whom on October 10 picked up garbage along the public Riverwalk in Curtis Park, and on October 24 picked up garbage along the Miami River's shoreline in Sewell Park.

II. Presentation and Tour of the Recently Modernized RMK Merrill Stevens

Brent Alisop, Operations Manager, RMK Merrill Stevens, provided a presentation regarding the Recently Modernized RMK Merrill Stevens. The distributed printed information stated:

“RMK Merrill-Stevens North is fully operational after massive renovations and upgrades. Among the upgrades is a 2,700LT shiplift built by Pearson Shiplift Corporation, which is capable of lifting out power catamarans and superyachts with a keel-to-keel distance of 36'. The lift, which is the largest shiplift with a full keel capture in South Florida, has the capacity to haul out monohull vessels with an LOA of 225', beam up to 54', and draft to 15'. The lift has received Lloyd's Register Certification and USCG Certification.

RMK Merrill-Stevens was Florida's first shipyard and has become one of the most diverse, capable, and updated shipyards in all of South Florida. Since 1885, the RMK Merrill-Stevens shipyard has served the owners, captains, and crews of yachts and superyachts from around the world the pride.”

Spencer Crowley, Florida Inland Navigation District, stated the Boat Show generates a \$1.9 billion economic impact while the Super Bowl generates a \$400 million economic impact. The Miami River's job generating marine industry provides lots of good paying jobs.

A tour was provided of the facility.

III. New Business

There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned.