CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2010-11, RENAMING THE GREEN TASK FORCE, DECREASING MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS BROADENING THE PURPOSE; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, ensuring the quality of life for the future of Coral Gables requires a strong commitment from City government, residents and business to environmentally sustainable measures; and

WHEREAS, the available scientific evidence suggest the existence of serious and escalating threats to our environment as a result of continuous increase in the emission of greenhouse gas; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to establish a Green Task Force to make recommendations to the City Commission regarding environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables has a unique opportunity to provide leadership to develop sustainable communities based on environmental, cultural and economic policies that protect our natural resources and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Green Task Force will allow for study and application of new technologies and philosophies promoting environmental sustainability measures; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2010-11 passed and adopted by the City Commission on July 13, 2010 established a Green Task Force; and

WHEREAS, as the City develops its Sustainability Master Plan, the focus of the Green Task Force will shift to oversight of implementation of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to make the Task Force's purpose consistent with the current landscape, the City Commission wishes to amend the past ordinance to rename the Task Force;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. Incorporation. That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance upon the adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. Creation and Purpose. That a Sustainability Advisory Board is hereby created for the purpose of promoting environmental sustainability for the City, which is a way of living and conducting business to ensure a quality of life for the future of Coral Gables. The Advisory Board shall make non-binding recommendations for taking environmentally progressive actions within the City in support of promoting environmental sustainability, in addition:

(a) The Advisory Board shall recommend items identified in the adopted Sustainability Master Plan as priorities as well as track the implementation of the Plan; and

(b) The Advisory Board shall make recommendations with regard to (i) improving the environmental sustainability of City programs, services, equipment and facilities, (ii) increasing the awareness of issues of environmental sustainability with the residents and businesses located in the City, and (iii) encouraging increased environmentally conscious activities by the residents and businesses located in the City; and

(c) The Advisory Board shall make recommendations with regard to possible incentives for residents, businesses, and organizations to practice environmental conservation, water and energy conservation, green development, recycling, the reduction of waste, the improvement of energy efficiency, the preservation of green spaces, the use of nonpolluting transportation alternatives where possible, xeriscaping, and other measured to help reduce pollution and keep our environment healthy for future generations; and

(d) The Advisory Board shall make recommendations with regard to goals, criteria, strategies, and Green Building Standards for the City for green building design, including energy and water efficient construction, in the City consistent with standards propounded by the Florida Building Code, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC), the U.S. Green Building council (USGBC), and other leading groups setting forth standards on economic sustainability.

SECTION 3. Qualifications. That Advisory Board members shall have their primary place of residence within the boundaries of the City. Waivers may be requested for non-resident members.

SECTION 4. Membership. That the Advisory Board shall be comprised of a total of seven (7) members, five (5) of which shall be appointed by the Commission. Each of the Commissioners shall appoint one (1) member each for a total of five (5) and the Board as a whole is required to appoint one (1) member at large. The City Manager shall appoint the one (1) remaining member. Members are required to have basic knowledge of sustainability and environmental issues and most of all are motivated and have a high level of interest in helping move the city in a more sustainable and environmentally focused direction.

SECTION 5. Appointment and Removal. That the Advisory Board members' terms of office shall commence be retroactive to June 1, 2015 That the term of each Member shall be for a two-year period commencing on June 1st of odd years. Appointments for the replacement of any Member or to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired term.

SECTION 6. Chairperson. That the Advisory Board shall elect from among its membership, a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson who shall serve for a period of one (1) year, and may be named to successive terms if the Advisory Board so chooses.

SECTION 7. Administrative Staff Support. That the City Manager shall appoint a staff member to serve as a liaison with and Secretary for the Advisory Board, and provide services as required by City Code, Article III, Division I, Section 2-63, including, but not limited to, preparation of summary minutes.

SECTION 8. Meetings. That the Advisory Board shall hold one regular meeting each month and special meetings at such times as the Advisory Board may determine, at the call of the Chairman or the Secretary. If there is no business to conduct, a meeting need not be held, however, the Advisory Board must meet at least semi-annually to remain active.

SECTION 9. Quorum. That meetings shall be called to order when a quorum is present, which shall be at least four (4) members, and a decision of a majority of the members present and voting at which a quorum is present shall be the decision of the Advisory Board.

SECTION 10. Compensation. That all members of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation. (Sec. 93 City Charter)

SECTION 11. Public Meetings. That all meetings of the Advisory Board shall be open to the public, and a written summary of the proceedings shall be kept showing its action on each question considered, and such record shall be filed in the office of the Secretary and submitted to the City Commission.

SECTION 12. Advisors. That the City may provide qualified professional consultants to serve in an advisory capacity to the Advisory Board.

SECTION 13. Written Reports. That the Sustainability Advisory Board shall submit an annual report to the City Commission in accordance with City Code, Article III, Division I, Section 2-66.

SECTION 14. Compliance with Board and Committee Rules. That the Advisory Board shall be governed by any and all legislation enacted by the City Commission, as well as any applicable administrative policies that govern the functions of City boards and committees, including, but not limited the provisions of the City Code.

SECTION 15. Costs. That all costs incurred for notifications, mailings, printings, legal and/or courtesy advertisements, and other items necessary to conduct the business of the Advisory Board shall be borne by the City.

SECTION 16. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 17. Severability. If any section, clause, sentence or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 18. Codification. It is the intention of the Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the City of Coral Gables Code of Ordinances; and that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section", "article" or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

SECTION 19. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adopted herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS SEVENTH DAY OF JULY, A.D., 2015.
(Moved: Quesada / Seconded: Lago)
(Yeas: Keon, Lago, Quesada, Slesnick, Cason)
(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)
(Agenda Item: E-3)

APPROVED:

JIM CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:

WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY