

BAYSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (BRA)
NE 60th St. to NE 72nd St., Biscayne Blvd. to Biscayne Bay, Miami, FL 33138

BRA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Time: 7:00 – 8:53 PM

Location: Legion Park Community Center

Present: Will Arthur, Mariella Lopez De Albear (phone), Janna McConnell, Andres Osorio, Allison Greenfield, Ana Miranda

Absent: Allison Head, Brandon Beretta-Paris, Carlos Guzman, James Sanderson

Agenda Overview

1. Approval of May 21, 2025 Minutes
 2. Treasurer's Report
 3. Crime, Speed & Parking Enforcement (69th Street Entrance)
 4. District 5 City Commissioner Update (King)
 5. District 3 County Commissioner Update (Hardemon)
 6. Discussions:
 - FPL Undergrounding Project
 - Flock Safety Surveillance
 7. Resolutions
 8. Committee Updates
 9. Other Business
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1. Call to Order

Meeting commenced at **7:10 PM**.

Minutes from May 21, 2025, were **unanimously approved**.

2. Treasurer's Report (Janna McConnell)

Report submitted by Brandon Beretta-Paris was read and unanimously approved (see specifics below)

Account Summary (Mar–Aug 2025):

- **Starting Balance (Mar):** \$10,248.20
 - **Major Expenses:**
 - WIX website hosting & emails – recurring
 - July 4th Event: Main Brain Music (\$450), Studio Cuesta (\$900), Duck Signs (\$104.84)
 - Crime Watch materials (\$290.58)
 - **Deposits:** Dues totaling \$200 over six months
 - **Ending Balance (Aug):** **\$8,259.91**
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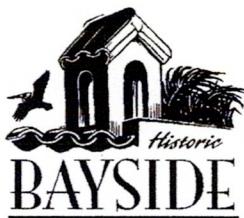
3. Crime & Safety Update

Present: Sgt. Sandra Garcia, Sgt. Frank Villareal, Officer Lobo, NRO Brenda Rodriguez, and Crime Prevention Specialist Rosa Fernander.

- **Crime Trends:** Eight incidents (mainly vehicle break-ins) reported between May–August.

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- **Key Message:** Residents must **report all crimes** to 911 or (305) 579-6111 — even petty thefts — and **press charges** to prevent repeat offenses.
- **Parking Enforcement (NE 69th St):** Illegal parking by delivery trucks has decreased; residents urged to report violations in real time.
- **Neighborhood Watch:** 15 residents enrolled; Andres Osorio to coordinate online kickoff with Crime Prevention Specialist Fernander within two weeks.

4. Flock Safety Cameras

Concerns raised about a Flock surveillance camera installed behind Subway (NE 69th St) facing residential traffic without neighborhood input.

- Residents expressed privacy concerns and questioned oversight.
- Police clarified only law enforcement can access vehicle tag data.
- Discussion highlighted broader legal/ethical issues with Flock's expanding use nationally.
- Cybersecurity expert **Fernando Jasso** (City of Parkland) briefed attendees at end of meeting, noting lawsuits, contract cancellations, and growing pushback nationwide due to privacy risks and data-sharing with local, state and federal law enforcement and immigration/border agencies.

5. City of Miami District 5 Update (City Commissioner Christine King)

Representatives: Erica Taylor & Diego Lazcano

Baywood Park Seawall

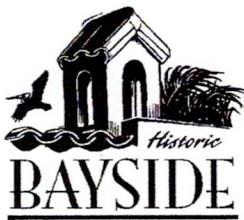
- Full replacement estimated at **\$5.5–\$7M**; partial repairs **\$1.5M (BRA Board & residents only interested in full replacement)**.
- Not included in FY26 City Budget despite vociferous community advocacy.
- Possible future reallocation or grant (FIND) funding discussed.
- Some BRA Board and residents voiced opposition to any proposal to add Bay access (e.g., kayak launch); prefer to keep Baywood Park passive.

Cushman School Traffic Plan

- **Updated Traffic Operational Plan (TOP)** approved Aug 11, 2025, after 3 years of advocacy by community leaders (BRA, Palm Grove, MiMo).
- Changes include:
 - **New traffic flow:** Primary school drop-offs rerouted via NE 61st lot; NE 60th St limited to elementary use.
 - **Two off-duty police officers** now required to actively manage traffic on-site at front (primary/elementary school) and back (middle school) entrances
 - **Middle school:** Ingress/egress reversed for better flow; cul-de-sac planned on NE 5th Ct.
 - **Staggered pick-up/drop-off schedules** (30-minute intervals) to reduce congestion.
 - **Off-site staff parking:** 40 spaces at Haitian Baptist Church of the Living God at 5700 NE 4th Ct/ and 90 at Magic City/Notre Dame Church, with shuttle service to reduce the use of resident on-street parking throughout the south portions of Palm Grove and Bayside.
 - **Pending:** New school zone flashers and signage along NE 61st & Biscayne near school.

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Alternate Side Street Sweeping

- BRA reiterated need for formal inclusion of NE 61st–64th & 69th Sts (and adjacent segments), east of Biscayne in City's official **alternate-side schedule**.
- Current cleaning by Public Works/Solid Waste is informal and appreciated but not fully effective in cleaning curbs and keeping storm drains clear
- Commissioner's office asked to coordinate permanent signage and scheduling.
- Until then, BRA requests monthly **manual storm drain clearing** and resident assistance in keeping drains debris-free.

6. County District 3 Update (County Commissioner Keon Hardemon)

Reported by: Marcus Barfield (via written update)

- **Traffic Light Synchronization (NE 61st–82nd):**
 - Assessment found faulty pedestrian detectors at NE 69th & 76th causing signal misfires contributing to traffic flow issues, particularly during commute times.
 - Repairs pending due to part shortages; BRA will follow up for expedited completion.
- **Permanent Speed & “Children at Play” Signs (NE 69th):**
 - BRA requested solar-powered digital speed signs following success of temporary unit; awaiting County response.



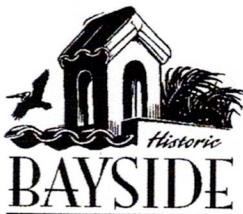
7. FPL Undergrounding Project

Presenters: Arturo Perez & Sabrina Colon (FPL)

- FPL's **Storm Secure Underground Program** divides Upper East Side into 8 project zones.
- Reason FPL is back to re-solicit our neighborhood to implement this program is the groundswell of Bayside resident concern over *“service reliability.”*
- Participation requires resident easements; non-participating homes remain on poles.
- Even with full participation, poles remain for telecom lines.
- Belle Meade (Project 3) completed; Historic Bayside (Projects 4–5) pending resident easements.
- 2-Year Project: 1st year – outreach/secure resident easements; 2nd year – construction
- Project 4 (NE 69th–NE 70th Streets, East of Biscayne) – status: 25 resident easements need to be secured; 15 residents on these streets have already agreed to easement (60% completed)

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- Project 5 (NE 71st-NE 72nd Streets, East of Biscayne) – status: 12 resident easements need to be secured; only 1 resident on these streets has agreed to easement so far (just started outreach)

8. Resolutions

- **Board Management** - Don Bell, past president, officially resigned from the BRA Board on September 16th since he and his partner, Angel, closed on their Bayside house and are now living permanently in NYC.
- **Candidate Meet & Greets**: Mariella Lopez De Albear to coordinate mayoral candidate events in October.
- **2026 Nominating Committee**:
 - Will appointed Chair: Brandon Beretta-Paris
 - Members: Mariella Lopez De Albear, Janna McConnell, James Sanderson, Ana Miranda

9. Committee Updates

- **GreenSpaces**:
 - WASD completed NE 71st pump station; noise issue traced to loose hatch bolts — permanent fix underway.
 - Tree replacement pending; native species recommended (James Sanderson coordinating).

10. Other Business

- **BRA Emails**: Executive team is reminded to activate and use @bramiami.com accounts.
- **BRA Website**: Board to review and comment on June revisions (historical content expansion).
- **Neighborhood Signage**:
 - Up to **\$2,000 approved** at May 21st meeting for 10 new meeting signs and “Slow Down/Children at Play” lawn figures.



- Andres Osorio, Chair of BRA Neighborhood Traffic/Crime Watch Committee to survey families for placement of BRA-branded “Slow Down/Children at Play” lawn signage by end of October.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **8:53 PM**.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **November 19, 2025, 7:00 PM**, Legion Park Community Center.

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