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**We Advocate for Residents of Miami Beach!**  
We are a community-based 501(c)4 not-for-profit organization providing Miami Beach residents a cohesive voice for city-wide issues that impact our quality of life. Click here to [join us!](#)



## April 10, 2019: Another Busy Day at Commission Chambers! These are Miami Beach United's Resolution:

- Agenda Item **C4 - U** - Proposed Amendment Changing Who Is Eligible for Positions on Historic Preservation Board
- Agenda Item **C4 - Z** - Ordinance Amendment Changing Positions on Historic Preservation Board, Design Review Board and Planning Board

Want to read the proposed Commission agenda items and get info about the Commission meeting on Wednesday? Click [here](#) .

Want to contact your elected officials directly? Click [here](#) .

Commission meetings start at 9 a.m. at the Commission Chambers on the 3rd floor of City Hall. There is a Sutnick Hour, at which residents may address the Commission on any subject, from 8:30-9, and 1:-1:30.

## Opposition to Proposed Amendment Changing Who Is Eligible for Positions on Historic Preservation Board Agenda Item C4-U

### Executive summary:

This proposed amendment seeks to make changes to the roles and requirements of the members of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) for the City of Miami Beach, effectively undermining the roles of the Dade Heritage Trust (DHT) and Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL) on the HPB.

### Why It Matters

- It is curious that this is being brought up at all, since the current HP Board was just UNANIMOUSLY reinstated in its entirety; there is no issue that has been articulated which this amendment would resolve.
- These proposed changes could run afoul of Sec. 1.06 of the City Charter which requires approval by a majority of the voters in a Citywide referendum prior to enacting less stringent historic preservation standards or regulations.
- The very purpose of this board is to present knowledgeable and informed voices to guide the City's decisions relative to development's impact on preservation. By crafting a requirement dictating that the 5 HPB members who are not from the Dade Heritage Trust or the Miami Design Preservation League may not even be MEMBERS of either MDPL or DHT seems to be a limitation of free speech; it makes sense that someone who is interested enough in preservation and historic buildings to be appointed to this board might also be a member of either of those organizations.

**Miami Beach United PARTIALLY OPPOSES** this resolution as currently written.

Read the MBU Resolution in its entirety by clicking [HERE](#).

Read the Commission documents by clicking [HERE](#).

## Opposition to Proposed Amendment Changing Positions on Historic Preservation Board, Design Review Board and Planning Board Agenda Item C4-Z

### Executive summary:

This proposed amendment seeks to make changes to the roles and requirements of the members of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) for the City of Miami Beach, effectively undermining the roles of the Dade Heritage Trust (DHT) and Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL) on the HPB.

### Why It Matters

- This resolution seeks to add a water resources expert to 3 city boards - HPB, DRB and Planning - replacing one of the at-large members of each of those boards.
- The City has had difficulty filling professional positions on its Boards due to the fact that the professional experts appointed to these seats cannot be working on, or employed by companies who are working on, City contracts.
- The City would be better served by (1) hiring a water resource expert who could report to City Boards on all proposed projects having an impact on water resources, and/or (2) ensuring that water resource experts are hired to review proposed projects that affect water resources, much the way that developers currently are required to pay for traffic and noise experts hired by the City.

**Miami Beach United** opposes this resolution as currently written.

Read the MBU Resolution in its entirety by clicking [HERE](#).

Read the Commission documents by clicking [HERE](#).

#ICYMI - the NEW Miami Beach United [website](#) is live !

Thanks to outstanding marketer and indefatigable MBU founding member Herb Sosa, MBU was launched in 2012 with a strong visual brand and web presence. But, as anyone who works with websites knows, the one drawback to websites is that the moment they go live, they have been surpassed by newer technology! So, after eight extremely good years, we say goodbye to our old site and welcome our new site. Still located at [www.miamibeachunited.org](http://www.miamibeachunited.org), the new site is packed with new features, including a digital "suggestion box" in the footer, a new [YouTube channel](#) (more videos on the way),

and an [archive of past newsletters](#) with live links to past resolutions and supporting documents.



## Miami Beach United's 2018 Inaugural Annual "Commission Scorecard"

### Tracks Commission Votes To Show How Resident-Friendly the City Of Miami Beach Elected Officials Are

Here's how it works:

Each month, Miami Beach United identifies and tracks issues coming before the Commission. Many of these issues become resolutions, voted on by the Board of Directors, and shared in advance of the monthly Commission meetings with the Mayor and Commissioners (and staff) of the city of Miami Beach. They are also shared with all of you via this mailing list for MBU.

In each case, whenever MBU passed a resolution on a matter before the Commission, the scorecard indicates whether or not an individual elected official supported or opposed the action recommended by MBU.

For ordinances, which require two hearings, only the final vote on Second Reading was recorded and counted. In some cases, when MBU's recommendations were only partially implemented, that was treated as a neutral action, and that vote was excluded from the total score.

All items were weighted equally when calculating an overall percentage grade for each elected official during the measurement period.

This Commission Scorecard process will commence for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year with the November 2018 Commission meeting, with the final scorecard to be published at the end of October 2019.

Click [here for more information](#) and [here to view the scorecard](#) in its entirety, including which resolutions were tracked for the legislative year 2018.

#### 2019 Miami Beach United Board of Directors

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Nancy Liebman, Chair Emerita



## Our Mission

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for Miami Beach residents, managed and measured growth of our city, and ethical leadership of government – for a vibrant city rooted in history, its people, resources and neighborhoods, with focus on the future – by providing educational and analytical focus on the organization, structure, policies and performance of Miami Beach government.