

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS  
 CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012, 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

<b>MEMBERS</b>	J	A	S	O	D	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	
Mary Young	-	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	*	P	*	P	P	E	E	James C. Cason
Sandra Mannis	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	E	E	E	P	Maria Anderson
Manuel Morales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	E	*	A	*	P	P	P	P	Rafael “Ralph” Cabrera, Jr.
Bonnie Blaire	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	P	P	P	P	William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Richard Whittington	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	*	E	*	E	E	P	P	Frank C. Quesada

**P - Present**  
**E - Excused Absence**  
**A - Absent**  
**(\*) No Meeting**

**STAFF:**

Carlos Hernandez, Public Works Director  
 Ernesto Pino, Assistant Public Works Director  
 Lorena Garrido, Central Division Supervisor

**GUESTS:**

Craig E. Leen, City Attorney  
 Maria Rosa Higgins-Fallon, Public Affairs Manager  
 Lucy Binhack, Miami-Dade County Parks & Recreation  
 Marlin Ebbert, Citizen

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Blaire called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**MEETING ABSENCE:**

Mrs. Young was excused.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

- **November 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Morales made a motion to approve the November 7, 2012 meeting minutes. Dr. Whittington seconded motion and minutes were unanimously approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

None.

**BOARD-RELATED COMMISSION ITEMS:**

None.

**CITY UPDATE:**

None.

**BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Blaire asked members to review the 2013 board meeting calendar and to note January's meeting is on the 9<sup>th</sup>, not the first Wednesday of the month. Mrs. Blaire discussed the City's Annual Boards and Committees event in which members were asked to RSVP by December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Blaire stated the purpose of this meeting was to look at the City's Information for Persons with Disabilities website for enhancement purposes by incorporating suggestions and comments made and to possibly add intra-departmental information related to services which will improve the quality of life of residents with disabilities.

Mrs. Blaire mentioned that currently there are no links between the Information for Persons with Disabilities website and other departments i.e. linking to the Parking Department's webpage showing locations of handicap parking spaces. Mrs. Blaire asked how the Board can get this done.

Mrs. Higgins-Fallon explained that the current webpage was a request from previous Board members and that it can be enhanced. She further stated the Board may request additional information to be included. Mrs. Higgins-Fallon said her role is to review the proposed information to be included in the web page to make sure it's grammatically correct, that there's no commercial interest, and that the information is properly linked.

Mrs. Blaire asked if there are any limitations to what is placed in the webpage. Mrs. Higgins-Fallon said the only limitation would be if something has a commercial interest or if there's a service with which the City does not want to be affiliated.

Mr. Leen added the limits are general limits of municipal purposes which is why the City does not include commercial interests. He said the exception would be certain relationships such as sponsorship that could be governmental or non-profits that are not serving a commercial purpose. He said the general rule would be to include it as long as it serves some public purpose.

Mrs. Blaire asked how the Board can get departments to communicate information to be posted such as parking for special events.

Mrs. Higgins-Fallon said usually when the City promotes an event, there's a disclaimer stating that if assistance is needed they can contact the number provided. As far as parking for special events, she said this information should not be event related but be general information which will apply citywide and event wide. Mrs. Higgins-Fallon suggested adding a link that will identify what you need to know if you are coming to a City event i.e. who to call, where to park, special assistance, etc.

Mr. Morales suggested rather having the current phone numbers posted for additional information to actually add the basic information or perhaps a map station where to find disabled parking at a city facility and who to call. He said this will address the special events information issue and the information is available 24/7.

Mr. Leen said there could be a map showing citywide handicap spaces and general ADA issues relating to city facilities. He added that something like this may need to be created and will take some time, but it can be requested.

Mrs. Blaire asked for a Board member to partner in order to get the parking and facilities information. Mrs. Mannis volunteered and Mrs. Blaire said she would help.

Mr. Leen reminded members that under the Florida Sunshine Law, if members meet outside their regular scheduled Board meetings, they must contact the City Clerk's office so the meeting is properly posted.

Dr. Whittington suggested for those links that are not self-explanatory, to add in parenthesis what someone will find in those links. Dr. Whittington also volunteered to pursue the Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation's link.

- **Special Guest - Lucy Binhack, Miami-Dade County Parks & Recreation**

Ms. Binhack commented that the City of Coral Gables should have information on their website relating to summer camp information and programs offered to disabled children. She said she receives calls from City of Coral Gables parents with disabled children asking what programs are available in the Gables. Ms. Binhack provided information to members and guests regarding the County's offered programs. She said the County has six (6) sites that offer programs for children with disabilities between Tamiami Park (on Coral Way - Youth Fair grounds) to Greynold's Camp (off Miami Gardens Drive). She discussed their out of school program, which is an exclusive program. The County would rather provide inclusive programs and that is a future

goal. Ms. Binhack commented that the County operates their programs in conjunction with other disability organizations. This strategy allows them to combine expertise in various disabilities. She also said these organizations connect the County with the organizational members, allowing them to better assess their current needs are. Ms. Binhack added they also work with other Park & Recreation department in various county municipalities such as the City of Miami for the hand cycling program. She said they try to address the various disabled populations (deaf, blind, wheelchair, developmental disabilities) for their recreational programs in order to keep them fit.

Ms. Binhack said she would love to have the City of Coral Gables' contact person in order to refer park program related inquiries.

Mrs. Blaire suggested for the County's Park & Recreation link to be added to the City's website. Board members agreed and Mr. Leen said this request would not be a problem.

Ms. Binhack stated that the County has finalized a survey which will be mailed out to known persons with disabilities in Miami-Dade County. Ms. Binhack said they are asking other organizations to mail this out to their clients in Miami-Dade and hope to receive information back. Mrs. Blaire asked Ms. Binhack to share the survey information with the Board and she agreed.

Mrs. Blaire asked staff to clarify and identify: (1) the City of Coral Gables' ADA Coordinator and, (2) the City of Coral Gables' Inclusion Coordinator. Mr. Pino said he was the ADA coordinator. Mrs. Blaire suggested that this information be added to the City's website. As far as the Inclusion Coordinator, Mr. Leen suggested that the ADA coordinator should be named as the point of contact and if there's an inclusion issue, it would be forwarded internally.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, January 9, 2013, 8:00 am to be held at the *Coral Gables Youth Center's Conference Room*.