

Coral Gables Waterfront Communities HOA Board Minutes of November 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Gonzalo Sanabria, Board members, Aimee Davis, Roberto Martinez and Alex Quevedo (via Zoom) were present. Vice Chairperson Toni Schrager and Board members, Lance Campbell, Rick Diaz, David Kutner, Eileen Higgins Faradji were absent.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

No quorum was achieved.

B. NEW BUSINESS

B-3. Discussion regarding Matheson Hammock Park

Alex Cecil, Chief of Park Planning, Research and Graph and Joe Cornley, Assistant Director for Planning, Design and Construction from Miami Dade County Parks Department in attendance.

Chair Sanabria – requests information/update on the dog park on the East Matheson site. What is the plan?

Mr. Cecil explains there needs to be more community involvement; it is ongoing conversation. No other update currently.

Mr. Cornley added that 4 community meetings have happened already and recommends neighborhood/resident attendance. The elements proposed were improving the existing parking lot. Continued discussion is what to do about the trail and the management of this phase.

Chair Sanabria- wants to know why spend the money when it is a trail.

Mr. Cornley answers to provide accessibility, ADA accessibility. It has been discussed and changed through the decades.

Mr. Martinez – asks if there is really a need other than complying with the law. Who is complaining that there is no access?

Mr. Cecil – we have received complaints from families with children who enjoy the area. We need to find a way for all to enjoy the area, there is also a natural area that needs to be protected, and we have heard from the agency that is in charge of protecting to make sure that those individuals who are encroaching in those areas are complying.

Mr. Cornley – we encourage you to come to our next community meeting and provide input.

Mr. Martinez – feels there is no problem, and the Miami Dade County Parks folks are being told a story. His concern is about spending \$18M on a problem that doesn't exist.

Chair Sanabria – brings up concerns about coyotes in their neighborhoods. Chapman field – maintenance

Mr. Cornely – we have a permit to trim mangroves but only a certain amount of it is allowable and can only be done yearly.

Mr. Martinez asked about special waste disposal drop off area for Coral Gables residents.

Hermes Diaz, Public Works Director, responded that it is possible by making a phone call to waste management for a special pick up. There are costs associated with it.

Mr. Cornely – Matheson improvements – just finished the bridge repair, repaving the parking lot in front of the restaurant area, redoing the Sea wall with a federal grant and local dollars, trail maintenance (building an elevated wood boardwalk)

EOC and Emergency Training exercise on April 14th and 28th Federal, State and local – Turnkey point and Matheson.

B-7. Discussion regarding traffic calming methodologies and related upcoming plans

Hermes Diaz – gave an update on the traffic calming program. Explained there is not a lot of data down south as they don't have the cut through traffic situation in the area. Collected data from 4 years ago at the 900 block of Lugo, we did not find a problem.

Martinez – safety issue with road bicyclist sharing the road with cars. Hermes says the discussion should be with the Police Chief and asked Fernando to inquire with the Chief.

Chair Sanabria – Please check on no waste signs that were damaged and need to be replaced on Gables by the Sea.

B-6. Discussion regarding taxes collected from the southern residents versus budgeted expenses

Diana Gomez – The city does not track revenue nor expenditures by area of the city. There is no way for us to do expenditures. On the revenue side, I will need the boundaries, and I can ask IT to plot those boundaries and get all the parcels in the boundaries and from the tax collector we can get the taxable values. Revenues based on property taxes alone. We do not track expenditure by address, home or by area, there is no way for us to do that.

The adopted budget is online on the city's website.

OLD BUSINESS

C. CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Sanabria please contact the board members to make sure they are attending.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Tentative, December 2nd 5pm at CMR

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:22 p.m.