

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of September 8, 2014 Meeting

Coral Gables Youth Center

MEMBERS	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	APPOINTED BY
Nadejda Mishkovsky	N	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	N	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Carol Brock	N	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	N	E	Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Jane Mass	C	C	E	P	P	P	P	P	N	N	P	Comm. Patricia Keon
Maria Cruz	N	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	N	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Ying Pestien	N	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	N	N	P	Comm. Frank C. Quesada
Evelyn Budde	N	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	N	N	P	City Manager Patrick G. Salerno
Joan Valdes	C	V	V	V	V	V	E	P	N	N	P	Senior Citizens Advisory Board

A = Absent

B = Not on Board at Time of Meeting

C = Resigned

E = Excused absence

P = Present

N = No quorum

R = Recessed

S = Sick

V = Vacant Position

STAFF:

Fred Couceyro
Parks and Recreation Director

Letty Ellis
Adult Activities Coordinator

Christina WooChing
Adult Activities Program Assistant

Tricia Spencer
Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Katie Kreter
Coral Gables Resident

1. Vice Chairperson Jane Mass called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. Jane Mass welcomed staff, board members and guests to the meeting.
3. **Approval of Agenda - A motion was made by Maria Cruz to approve the agenda. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.**

4. **Approval of Excused Absences** – Jane Mass made a motion to excuse the absence of Carol Brock. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.
5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 2, 2014** – A motion was made by Evelyn Budde to approve the minutes of June 2, 2014. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.
6. **Adult Activities Center Divisional Report**

a. Adult Activities Center Report - Letty Ellis

Letty introduced her new assistant Christina WooChing to the Board. Christina then introduced herself to the Board.

There is no resolution on the new Adult Activity Center but work is progressing in a positive manner and plans for the new center are still moving forward. The Annual Health Fair is on Wednesday, September 17th at 10:00 a.m. in the gym. The Annual Senior Art Show is on Friday, October 10th at 6:00 p.m. at The Palace Coral Gables; there are 35 artists that have entered including 9 new artists, 62 pieces of art were submitted and there are 18 pieces of hard craft. Board members are needed to judge at 5:00 p.m. the day of the event, please let Letty know if you will be available to judge. The October/November calendar will be available next week; registration for residents begins on Thursday, November 20th and November 26th for non-residents. There are a lot of new and exciting classes coming up such as Cooking classes, Poetry Writing and Photography.

7. **Disabilities Board Report - Katie Kreter**

Katie Kreter reported on two meetings from the months of August and September. At the August meeting it was discussed that October is National Disability Month, the office of Independent Living will coordinate with the Alliance for Aging and that staff is needed to work in the Office of Independent Living. Katie was asked to be one of the people to assist in the office to which she agreed upon. Switchboard Miami will provide information. Office of Independent Living will work with the volunteer center at Baptist Hospital and will serve as a library for needed resource materials.

At the September meeting there was a presentation of a program explaining a new ID card specifically designed for individuals with autism. The I.D. is in the form of a credit card and can itemize the specific needs and behaviors of individuals with autism. For example, an autistic person stopped by the police may be highly sensitized to the strobe lights from the police car, or the sound of the siren or the touch of the officer. The individual condition of autistic person is itemized on the card. The I.D. card serves to protect the rights of the person with the disability while enabling the law enforcement officer to more effectively perform his or her job. The I.D. card concept is the result of collaboration between the Disability Independence Group, The University of Miami Department of Autism and the Coral Gables Police Department in response to a challenge by Philanthropy Miami Shark Tank. This group received a \$5,000 award for the I.D. Card Program. The proceeds will be used to develop a training video for the Coral Gables Police Department to educate their officers in better serving individuals with Autism. The group hopes to extend the program beyond Coral Gables to the national area. The concept may also apply to persons with other disabilities. Cards are available free of charge to anyone with a disability. The DIG website provides information on how to use the card and where you can get the card. Switchboard Miami is also a good resource to share this information.

8. **New Business**

Joan Valdes visited North Carolina over the summer and played a lot of Pickle Ball at the Waynesville Recreation Center. Joan discussed the possibility of bringing Pickle Ball to the Adult Activity Center and what a fun activity it is for all ages.

Fred Couceyro and Letty Ellis said they tried to bring Pickle Ball to the Adult Activity Center last year but after meeting with the instructor, our set up at the Youth Center did not meet his needs so they were unable to have it. Fred said that we can revisit it again.

9. **Open Items**

Although Carol Brock was unable to attend the meeting she did send an e-mail to Tricia Spencer asking her to let the Board know a couple of things. Carol went to the accreditation meeting for the Coral Gables Police Department and spoke when they had community comments about our joint programs. She said that Chief Weiner seemed to really appreciate it. She also said that she has not heard anything new on the Adult Activities Center at this time.

10. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, October 6, 2014** at **5:00 p.m.** in the Youth Center Conference Room.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.