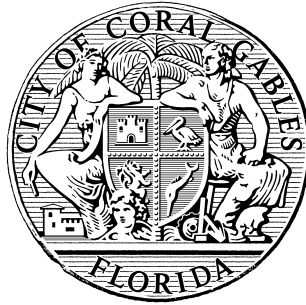


City of Coral Gables

*City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

9:00 AM

City Hall, Commission Chambers

City Commission

*Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Commissioner Maria Anderson
Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers*

*David L. Brown, City Manager
Elizabeth M. Hernandez, City Attorney
Walter J. Foeman, City Clerk*

Present: 5 - Mayor Slesnick II, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Cabrera Jr., Vice Mayor Kerdyk Jr. and Commissioner Withers

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The following minutes summary includes all presentations made, and actions taken which information is supplemented by the following exhibits on file in the Office of the City Clerk, and which are by reference made a part of the record herein: (a) Resolution(s) adopted (Resolution No. 2008-83 and Resolution No. 2008-84); (b) Video; (c) Audio Recording; (d) Minutes Folder with Agenda and background information, including items which were submitted at the meeting.

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

A.-1. 08-0394

Presentation of Certificates of Commendation to Coral Gables Senior High School's 2008 Silver Knight Award winners Cristina Moreno (mathematics), Wai Wong (art), and Michelle Wu (vocational - technical), and Honorable Mention winners Alain Gonzalez-Mulé (athletics), Jeissa Martinez (business), Jia Pan (foreign language), and Daniela Tagtachian (new media)

Attachments: [Silver Knight Award Winners - Cover Sheet.pdf](#)
[Silver Knight Awards - Description.pdf](#)

[Note for the Record: Mayor Slesnick reminded the public regarding the City Commission's initiative in recognizing those citizens have who contributed to our region, nation and state; further stating that the City also recognizes its employees for their exemplary efforts; further acknowledging that on this same date that it is recognizing those Coral Gables Senior High School Silver Knight Award winners who actually claimed first place in three of the fifteen categories (namely in mathematics (Cristina Moreno) , art (Wai Wong) and vocational-technical (Michelle Wu); further noting that said Coral Gables students also captured honorable mention recognition in the following categories: Alain Gonzalez-Mule (athletics); Jeissa Martinez (business); Jia Pan (not present/foreign language); and Daniela Tagtachian (new media). Said individuals stated their intentions to attend the following colleges and universities: Daniela Tagtachian (University of Chicago); Jeissa Martinez (Florida International University); Alain Gonzalez Mule (Miami-Dade College Honors); Wai Wong (Duke University); Michelle Wu (University of Florida) and Cristina Moreno (Harvard

University).

The City Commission presented each of the aforementioned recipients with commendations, addressed to each of their respective Silver Knight Award status; further congratulating them, and recognizing them for the outstanding persons that they are, as well as on their future successes, their status and on their aspiring careers].

This Presentation/Protocol Document was Presented and Filed

City Clerk Item No. 1

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

City Clerk Item No. 2

C. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed within this section entitled "Consent Agenda" are considered to be self-explanatory and are not expected to require additional review or discussion, unless a member of the City Commission or a citizen so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered along with the regular order of business. Hearing no objections to the items listed under the "Consent Agenda," a vote on the adoption of the Consent Agenda will be taken.

Presentation of Boards and/or Committees minutes requesting no action from the City Commission:

Passed the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., to Adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yeas : 5 - Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Cabrera, Jr., Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Withers and Mayor Slesnick II

C.-1. 08-0363 Code Enforcement Board Meeting of April 16, 2008

Attachments: [ROLLCALL APRIL08](#)
[april 08](#)
[memo coverapril08](#)

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 8

C.-2. 08-0388 Emergency Management Board Meeting of May 21, 2008

Attachments: [MAY 21, 2008 MTG MINUTES](#)
[Emergency Mgmt Board Mtg Packet 05/21/08](#)
[Cover Memo Emergency Management 052108](#)

[Note for the Record: Commissioner Anderson stated on the record that one of her board appointees was thrilled to have attended the Emergency Management Board Meeting of May 21st, 2008; further stating that said meeting and presentation were well received by said appointee; further clarifying the need for hurricane preparedness.

Mayor Slesnick informed the public that he has had many discussions with the City Manager regarding an inclusionary process for the Emergency Management Division; further stating that the meeting of the board represented a productive program, a brief orientation for the Board, something that he described as quite a move forward; further stating that he was quite encouraged by Chief Reed's training opportunities being offered to the board, in order that the City may become better prepared].

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 9

C.-3. 08-0396 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of May 20, 2008

Attachments: [Cover Memo 05-20-08 Summary](#)
[Min 05-20-08](#)

[Note for the Record: Mayor Slesnick stated that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should revert back to an initiative of the past, wherein there was established a subcommittee on the golf course; further adding that he would like to see the board weigh in on said matter. City Manager Brown stated that the appropriate venue is set up for same; further pointing out that he has spoken to Parks and Recreation Department Director Fred Couceyro regarding same].

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 10

C.-4. 08-0400 Code Enforcement Board Meeting of May 21, 2008

Attachments: [memo covermay08](#)
[ROLLCALL MAY08](#)
[may 08](#)

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 11

C.-5. 08-0402 Retirement Board Meeting of March 13, 2008

Attachments: [CC.06-03-08.March
Minutes.03-13-08](#)

[Note for the Record: Mayor Slesnick inquired of the City Manager as to whether or not the Retirement Board was looking at qualifications for choosing an attorney for the Retirement Board for the future-further stating that this Commission had urged the Retirement Board to do same; whereupon City Manager stated that he was not sure, but that he would find out.

Mayor Slesnick further mentioned that the City Manager should get a report back to the Commission in connection with the problems faced in terms of the City's Retirement Plan; further expressing the lack of communication between the Retirement Board and the City Commission; further informing his colleagues, the Manager and the public that he was very put off by some of the comments made by the Chairman, more particularly referencing that when the Retirement Board voted on lowering the assumption rate, that the City Commission failed to follow the direction of the Retirement Board; further pointing out that his angst is that the alleged delay by the City Commission in failing to take action on said matter caused the \$3 million debt; further stating when the Commission took action regarding the lowering of the assumption rate, financial liability would have ensued anyway, regardless of the time as to when the action occurred; further instructing the City Manager to request of Don Nelson, to inform the Board as to said misstatements, thereby correcting those comments made by the chairman of the Retirement Board; further noting that our Commission has been supportive of SMART growth, regulated growth, for a tax base that supports the services of the City; further urging the Retirement Board to go out for an RFP in connection with the engagement of an attorney for legal services to the board;

Commissioner Anderson added that a timeline should be prepared by the administration for our upcoming meeting to clarify same.

Finance Director Don Nelson noted that the City has lowered its assumption rate from 9% to 8.25% to 7.75%, and has incurred a \$3 million liability that has not been paid off; further noting that the City did not fund the full amount of the actuarial contribution; further pointing out the fact that since the City has not funded the \$3 million at this point in time continues to be a problem for the State of Florida; further responding to Vice Mayor Kerdyk regarding those tax values that came in for this year, noting that the value last year was \$13,245,000, and that the number which came in for this year was \$13,420,000; further stating that as a result of the state constitutional amendment regarding property tax reform, the value was \$13,775,000, which dropped to \$13,420,000].

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 12

C.-6. 08-0403 Retirement Board Meeting of April 10, 2008

Attachments: [CC.06-03-08.April
Minutes.04-10-08](#)

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 13

C.-7. 08-0404 Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs Meeting of May 7, 2008

Attachments: [Disability cover
08May](#)

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 14

C.-8. 08-0406 International Affairs Coordinating Council Meeting of May 22, 2008

Attachments: [IACC Meeting May 22 2008 Cover revised.pdf
IACC meeting Minutes May 22 2008 revised.pdf](#)

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 15

D. PERSONAL APPEARANCES**Time Certain: 10:00 a.m.**

- D.-1. 08-0397** Dr. Andy S. Gomez, Assistant Provost and Senior Fellow, Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, University of Miami, to speak on the impact the changes in Cuba could have in South Florida.

[Note for the Record: A copy of the Verbatim Transcript of Agenda Item D-1, is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office and in Legistar].

This Agenda Item was Discussed

City Clerk Item No. 16

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-83

- D.-2. 08-0399** Pablo M. Bielecki, P.E., representing the Florida Department of Transportation, requesting a resolution from the City Commission to proceed with the survey and public information meetings for the construction of a new sidewalk along Bird Road from S. W. 57th Avenue to Riviera Drive, to comply with ADA requirements and to provide continuous sidewalk through this corridor.

Attachments: [bielecki cover](#)
[SIDEWALK RESOLUTION](#)
[Gannett Fleming - FDOT](#)
[signed cover](#)

A RESOLUTION FROM THE CITY COMMISSION ENDORSING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PLAN TO INSTALL SIDEWALKS ALONG BIRD ROAD BETWEEN RED ROAD AND RIVIERA DRIVE, SO THAT IT CAN START THE SURVEYING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS; FURTHER PROVIDING THAT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WILL REPORT BACK TO THE CITY REGARDING THE FINAL PLAN PRIOR TO ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

[Note for the Record: Following **Mayor Slesnick** reading of the title to the proposed resolution for Agenda Item D-2 into the public record, **Mr. Pablo M. Bielecki**, from Gannett Fleming Inc., a firm that was engaged by the Florida Department of Transportation, to prepare plans for roadway improvements to State Road 976/SW. Bird Road, from SW 57th Avenue to SW 38th Avenue, including construction of a new sidewalk from SW 57th Avenue to Riviera Drive, addressed the Commission, making the following salient points:

- **Divisional Ramps:** Gannett Fleming would also provided divisional ramps to comply with A.D.A. requirements; and
- **Public Notification:** Requirements will be addressed once the governing body has confirmed the City's position regarding construction of the sidewalk within

the project, then public informational meetings with the residents will follow; and

- **Location of Sidewalk (Cabrera):** That the location of the sidewalk within the project will be on the north side, with a pedestrian bridge; and
- Further stating that the location of the sidewalk within the project is based on the utilities on each side of the road; and
- **Encroachments:** There are no encroachments onto the residents' property line, only the FDOT right-of-way; and
- **Tree Removal:** No tree removal is anticipated; and
- **Neighborhood standards for sidewalk (Commissioner Cabrera/Mayor Slesnick):** Although the sidewalk is slated to be a 6 foot regular sidewalk, Mr. Bielecki stated that they will comply with those standards as established by the City of Coral Gables, as it pertains to the pink coloring consistent with what is provided in our sidewalks; further stating that they will work with our Public Works Department regarding same; and
- **Timetable for Construction:** Mr. Bielecki stated that the timetable for construction is approximately one year; further stating that initially said project comprised two stages, namely meeting on the surfacing; and sidewalk/pedestrian ramps; now, there is only one project for the entire segments; and
- **Pedestrian Bridge:** Mr. Bielecki stated that his firm will coordinate with the Board of Architects regarding the pedestrian bridge (with the Waterway between Granada Boulevard and University Drive); and

Comments by the Commission: Commissioner Anderson stated that she was glad to see the proposed construction of a sidewalk from SW 57th Avenue to Riviera Drive move forward; further inquiring as to what is the proposed public notification process for the residents?

Commissioner Cabrera: Queried of Mr. Bielecki, as to the location of the proposed sidewalk; further inquiring as to the location of the proposed pedestrian bridge-further stating that there will be lots of pushback from the neighborhood; however, as long as one is prepared to inform and educate that said challenges should be appropriately addressed; further commenting on serious challenges in the afternoon with returning traffic to the west; further inquiring as to community standards regarding the pink coloring of the sidewalk; tree removal; timeline for construction, etc.

Mayor Slesnick: Mayor Slesnick reiterated that it is expected that Gannett Fleming will adhere to those coloring standards (pink) that are established in Coral Gables for its sidewalks; further urging that said matter be worked out with our City's Public Works Department; further warning Mr. Bielecki to be mindful of night work; further recalling the incident following our last hurricane (Wilma), the City received a complaint about debris removal being performed around 1 a.m. in the morning; further noting that it is OK to do work at night, so long as it is not deep into the night; further pointing out the preference for bright yellow orange warning pads/brick red pads being

acceptable colors in meeting ADA standards; further pointing out the social utility in having said project, including enhancement of Ruth Owen Park, which the approach to said sidewalk will open the park to residents and passersbys from the west, as well as encourage usage by pedestrians for walking, etc.

Commissioner Withers: **Commissioner Withers** queried Mr. Bielecki regarding whether there will be any bump outs, improvements along Bird Road; further noting that since most of the residents will lose between five and six feet of parking since the sidewalk project will portrude further into peoples' homes, he inquired to how much distance between the road and the sidewalk will be; further inquiring about signage- will the City be obligated to post signage regarding the matter of no parking? Will residents will be allowed to park along the road; further expressing the concerns for parallel parking; further noting that there are those residents who park perpendicular to their driveway when they can no longer park on the sidewalk, they will park on Bird Road, west of the golf course; further noting that when there is not enough parking, then parallel parking issues will arise.

Following the input by the Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Withers, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk authorizing FDOT to proceed with the survey and the public information meetings for construction of a new sidewalk along Bird Road from S.W. 57th Avenue to Riviera Drive].

A motion was made by Commissioner Withers, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., that this motion be adopted by Resolution Number 2008-83. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas : 4 - Commissioner Cabrera, Jr., Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Withers and Mayor Slesnick II

Absent : 1 - Commissioner Anderson

City Clerk Item No. 17

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS**ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

None

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

- E.-1. 08-0395** An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables amending the Zoning Code Section 1-108, "Transitional rules", providing for the granting of one six (6) month extension to the eighteen (18) month transition period approved prior to the adoption of the new Zoning Code; providing for repeal, providing severability, providing for codification thereof, an effective date, and repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith. (Passed on First Reading on June 3, 2008)

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: ZC Text Amendment Transitional Rules 1st reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit A: Ordinance Transitional rules extension 1st reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 28 08 Transitional rules staff report w attachments](#)

[Note for the Record: Following Mayor Slesnick's reading of the title to Agenda Item E-1 into the public record, Planning Director Eric Riel gave a brief synopsis of the item, including a chronology of its legislative history, stating that following the adoption of the new Zoning Code, on January 9, 2007, Transitional Rules (Section 1-108) were put in to allow for certain applications/projects that had secured preliminary Board of Architects approval prior to January 9, 2007, eighteen month to secure final Board of Architects approval; further stating that those applicants/property owners who have shown good cause and due diligence in proceeding through the City's review process, but who were unable to complete same within the eighteen month period, would be afforded an additional six month extension, as determined by the City Manager; said request shall be made to the City Manager in writing, accompanied by a \$2,500 nonrefundable administrative fee; further stating that the proposed legislation, the text amendment, provides for the granting of one six month extension to the eighteen month transitional period, approved prior to the adoption of the new Zoning Code. Mr. Riel further pointed out that the Planning and Zoning Board approved said text amendment at its meeting of May 28, 2008 (by a vote of 5-0), during its meeting of May 28, 2008; further including a list of those applicants/ property owners as part of the supportive documentation, as more particularly described in Exhibit B in this item.

Questions/Comments by the City Commission: Mayor Slesnick noted that since the Waterways Project represents another application, following passage and adoption of said Ordinance on Second Reading, then representatives to said board can also apply in writing for a six month extension to the City Manager; further noting that the City had previously adopted a Residential Single Family Ordinance, further querying of the City Manager as to when we will see the impact of our efforts.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk inquired of the City Manager that one six month extension may be granted to the eighteen month transitional period approved, provided they have secured a building permit. Commissioner Withers further queried of the City Manager that if said applicant had not started construction, then they may be allowed an extension for an additional six month].

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., that this motion be approved as an Ordinance on First Reading. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas : 5 - Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Withers, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Cabrera, Jr. and Mayor Slesnick II

City Clerk Item No. 18

Items E-2. through E-6. are related

[Note for the Record: (Agenda Items E-2 through E-6 were deferred at the request of the applicants prior to the meeting].

E.-2. 08-0389

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving a change of land use from "Commercial Use, Low-Rise Intensity" to "Residential Use (Multi-Family) Low Density" on Lots 1-4, Block 6, Singer Subdivision, "Residential Use (Multi-Family) Duplex Density" to "Residential Use (Multi-Family) Low Density" on Lot 5, Block 5 and Lot 5 and 5-A, Block 6, Singer Subdivision, and "Commercial, Low-Rise Intensity" for Parcel "A" (no land use currently assigned), Coral Gables, Florida; providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date. (PZB recommended denial - Vote: 6-1)

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: Gables Waterway 1st Reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit A: Gables Waterway Ordinances and Reso](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 13 08 Staff Report w Attachments - CC](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit C: 05 14 08 PZB Verbatim Minutes](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit D: Planning Dept. PowerPoint Presentation re: Gables Waterway](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit F: Public Comments re: Gables Waterway CC](#)

This Ordinance was Deferred

City Clerk Item No. 3

E.-3. 08-0390

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving a change of zoning from "CL", Commercial Limited ("CA", Commercial) to "MF2", Multi Family 2 District ("A-13", Apartment) on Lots 1-4, Block 6, Singer Subdivision, "MF1", Multi Family 1 Duplex District ("D-10", Duplex) to "MF2", Multi Family 2 District ("A-13", Apartment) on Lot 5, Block 5 and Lot 5 and 5-A, Block 6, Singer Subdivision and "CL", Commercial Limited ("CA", Commercial) for Parcel "A" (no zoning currently assigned), Coral Gables, Florida; providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date. (PZB recommended denial - Vote: 5-2)

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: Gables Waterway 1st Reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit A: Gables Waterway Ordinances and Reso](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 13 08 Staff Report w Attachments - CC](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit C: 05 14 08 PZB Verbatim Minutes](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit D: Planning Dept. PowerPoint Presentation re: Gables Waterway](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit F: Public Comments re: Gables Waterway CC](#)

This Ordinance was Deferred

City Clerk Item No. 4

E.-4. 08-0391

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving a Planned Area Development (PAD) review pursuant to Zoning Code Article 9, "Planned Area Development", Section 9-1 thru 9-10 (entire property excluding a portion of Lot 8 and a portion of the area designated as University Waterway, Block 208, Second revised Plat of Coral Gables Riviera Section Part 14), Coral Gables, Florida; and including required conditions; providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date. (PZB recommended denial - Vote: 7-0)

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: Gables Waterway 1st Reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit A: Gables Waterway Ordinances and Reso](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 13 08 Staff Report w Attachments - CC](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit C: 05 14 08 PZB Verbatim Minutes](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit D: Planning Dept. PowerPoint Presentation re: Gables Waterway](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit F: Public Comments re: Gables Waterway CC](#)

This Ordinance was Deferred

City Clerk Item No. 5

E.-5. 08-0392

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving the site plan review for entire proposed project (entire property legally described below, including PAD parcel and commercial parcel located on southwest corner of South Alhambra Drive / U.S.1 intersection), Coral Gables, Florida; and including required conditions; providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date. (PZB recommended denial - Vote: 7-0)

Submitted by Amace Properties, Inc., owner, for the property located on all of Tract "K", Addition to Riviera Waterways Section, Lots 1-4, Block 5 and Lots 1-4, Block 6, Riviera Waterways Section, Lot 5, Block 5 and Lot 5 and 5-A, Block 6, Singer Subdivision, a portion of Lot 8 and a portion of the area designated as University Waterway, Block 208, Second revised Plat of Coral Gables Riviera Section Part 14, and Parcel "A" lying between Lot 1, Block 5, Riviera Waterways Section and Tract "K", Addition to Riviera Waterways Section (6100 Caballero Boulevard), Coral Gables, Florida.

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: Gables Waterway 1st Reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit A: Gables Waterway Ordinances and Reso](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 13 08 Staff Report w Attachments - CC](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit C: 05 14 08 PZB Verbatim Minutes](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit D: Planning Dept. PowerPoint Presentation re: Gables Waterway](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit F: Public Comments re: Gables Waterway CC](#)

This Ordinance was Deferred

City Clerk Item No. 6

RESOLUTIONS**E.-6. 08-0393**

(For Discussion Only - Adoption of Resolution would occur at which time Second Reading occurs).

Resolution granting conditional use special location review to allow Mediterranean architectural bonuses adjacent to "SFR", Single Family Residential ("R", Residential) and "MF1", Multi Family 1 Duplex District ("D", Duplex) zoned property, Coral Gables, Florida; as set forth in Application No. 02-07-480-P; subject to certain conditions, and providing an effective date. (PZB recommended denial - Vote: 7-0)

Attachments: [06 03 08 CC Cover Memo re: Gables Waterway 1st Reading](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: Gables Waterway Ordinances and Reso](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit B: 05 13 08 Staff Report w Attachments - CC](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit C: 05 14 08 PZB Verbatim Minutes](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit D: Planning Dept. PowerPoint Presentation re: Gables Waterway](#)
[06 03 08 Exhibit F: Public Comments re: Gables Waterway CC](#)

This Resolution was Deferred

City Clerk Item No. 7

F. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

None

City Clerk Item No. 19

G. BOARDS/COMMITTEES ITEMS

None

City Clerk Item No. 20

CITY MANAGER ITEMS**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-84**

H.-1. 08-0401

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to issue a Request for Qualifications and Proposals for the long-term management and operations of a City-owned facility at 997 North Greenway Drive (also known as The Country Club of Coral Gables), subject to final review by the City Attorney.

Attachments: [COUNTRY CLUB RFP2](#)
[Comm Cov country club](#)
[Resolution country club 5-08](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR THE LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS OF A CITY OWNED FACILITY AT 997 NORTH GREENWAY DRIVE (ALSO KNOWN AS THE COUNTRY CLUB OF CORAL GABLES), SUBJECT TO FINAL REVIEW BY THE CITY ATTORNEY.

[Note for the Record: A copy of the Verbatim Transcript of Agenda Item H-1, is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office and in Legistar].

A motion was made by Commissioner Cabrera, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Anderson, that this motion be adopted by Resolution Number 2008-84. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas : 5 - Commissioner Withers, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Cabrera, Jr., Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr. and Mayor Slesnick II

City Clerk Item No. 21

I. CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

None

City Clerk Item No. 22

J. CITY CLERK ITEMS

None

City Clerk Item No. 23

K. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Slesnick: Ms. Anderson.

Commissioner Anderson: Just two things; May 13th I brought a request forward for a zoning analysis of Hammock Lakes and I mentioned that there was a real estate ad that showed 22% coverage, I found the ad, for the variance that was given to that property, and I would like to pass that along as part of the analysis and hopefully we'll get that soon. I had some residents who are only at 15% lot coverage would be at great disadvantage when you have 22% especially on those large lots, so I'd love to hear how that happened and the rationale. And to end on a positive note, I was watching CGTV yesterday and I wanted to congratulate them; they have tremendous programming, original programming that helps to educate. I saw one on hurricane preparedness, victim's advocacy, you name it, I saw it; it was very entertaining, well presented, the graphics were super, and I'm very proud of the work they are doing. That's it for me.

Commissioner Withers: Maria, could you please reiterate your concern on the 15% versus the 22%.

Commissioner Anderson: Site specific zoning for Hammock Lakes annexation was at 15%, and how something got to 22% is of concern because it puts other properties at a disadvantage, and I just want to know what happened, or maybe for me to understand it better. It just doesn't seem right.

City Attorney Hernandez: It may have been the configuration of the land, you know, we don't know, so we need to see.

Commissioner Anderson: Yes, but I have an ad here that its being advertised a particular lot and that's the selling point; it includes underground utilities and variances to allow 22% lot coverage. I'll gladly pass that along to you at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Slesnick: Mr. Cabrera.

Commissioner Cabrera: Several weeks ago I had a chance to meet with the Student

Government President of the University of Miami, Mr. Gross, Brandon Gross, nice young man who is going to be a senior this fall, and he was recently elected. He came before the University of Miami Community Relations Board shortly after the meeting where we discussed the ballot question of term limits, and I think we had a very productive discussion conversation with one another. Bottom line is that I think he was going to reach out to the rest of the City Commission...

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: He already called me.

Commission Cabrera:...to find out your views, and his point to me was that he really would like to see the students come out to vote in November, which they are going to any way because of the Presidential Election, but he felt very strongly about the fact that while yes, in April, there would be session going on at the University, the greatest emphasis of student turn out for voting purposes would be in November. I expressed to him my deep concern with the fact that at least in my case in the last seven years, I've reached out to every single President of the Student Government, and offered to engage them and to have relationships with them, to make them more aware of our local government and I've received absolutely no interest from their past presidents. However, this current President seems to be quite interested and wants to not only engage the City Commission as a whole, but make sure his whole government is involved in what happens in our City, really a very interesting young man. I just wanted the Commission to know that while I supported the April ballot question, I am perfectly comfortable with a November ballot question; now that may be a mute subject at this time because of timing purposes, I don't know, but I just wanted this Commission to know that I have no problems with making this November ballot question. Any thoughts or concerns?

Commission Withers: I'm meeting with him on Monday.

Commissioner Cabrera: OK.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: I am too.

Commissioner Anderson: I am tomorrow.

Commissioner Cabrera: Oh good. I wanted to wait to bring this up to you until you had a meeting with him.

Mayor Slesnick: I have a copy of a letter I sent to him where I expressed again my feelings about this, and I'll let you all have a copy of it; it was after he and I met I wrote him and fully expressed my belief.

Commissioner Cabrera: You know, the basis for my position had more to do with two

things; one is the traditional nature of our elections that are always held in the Spring, that's when we have them, and one of the reasons we have them, I believe, is because that way we don't dilute subjects, and issues, and candidates; and the second is a personal one which is quite candidly I just told you that for seven years I've been reaching out, I've been doing outreach programs to this University's government and I've really have gotten nothing back, and its refreshing to see an incoming President who is very active and very interested to the point, and I want to bring this up now because I'd like it to be part of the public record; Mr. Manager, the President even mentioned the possibilities of having a Student Government meeting in our Chambers, they meet on Wednesdays, and I thought it might be an interesting opportunity to have the City of Coral Gables to open their doors and their Chambers to their Student Government to have one meeting here and potentially participate and have discussions with them.

City Manager Brown: If you give me a number I'll be glad to call him.

Commissioner Cabrera: Well, I told him I that we would discuss this further and I was officially was going to bring it to the Commission at a later time, but I'd like the Commission to know that we floated the idea, and their meetings are on Wednesdays never on Tuesdays, so I thought that maybe the Chambers, in the evening, I think it was in the evenings like at 6:00 o'clock, and they go for about two hours, two or three hours. Alright, very good.

City Manager Brown: I wouldn't mind seeing that.

Commissioner Cabrera: Yes, it would be fun, it'd be fun. Second item for me is do we have any outstanding either debt or unpaid contractors to the 4th of July event?

City Manager Brown: No, not that I know of, no.

Commissioner Cabrera: Alright, I received an e-mail from the Miami Symphonic Band that I think they had - I'm not really sure what the dollar amount is, but some money's exchanged already, could somebody look into that?

City Manager Brown: We will.

Commissioner Cabrera: OK.

Unknown: For this year or the prior year.

Commissioner Cabrera: For this year, no? Was there a six thousand dollar fee that would be paid to them if they performed, is that what it is? OK. I know what this is. I'll discuss this with the Manager's office off-line.

Unknown: [Inaudible - off mike].

Commissioner Cabrera: OK. Well, I'll discuss it off-line. That's it for me. When will we be together again?

City Manager Brown: June 26th, that's a Thursday.

Commissioner Cabrera: June 26th a Thursday. Thank you.

Mayor Slesnick: Ralph, let me read you the letter I sent.

Commissioner Cabrera: Oh, we are back on the...OK.

Mayor Slesnick: I sent this to Brandon Gross; "Dear Brando, let me again offer my congratulations on your election", and by the way on follow up to Commissioner's I've been to the inauguration now of each of the Presidents for the last three years, and I've been to the Student Senate each of the last three years except this year when Brandon Gross...

Commissioner Cabrera: They invited you?

Mayor Slesnick:...yes, when Brandon Gross was the President Senate I wasn't invited, I did not get invited this last year.

Commissioner Cabrera: I've never been invited.

Mayor Slesnick:...and I've tried to be participative in all those things, and tried to reach out, and Brandon and I have now met; I was there when he was inaugurated, the night he was inaugurated, and he met me at City Hall at my invitation about this exact subject. "Let me again offer my congratulations on your election and inauguration as Student Government President. I am sure you will have a good year and that we here at City Hall look forward to working with you. This letter is intended as a follow up to our recent conversation regarding the upcoming term limit referendum. Despite how the arguments were expressed at our City Commission meeting, there is no intension to exclude students from participating in the election process. We like most other South Florida Cities have an established election date which differs from the date upon which Federal, State and County balloting is conducted. Whether that is the best set of circumstances is debatable, but it is our system as is set forth in the City Charter, and yet our constituents have not considered changing that provision. The proposition of a term limit provision requires amending our Charter, the appropriate time to consider such change is at the City Election next spring, not as a part of this fall's Presidential contest. As you know students who are registered to vote as residents of Coral Gables

has the same right to cast a ballot during the City's Election as they do in the Federal State Elections. Both elections will occur during the same academic year, and for a UM student to take part in the City vote requires an extra hour or less of commitment to the democratic process. Let me offer my personal apology for anything that was said which would lead students to doubt my support of and friendship with them as they pursue their college studies as citizens of our community". So I sent that.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Very good.

Commissioner Cabrera: Very nice.

Commissioner Withers: Very nice letter.

Mayor Slesnick: Mr. Kerdyk.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Yes, one item. Couple people have called me; a couple residents have called me and complained about people or construction starting before the designated time of 7:00 a.m. in the morning and after 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. I realize our Building Department is especially vigilant in trying to make sure Code Enforcement deals with that situation, but if you could have them re-emphasize the importance to contractors not to start their work prior to the times in our City, it would be appreciated.

City Manager Brown: You have specific locations?

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: I could give them to you off record, but not only those particular ones, I would like you to just overall make sure that the contractors doing business and the builders understand that we do have a Code in place that they need to comply with. Essentially that's it. Thank you very much.

Mayor Slesnick: Mr. Withers.

Commissioner Withers: No sir.

Mayor Slesnick: Mr. Brown.

City Manager Brown: Just one item, I just got an e-mail that Commissioner Anderson was talking about, the Coral Gables Television, we were just recognized again for our historic home shows, and our Gables all about trash show, we just won two more Telly awards, that over ten and three years, I'm very, very proud of it.

Commissioner Anderson: That was excellent. I saw the interviews with residents with historic homes, it was great.

City Manager Brown: That's it Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Slesnick: Speaking of awards, the official announcement isn't out yet and they asked us before we do any publicity about it, but we again have been honored by U.S. Conference of Mayors for livability awards and its going to be presented during the upcoming U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting which Manny Diaz is having here in Miami. Manny will become the President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, it's a distinguished office of nation-wide caliber of importance and prestige and we congratulate Manny on his assumption of that role, but our award would be given on Saturday, I think the 14th or the 13th whatever the Saturday is, 14th at a luncheon, and if anybody would like to accompany me; we have not been able to go to the U.S. Conference of Mayors before out of town to accept our award, but this time I was going to go to the luncheon if anybody would like to accompany me you are more than welcome to do so and I would make arrangements for that. We also had a couple of deaths recently, I noticed that Sherman Winn died, we send our condolences to his family, a very great leader in our community, and an icon in County government, he was actually the person who gave me my first appointment to a County Board back in the early 80's, late 70's actually. And Ellen Baum died recently, I forgot to bring that up last time; Ellen at one time served on our Historic Preservation Board, so we send our condolences to the family of Ellen Baum. In April this Commission finished its seventh year together, we did it without a lot of fan fair because it was not an election year and there was not an installation of Commissioners, but I wanted to a little bit belatedly bring to a close our seventh year by saying what an honor it has been to serve with Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Cabrera, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Commissioner Withers, all these seven years. Its been an experience that I presume others will join me in saying is one that does not equate to anything else I've ever done in my life, has been a very touching at times, moving at times, aggravating at times, inspirational at times, but it has been quite an experience, and I think that, all I can say if I were to retire today which certain people, I guess, would like, I would be proud of all that we've done together, and all that we've tried to do together through our differences of opinion, through our different approaches, through our different styles, we have come to what I think, is seven years of good governance. I would like to say though that we are coming to a critical time in our government, and it's a time when we are looking toward the, I've already announced that I will not be seeking re-election after the end of this term, and others may not, and others may change, we may have term limits which may impact, or not impact some people, it doesn't matter, but I think that the governance of our City is very important, and I've been frustrated at times about how our government works and I've been frustrated at how we sometimes felt very incapable of making the impact we want to; I also think sometimes we've probably over micro-managed our administration and that's probably been frustrating to them; but I think that we did something early in our careers together that we have not done since, and I would say that as Mayor I'd like to call together a planning

session to talk about our administration and our governance for the coming years ahead before our Budget meeting. We have a Budget meeting, a workshop in the middle of July, and sometime in early July I'd like to have a workshop with the Commission where we can actually talk since we can't talk otherwise, about where do we think we are headed, not in budgetary terms, but I think that unless we talk a little bit about what our aspects are, what our hopes are for governance, and for administration, we can't really get to how we are going to appropriate the money. So with that said, I'd like my office to coordinate calendars with you all to call us together, I can call a meeting but if a majority doesn't want to come then I can't - I don't see any sense of holding. But I hope that you all will join me because I think the time has come for some honest discussion about what we want to see in our government composition.

Commissioner Cabrera: I will support you, the only thing is I need to know more; I'd like to know...

Mayor Slesnick: I'm not bringing a program; I think though we do have some things on our plate that we'd like to talk about. Some of us have expressed anguish over the way the relationship between the administration and the Commission has occurred; some of us have expressed hope to see different systems installed; some of us have expressed concerns over whether responsiveness of government and so forth. So I think the time is building to where honest discussion, which we can't have any other way than have a workshop session take place...

Commissioner Cabrera: Good. I'd like to also...

Mayor Slesnick:...and maybe everyone can contribute an agenda item.

Commissioner Cabrera: That would be good; my agenda item would also include a succession plan with the administration.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: I support that; I support that totally as far as that goes, and I will tell you that I'm going to have a discussion off-line with the City Manager too of some of the critical issues I think that are affecting this government and how we move forward, like you said how we move forward from a City Manager perspective and just governance in general, and I fully support that being taken place as soon as possible.

Commissioner Withers: Don, in preparation for that I've requested a couple of Commission meetings ago a breakdown of Directors and Assistant Directors, and where they are as far as seniority, number of years entering the DROP Plan, their DROP Plan.

Mayor Slesnick: It fits together.

Commissioner Withers: I think that needs to be distributed before, if we are looking at a macro look of how this shakes down, I think that's important.

Mayor Slesnick: And I've asked that if you would please send to me suggestions for agenda because I intend this to be a Commission driven program.

Commissioner Cabrera: I'd like to go ahead then and coordinate that with your office.

Mayor Slesnick: Yes, that would be good. Thank you again for your service to the community, and thanks for being my friend and my fellow Commission members, worked seven years together. With that we'll adjourn; we'll see each other on Thursday...

Commissioner Cabrera: We are all going out to dinner now?

Commissioner Withers: Lunch.

Commissioner Cabrera: Dinner and drinks? Dave can we borrow your P-Card?

City Manager Brown: Yes, I'll give it to you Ralph.

LAUGHTER

Commissioner Cabrera: Thank you.

Mayor Slesnick: We are meeting here on Thursday, September, excuse me, June what is it, 26th, did somebody nod yes?

City Manager Brown: 6/26.

City Clerk Item No. 24

ADJOURNMENT

[Note for the Record: There being no further business on the Regular City Commission Meeting Agenda. The Commission of the City of Coral Gables adjourned its meeting at 11:38 am on June 3, 2008. The next regular meeting of the City Commission has been scheduled for June 26, 2008, beginning 9 a.m.]

DONALD D. SLESNICK
MAYOR

ATTEST:

WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK