



**Library Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday | October 13, 2021 | 3:00 p.m.

Location: Police and Fire Headquarters (PFHQ), Community Meeting Room A
2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134

LAB MEMBERS	MEETING DATES												APPOINTING ENTITY
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	
James Worm	X	Z	X	Z	X	Z	X	X	X	P			Mayor Vince Lago
Samuel Boldrick	X	Z	X	Z	X	Z	X	X	X	A			Vice Mayor Mena
VACANT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Board as a Whole
Myra Silverstein, Chair	X	Z	X	Z	X	Z	X	X	X	P			City Manager
Charlotte Smiley	X	Z	X	Z	X	E	X	X	X	P			Commissioner Menendez
Melanie Zargham	-	-	-	-	-	Z	X	X	X	P			Commissioner Anderson
Donna Heisenbottle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	P			Commissioner Fors

A=Absent E=Excused Absence P=Present X=No Meeting Ph=Present by Phone Z=Zoom - =Former Board Member

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Belkys Perez, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department
 Zeida Sardiñas, Asset Manager, Economic Development Department
 Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department
 Leo Gomez, Assistant Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System

Chairwoman Ms. Silverstein brought the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Silverstein welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone for self-introductions.

2. Library Construction Update

Ms. Silverstein introduced Leo Gomez, Assistant Director of the Miami-Dade Public Library System and asked him to provide an update on the library construction project. Mr. Gomez stated that the Coral Gables branch library closed earlier this year and is now under construction which is expected to be completed by August-September of 2022. The temporary Coral Gables library on Miracle Mile is heavily used and much liked. The data collected by the Library System indicated that many of the regular patrons of the Coral Gables library are using the temporary location. The library has been demolished and removed all contents from the library. The construction is now entering a new phase and one that Mr. Gomez believes to be the most complicated, the electrical and data infrastructure phase. Crews will begin trenching the floor to run new conduit and electrical lines to power the numerous IT equipment that will be offered and to provide power to the residents wherever they are sitting so they can use their own equipment. This work is expected to continue through the beginning of 2022. Mr. Gomez said they worked with a historical preservation consultant who removed the historical pieces. He mentioned that the parking lot was recently used by the Coral Gables Fire Department for the

administration of COVID vaccines and that it would remain available for future collaborations. In March, all furnishings and fixtures will be ordered to be installed by July 2022.

Ms. Silverstein said the temporary library was a great addition to the downtown and she was very happy to see it being used by the community.

Ms. Sardinas mentioned that at the recent Commission Meeting, several Commissioners commented on how pleased they were with the activity generated by the temporary library on Miracle Mile.

Ms. Heisenbottle asked Mr. Gomez, if due to the success of the temporary location and its benefit to Miracle Mile, would there be an opportunity to keep the temporary location even after the library was completed. Mr. Gomez stated that the temporary location is under a lease agreement, but he would pass the information along.

3. Board as a Whole Vacancy Discussion

Ms. Perez mentioned that the City received several applications for the Board as a Whole position. The applications were attached to the agenda packet and emailed to all board members for their review. There was a discussion regarding the background and qualifications of all applicants.

Ms. Smiley made a motion to accept Leticia Milian as the Board as a Whole appointment to the Library Advisory Board. Ms. Zargham seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. James Worm suggested the Board to identify an alternate.

Ms. Heisenbottle made a motion to accept Daniel Carson as the alternate member for the Library Advisory Board. Mr. Worm seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

4. Open Discussion/Other Business

Ms. Perez informed the Board about the Murals on the Mile project and encouraged Board members to visit the four murals.

Concerned with achieving quorum in December, Ms. Smiley suggested Board meetings be moved to odd-number months instead of even-numbered months. Board members said, they plan on attending the December meeting.

5. Adjourn

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Yenesis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department.