

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
 WATERWAY ADVISORY BOARD
 HYBRID MEETING AT CITY HALL/ZOOM
 WEDNESDAY, April 5, 2023 - 5:30 P.M.
 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS	District	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	APPOINTED BY:
		22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	
Manny Chamizo	2	A	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	A	P	A	P	Vince Lago
Daniel Tormo	3	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	A	A	Jim Cason
Juan A. Galan Jr	3	P	*	*	*	A	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	Rhonda Anderson
Kevin Ritzenthaler	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	A	A	P	Kirk Menendez
Joel Kallan	4	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	Michael Mena
Douglas Yoder	CR	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	Peter Iglesias
Bertram Goldsmith	7	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	E	P	P	P	A	Commission-As-A-Whole
John Swain	2	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	Commission-As-A-Whole
Levi Meyer	6									A	P	P	A	Board-As-A-Whole

P – Present
P*- Present (zoom)
E – Excused Absence
A – Absent
R – Resigned
(-) – No Appointment

(*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

- Jorge Acevedo, Utilities & ROW Division Chief/Board Secretary
- Lorena Garrido, Administrative & Fiscal Affairs Manager
- Yannissey Solivera, Administrative Assistant
- Mayor John Baublitz, Marine Patrol
- Lieutenant Henry Barnet

GUESTS:

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Mr. Douglas Yoder. The roll call was done, and quorum was met.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

Dr. Kallan made the motion to approve the March 1, 2023, seconded by Mr. Swain, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

DISCUSSIONS:

Mr. Galan brought up the subject of trees and mangroves that are protruding heavily into the waterways, particularly between 6935 and 7000 Prado Blvd. He stated that this is a small canal and that it's completely covered by the mangroves. It is impenetrable and it's a hazard. He is interested in knowing if the Marine Patrol have been creating code enforcement referrals.

Mr. Yorder stated that he contacted DERM, as they take part in the permitting process for trimming the mangroves. DERM indicated that if the City is interested in undertaking a program to trim the mangroves, they can. It can be financed by billing the property owners through a general permit and that the state law has exemptions if the City or their contractors are performing the job. Mr. Yorder suggested to invite DERM to a meeting to discuss with the Board and additionally coordinate with the City Manager to implement a program that would address the navigability of the waterway.

Dr. Kallan mentioned that the State of Florida currently has fundings for the removal of old or debilitated boats. The boats cannot be sinking or underwater and all the owners must do is apply. The owner will not incur any fees or liability. Lieutenant Henry Barnet asked Dr. Kallan to forward this information to him so that he can pass it on to the Marine Patrol and should they see any old or debilitated boats they can knock on the owner's door and provide them with the information.

Mr. Galan made a motion to have Code Enforcement quarterly report to the Board on any issues referred to them by Marine Patrol and the actions they have taken to enforce the code. Motion was seconded by Dr. Kallan, all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

MARINE PATROL REPORT:

As requested by the Board, Lieutenant Henry Barnet and Mayor John Baublitz from the Marine Patrol were present to answer the following questions:

1. Does the City have rules about storage of boats in waterway during hurricane emergency?
2. What does the designated anchorage on marine charts mean (legally)?
3. Is obstruction of a navigable waterway an infraction that Marine Patrol can act on? Does this fall under Federal, State, or local Jurisdiction?
4. What can Marine Patrol do about derelict vessels?
5. Is bow riding legal?
6. Who oversees signage in the Coral Gables waterways?
7. Who enforces City of Coral Gables codes on the waterways?

Marine Patrol's questions and answers are attached.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.