

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

Draft Minutes of Meeting, December 2, 2010
War Memorial Youth Center, Conference Room

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY
Barbara Katzen	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	E	P	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Jack Elmore	E	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Vacant													Comm. Maria Anderson
Carlos Perea	P	P	P	P	P	A	-	-	P	P	P	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Linda Lawrence	E	P	E	P	P	P	-	-	E	P	-	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Paul Zamek	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	Board-As-A-Whole
Robert Parsley	P	P	P	E	P	P	-	-	P	E	-	P	City Manager

STAFF:

Troy Springmyer, Landscape Services Division Superintendent
Ayliin Hernandez, Public Service Department

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

Glenn Kephart, Public Works Director
Ernesto Pino, Assistant Public Works Director

OPEN MEETING:

Barbara Katzen the Vice Chairperson opened the meeting at 9:17 a.m., the roll was taken and a quorum was present.

ELECTION OF CHAIR: Barbara Katzen nominated Robert Parsley for Chairman, Mr. Parsley accepted. A motion was made to "Nominate Robert Parsley to fill the position of Chairman." The motion was seconded by Jack Elmore, voted upon and adopted with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to "Approve the minutes from the November 4, 2010 meeting as written." The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEGOVIA STREET UPDATE: Glenn Kephart informed the board that the bids for the Segovia Project have been received and they are in the process of evaluation. The board inquired on the landscape materials used and Mr. Kephart informed that Oak Trees have been selected. Mr. Zamek inquired on the timeline and Mr. Kephart responded that it is expected that the project will begin during the first half of 2011. Linda Lawrence later inquired on the funding source and Mr. Kephart responded that the funds are provided by the County Impact Fees.

PONCE DE LEON UPDATE: Glenn Kephart informed the Board that the Ponce De Leon Project is currently under construction and completion is expected to be between April and May of 2011. This project addresses pedestrian and ADA improvements. Mr. Kephart also introduced a landscape material change from oak trees to Medjool Date Palms for the median. He further advised that if this change was made the existing trees in the median of Ponce would also be changed out to the same palm tree. The palms are being proposed at 25 feet of clear trunk. Troy Springmyer advised upon questioning that the Palms would be trimmed twice a year. The Board agreed to make a recommendation of the landscape change and a motion was made to "Approve the Medjool Date Palms for the Ponce De Leon Project." The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed unanimously.

Linda Lawrence inquired on the funding source and Mr. Kephart informed that this project is funded by two sources, Federal funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Miami-Dade County Impact Fees. Linda inquired what the funding source is for paving the streets and Mr. Pino informed that the streets are paved with funds from the Gas Tax. Mr. Kephart added that both the Segovia and the Ponce Projects included road paving.

Linda Lawrence inquired about Public Works Department budget cuts and Mr. Kephart responded that there has been an approximate cut of 10-12 percent.

Jack Elmore mentioned potholes on Tangier St. between Venetia Ave. and Mariana Ave and on Columbus Blvd. between Alhambra Circle and Venetia Ave. Mr. Kephart advised that they would be repaired.

TRAFFIC CIRCLE UPDATE: Troy Springmyer passed on the recommendations from Mr. Keys for planting in the Circle at Indian Mound Trail and Valencia Ave. as being Sabal Palms or Strawberry Guava Trees. The Board requested photographs and a plan view drawing of the site and photographs of the proposed landscape material before making a decision. These will be provided at the next meeting.

Barbara Katzen inquired on the status of the photographic survey of the Circles and Troy responded that Mr. Keys has the photos that were taken.

MIRACLE MILE AND GIRALDA UPDATE: None.

ARBOR DAY PLANNING: Paul Zamek welcomed suggestions on a location of the Arbor Day event and Troy Springmyer mentioned Country Club Prado and Sevilla Ave. as being the recommendation relayed to him by Mr. Keys. Troy also provided the board with photographs of the location. Mr. Keys had recommended a Baobab tree for the planting. The board requested to make the decision at the next meeting after having an opportunity to go by to see the site. Mr. Zamek also advised that there were many schools looking to take part in the event, but that the location was needed before finalizing which ones would finally participate.

Beautification Awards were mentioned and Troy distributed maps with the zones marked on them such that members could choose one to survey for possible nominations. He also reminded the board that their selections should be e-mailed to Ayliin at ahernandez@coralgables.com

before the next meeting on January 6, 2011. Barbara Katzen requested a list of the addresses of the previous awards and Troy confirmed and would be sent.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITY COMMISSION UPDATE: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

APPROVED:

Robert Parsley, Chairman

ATTEST:

Daniel Keys, Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2011, 9:15 a.m.
Youth Center Conference Room, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, Florida