

LANDMARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2023, at 9:00 am.
Coral Gables City Hall, City Commission Chamber
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	O 22	N 22	D 22	J 23	F 23	M 23	A 23	M 23	APPOINTED BY
Don Slesnick (Chairperson)		P			P			P	Mayor Vince Lago
Lauren Dowlen	N	P	N	N	P	N	N	P	Commissioner Kirk Menendez
Ramona Busot	O	E	O	O	P	O	O	P	City Manager, Peter Iglesias
Alice Goldhagen	M	P	M	M	P	M	M	E	Vice-Mayor Michael Mena
Donna Heisenbottle	E	E	E	E	P	E	E	P	Commissioner Jorge L. Fors, Jr.
Jane Maranos (Vice- Chairperson)	I	P	I	I	P	I	I	P	Commissioner Rhonda Anderson
Ajit Asrani	G	P	G	G	P	G	G	P	Board-As-A-Whole

LEGEND: A = Absent; P = Present; E = Excused; * = New Member; ^ = Resigned Member; - = No Meeting; # = Late meeting arrival.

STAFF: Kara Kautz, Interim Preservation Officer; Nancy Lyons, Administrative Assistant

RECORDING SECRETARY/PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Yvelisse Bonilla, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Slesnick called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Lyons called the names of the board members in attendance.

Chair Slesnick welcomed board members and thanked everyone for coming.

Historic Preservation Officer Warren Adams was a major supporter of this meeting. Mr. Adams has moved on to another position. The Chairperson welcomed Ms. Kara Kautz as the new interim Director of Historic Resources.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Maranos and seconded by Ms. Busot to approve the minutes from the meeting on February 7, 2023, as amended.

The motion passed with a collective aye.

A motion was made by the Board to excuse the absence of Ms. Alice Goldhagen from this meeting.

The motion passed with a collective aye.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution** – The resolution changing the frequency of the Landmark Advisory Board meetings from quarterly to every other month has not been presented to the City Commission. Staff to get this on the City Commission agenda for the next meeting.
2. **Frank Button Marker** - As of yesterday, 05/01/23, the Frank Button monument is back. Chair Slesnick would like the photo of this monument presented by Ms. Kautz to be added to the minutes.
 - a. Ms. Kautz is working with Greenspace Management to provide a buffer ring around the monuments to prevent the ride on mowers from coming too close.
3. **Public Works** – This Board would like Public Works or Greenspace Management to attend the meeting.
4. **Merrick House** – Ms. Bondurant requested relocation of the plaque honoring W.L. Philbrick to a more prominent location. Currently located by the front stairs on the right.
5. **Plaque to Honor the Bahamians** – Chair questions the location of this new plaque that the Merrick House Board is working on. Mr. Kautz discussed how the Merrick Board has not moved or acted on anything and will keep this board updated on the plaque issue.
6. **Balboa Plaza Circle** – Intersection of De Soto Blvd, Andeson Ave and Coral Way. Proposed traffic circle from the county to take place at Balboa Plaza (one of the original entrances to the city). The board reviewed it as an amendment to the historic city plan and it was denied by the Historic Preservation Board (HPB). HPB wanted to see more alternatives and options for that historic site. There is no marker right now. This issue is moving to the City Commission.
7. **Historic Signage** - Board member Dowlen states this board should have input into any new historic type of signage, language on historic markers.
8. **Arva Parks / Sally Jude** – Staff communicated with the Director of Community Recreation and discussed a new park at Toledo Street and Alaba Avenue. The park is in the design phase. Chair Slesnick would like to come up with the design of the marker for Arva Parks.
9. **Young Park** – Staff to return with information on who Young Park is named after and possibly create a marker for Young. Currently there is no marker for Young Park.
10. **List of Landmarks** - Gay Bondurant’s created a list of the landmarks in Coral Gables. This board requests it be put on the website and create a GIS to each marker.
11. **Granada Golf Course** – Look into the State Grant program to fund a marker for the golf course. Has already been designated by the state as a historic trail.

Chairperson Slesnick requests Staff to advise the Board of what they can do to support the staff. What projects does Staff feel are doable and what are not- how can Staff support this board to be more active.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

1. Resolution requested at the to be presented at the 2/7/23 meeting, to the City Commission on the frequency of meetings.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY: None

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Maranos and seconded by Ms. Dowlen to adjourn.

The motion passed with a collective aye.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna C. Pernas", is written over a horizontal line.

Anna C. Pernas
Historic Resources and Cultural Arts Director