

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
 CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
 WEDNESDAY, October 2, 2019, 2019 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	
Blake Sando	*	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	*	P			Vince Lago
Vanessa Liebl	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	*	P			Mayor Raul FauliValdes
Mary Palacio-Pike	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	*	P			Patricia Keon
Philippa Milne	-	-	-	-	-	P	E	P	*	E			Jorge L. Fors, Jr.
Marie-Ilene Whitehurst	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	*	P			Michael Mena

P – Present
 E – Excused Absence
 A – Absent
 (-) – No Appointment
 (*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

Carolina Vester – Parks & Recreation
 Ericka Kofkin – Parks & Recreation
 Raquel Elejabarrieta – Labor Relations & Risk Management
 Eglys Hernandez – Labor Relations & Risk Management

GUEST:

Ms. Paola Villanueva – CILSF

CITIZEN ADVISORS:

Bonnie Blaire
 Debbie Dietz

PUBLIC GUEST:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at

MEETING ABSENCE:

Ms. Philippa Milne

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

August 14, 2019 Minutes
 Motion by: Ms. Vanessa Liebl / 2nd: Ms. Mary Palacio-Pike / All approved unanimously

SECRETARY’S REPORT: None

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS: None

NEW BUSINESS: 2019 Board Accomplishment Report – Raquel Elejabarrieta (Exhibit 1)

Board reviewed 2019 Accomplishment Report and motion was made to approved in conjunction with amendment to clarify that the Board provided the City with input on how the proposed ordinance for straw bans would affect individuals with disabilities be included.

Motion by: Ms. Marie-Ilene Whitehurst / 2nd: Ms. Vanessa Liebl / All approved unanimously

OLD BUSINESS: Adventure Day for All Event - Update – Carolina Vester & Ericka Kofkin

Ms. Vester conducted update regarding Adventure Day for All Event. Ms. Vester advised Board of vendors contacted, those who have replied, those committed with paperwork completed and those whom have shown interest but still have pending paperwork. Ms. Kofkin advised that as of today, there were nineteen confirmed vendors. Ms. Kofkin also advised she has contacted potential vendors numerous times and will follow up again. Mr. Sando stated it would be a good idea for Board members to review vendor list and reach out to any they may have contact with directly.

Ms. Vester provided posters as well as flyers for the Board to take with them and distribute same.

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised Ms. Belkys Perez of Development Services will be contacted and addressed regarding making flyers available for distribution and display at local businesses.

Ms. Vester presented Board with overview of event site plan. Ms. Vester advised Board of logistics regarding set up of vendor tents, activities, CARD Bus, registration tables, First Aid, restrooms, etc. Ms. Vester also advised of quiet area inside City Hall as well as safety redundancy in place at such events. Ms. Vester advised there will be four food trucks. including a new one “Taco Truck” and how they are also utilized as part of the redundancy safety precautions.

Ms. Vester advised there are limited resources for this event and funds currently utilized are from the City’s ADA account fund which is funded by ADA parking violations. Ms. Vester stated the City will be reviewing success of event to determine how it would be best to proceed with future ones. Ms. Vester advised regarding promotion of event, which includes video on City’s website, City’s social media, and a free public service announcement.

Business Inclusion Award – Update –Raquel Elejabarrieta & Ericka Kofkin (Meeting Minutes Exhibit 2)

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised regarding Business Selection Committee meeting held on September 13, 2019 where the seven nominees received were reviewed, and top three finalist were selected (Public, California Pizza Kitchen and Gables Cinema). Ms. Elejabarrieta advised that staff is in the process of completing video, striving to put out to vote next week and award to be presented at October 22, 2019 Commission meeting.

Proclamation Presentation – Raquel Elejabarrieta

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised Board that on October 8, 2019, at the City Commission meeting a Proclamation declaring October 2019 as “Americans with Disabilities Month” in Coral Gables will be presented and all Board members are invited to attend.

NEXT MEETING: November 6, 2019

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:54am

EXHIBIT 1

Advisory Board on Disability Affairs

Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019

In accordance with Section 2.66 "Annual Report" of the City's Code of Ordinance, the Advisory Board on Disability Affairs (the "Board") submits to the City Manager its annual report as follows:

1. *Whether the Board is serving the purpose for which it was created.*

Yes, the Board is serving the purpose for which it was created, which is to advise and provide input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support inclusion and full and effective participation of individuals with disabilities within the City.

2. *A list of the Board's major accomplishments.*

- On October 9, 2018, the City Commission issued two Proclamations:
 - Declaring the Month of October as "Americans with Disabilities Month" in Coral Gables (*Agenda Item A-1*).
 - Declaring October 13, 2019, as "Adventure Day" in Coral Gables (*Agenda Item A-2*).
- On October 9, 2018, the City Commission passed a resolution declaring principles of inclusion for all individuals with disabilities and urging action by national, state and local governments, businesses, and residential communities consistent with these principles. (*Resolution 2018-269*).
- On October 13, 2018, the City hosted its first Adventure Day for All event. This family friendly free event for all ages and abilities featured a resource fair, activities, crafts, live music and food trucks. There were over 200 attendees. The second Adventure Day for All event is scheduled to occur on October 13, 2019.
- During the Board's November and December meetings, the Board provided the City with input on how the proposed City ordinance on straw bans would affect individuals with disabilities. The Board passed a motion in support of the City's proposed ordinance after the Board's input was taken into account.
- On January 8, 2019, the City Commission approved a resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Coral Gables and Special Olympics Florida; to allow the use of park and facility space for the purposes of providing services and programming

to the community that will enhance the City's Accessible Recreation Program (*Resolution 2019-08*).

- On March 12, 2019, the City Commission presented a Proclamation declaring April 2019 as "World Autism Month" in Coral Gables (*Agenda Item #7*).
- On March 12, 2019, the City Commission approved a resolution declaring Principles of Inclusion for individuals with autism and other special needs, and urging action by national, state, and local governments, businesses, and residential communities consistent with these principles (*Resolution 2019-80*).
- On May 18, 2019, the City offered a free sensory-friendly screening at the Coral Gables Art Cinema during National Kids to Parks Day.
- The City launched its first City for All Award to identify and reward local businesses that exemplify inclusive and accessible practices. Three finalists have been selected and the winner of this award will be announced in October of 2019.
- The first Thursday of the month between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm at the Adult Activity Center there is a social club for adults with disabilities, which has seen an increased in the number of participants this year.
- The first Monday of the month between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm there is a Supper Social Club that meets at California Pizza Kitchen connecting people in the disability community.
- The City holds an inclusive music program at the Youth Center that provides an opportunity for participants of all abilities to learn basic musical concepts at an introductory level and to play real instruments in a fun and supportive environment.
- The City continues its effort regarding the Special Olympics Bocce Program.
- City offers a Collaborative Boccia (seated, indoor version of bocce) Program at the Adult Activity Center with every Thursday night.
- The City continues to offer a junior golf program that is inclusive and adaptive as well as a golf clinic that offers an introduction to golf specifically designed for those children on the autism spectrum.
- The City made significant improvements to its July 4th event as well as to its Holiday Park to make them more accessible (better signage, mobility mats, different configuration of areas, accessible viewing areas, etc.).

- During the summer of 2019, approximately 20 children with different disabilities participated in the City's summer camp.
 - Currently, there are approximately 20 children with different disabilities participating in the City's after-school program and other programs.
 - Continued partnership with the Center for Independent Living of South Florida (CIL-SF), which has an office at the Youth Center, and assists individuals with disabilities who call or come into the CIL-SF. They held various workshop on City grounds concerning money management for individuals with disabilities.
 - Heard presentations from City personnel from the different departments on diverse topics affecting each department as it related to disabilities issues.
3. *Whether the ordinance creating the board should be amended to better enable the board to service the purpose for which it was created.*

The ordinance accurately reflects this Board's mission and does not require amendment.

4. *Whether the board's membership requirements should be modified*

The Board will consider modification of membership requirements in the future, but the Board does not recommend modification at this time.

5. *The cost, both direct and indirect, of maintain the board:*
- Maintain the Board - approximately \$8,200.00.
 - Adventure Day for All - approximately \$20,000.00.

6. *A report on authorized fundraising, bank accounts and grant applications and approvals.*

N/A

EXHIBIT 2

CITY OF CORAL GABLES BUSINESS INCLUSION AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE
YOUTH CENTER

405 University Drive – 2nd Floor Conference Room

Coral Gables, FL 33134

FRIDAY, September 13, 2019 – 9:30 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	
Blake Sando													P
Bonnie Blaire (via phone)													P
Belkys Perez													P
Ericka Kofkin													P
Raquel Elejabarrieta													P

P – Present
E – Excused Absence
A – Absent
(-) – No Appointment
(*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

Raquel Elejabarrieta – Labor Relations & Risk Management

Belkys Perez – Acting Director for Economic Development

Erika Kofkin – Special Populations Coordinator

Eglys Hernandez – Labor Relations & Risk Management

GUEST:

None

PUBLIC GUEST:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 9:35am

MEETING ABSENCE:

None

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

None

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

None

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and selection of Business Inclusion Award Nominees

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised this special meeting has been noticed and minutes are being taken.

Mr. Sando called meeting to order and stated this special meeting has been set up pursuant to a resolution which was previously passed approximately a year ago regarding the City of Coral Gables presenting an award to a business within the City which provides exemplary inclusive and accessible practices.

This special meeting was held to review applications received regarding Business Inclusion Award nominees. A total of nine applications were received, however two were duplicate, therefore committee reviewed and chose from a total of seven.

Each member was provided a package (Exhibit 1) which consisted of nominee applications and score sheet. Members reviewed information, then discussion of their choices was conducted and in no particular order, they stated their choices. Ms. Maria Higgins-Fallon, Public Affairs Manager of Coral Gables TV ("CCTV") will then be advised regarding the three-finalist determined by everyone. CCTV will visit each location, a video clip will be produced and placed on social media for public voting during a specific time. Once a winner has been chosen, they will be invited to Commission meeting where they will be presented with a plaque.

Ms. Elejabarrieta stated upon further review she feels that the following should be the three nominees to be placed for public voting: Coral Gables Art Cinema, California Kitchen and Publix. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated she felt the Coral Gables Art Cinema should be one of the three for her selection, due to not only do they employ someone with a disability but they go beyond to assure their shows are inclusive to all with various disabilities. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated she would also choose California Pizza Kitchen due to their efforts in making the DIG dinners not only inclusive but accommodating to everyone attending. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated she would also choose Publix due to their involvement regarding providing employment opportunities to those with disabilities.

Ms. Belkys Perez stated her choices for nominees in no specific order would be Publix, Coral Gables Art Cinema and Café Demetrio, it being an independent cafe even though it is not fully accessible they do employ someone with disabilities.

Ms. Erika Kofkin stated her choices for nominees in no specific would be Conceptions Florida, because they are not only striving to be accessible but inclusive. Ms. Kofkin also liked Coral Gables Cinema and California Pizza Kitchen.

Ms. Bonnie Blaire stated her choices for nominees in no specific order would be California Pizza Kitchen because of efforts they have put into place to not only be accessible, but inclusive. Ms. Blaire stated that they have gone beyond with having some staff training on inclusiveness. Ms. Blaire stated she also chooses Conceptions Florida because they have created a unique twist on the delivery of a medical system where they have partnered with two companies to bring medication or other services to a disabled population which might otherwise not be able to benefit from such expensive services. Ms. Blaire stated that she also chooses Publix and gives them high marks for longevity. Ms. Blaire stated Publix not only has provided accessibility to all with disabilities as well as their family, but she gives them high marks for their inclusive longevity history regarding providing full time employment as well as benefits

Mr. Blake Sando stated his choices for nominees in no specific order would be California Pizza Kitchen and that on a personal note he has experienced how welcoming, warm and accessible they are. Mr. Sando stated he also chooses Publix due to their employment of individuals people with disabilities. Mr. Sando stated he also chooses Coral Gables Art Cinema. Mr. Sando stated the he has had great experiences when attending screenings on Saturday mornings where their welcoming actions have made it easy for families with children with disabilities to feel welcomed as well as able to interact with everyone.

Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that if it is tallied as per choices indicated top three would be in no particular order Publix (4 votes), Coral Gables Art Cinema (4 votes), California Pizza Kitchen (4 votes) and Conceptions of Florida (2), Café Demetrio (1). Ms. Elejabarrieta stated if committee would like to remove one of these to insert a more local business and no one suggested this occur. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated there is to be top three finalist and can have a fourth one in case any of them are not receptive to this process. Ms. Perez asked if there was going to be various placings 1st, 2nd, 3rd or just one place. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised it would be just one at this time.

Mr. Sando stated he wanted for the record to speak regarding CARD, even though they have not been considered, that it is an organization which has done tremendous things making life better for people with disabilities, however he understands this award is not about an organization its about businesses. Ms. Kofkin stated they would also like to have CARD be present at Adventure Day for All Event.

Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that the final three nominees are Publix, Coral Gables Art Cinema, California Pizza Kitchen and Conceptions of Florida in case any of the three previously mentioned choose not to participate. Ms. Elejabarrieta's goal was to present winner at October 8, 2019 commission meeting, or if that is not possible for the October 22, 2019 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEXT MEETING:

To be determined

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 10:03am