

**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes of October 6, 2008 meeting**  
**Coral Gables Youth Center**

MEMBERS	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Catherine Fahringer	P	P	P									Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Norma Lemberg	P	P	E									Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Esther Castiglia	V	E	P									Comm. Maria Anderson
Dr. William Schiff	P	P	P									Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Frank Lynn	P	P	P									Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Ginger Jochem	P	P	P									City Manager David Brown
Carol Brock	P	P	P									Senior Citizens Advisory Board

A = Absent

C = Cancelled

E = Excused absence

P = Present

N = No quorum

R = Recessed

S = Sick

V = Vacant Position

**STAFF:**

**GUESTS:**

Luanne Santangelo  
 Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

Paul Hunt  
 Senior Citizens Coordinator

Anastasia Smith  
 Recreation Specialist – Senior Programs

1. Carol Brock called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.
2. Approval of Board minutes from September 8, 2008 Board meeting – A motion was made by C. Farhinger and seconded by F. Lynn to approve the Board minutes of the September 8, 2008. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approval of Board absences for October 6, 2008 Board meeting – N. Lembergs' absence has been excused by the Board.
4. Esther Castiglia's absence at the September meeting was excused by the Board. Mrs. Castiglia was unaware of the meeting date and time.

## **5. Commission Presentation**

The Board viewed the presentation made by Fred Couceyro at the September 23, 2008 Commission meeting. The Board felt the presentation was extremely good and that Mr. Couceyro did an excellent job.

## **6. Senior Services Report**

Mr. Hunt stated that he was not sure what the Board wanted him to report on but proceeded to describe several of the cases he has or is working on. Most cases revolve around two primary issues: 1. Building/Zoning violations; and 2. Moving a family member or deciding to move a family member into a care facility. Carol Brock asked Mr. Hunt if he could share the number of seniors he worked with in the past month. Mr. Hunt stated that he has worked with approximately 10 to 12 people face to face per week and about 80 phone calls.

Mrs. Castiglia asked Mr. Hunt how someone contacts him. Mr. Hunt replied that it is typically through a city employee, official or representative.

The Board expressed their continued disappointment that the City has yet to install the answering machine for Mr. Hunt. Carol Brock made a recommendation that in the absence of an answering machine that the City appropriates a cell phone to the Senior Services Coordinator with a phone number that would be publicized to the residents. The recommendation was approved by the Board.

Discussion then revolved around Assisted Living Facilities and Adult Day Care Facilities and the fact that there are none in the City. Mr. Hunt stated that there is a licensing process for potential operators and that there is one available license for the City of Coral Gables.

Carol Brock clarified the contents of the report that the Senior Services Coordinator should prepare for each month. The report should contain several examples of current case work; number of phone calls and individuals served; and any additional information relevant to Seniors in the community.

Mr. Hunt Paul informed the Board that he will meet with Switchboard of Miami to assist in organizing their “Seniors Never Alone” program. Esther Castiglia elaborated on the specifics of the “Seniors Never Alone” program. Paul will update the Board at the next meeting.

## **7. Report on Activities and Programs**

Anastasia Smith provided a brief overview of senior activities. Dancercise – 28 registered for Session A and 20 registered for Session B; 100+ seniors have registered so far for the October 20 Lunch and Lecture with Jackie Nespral; Computer classes continue to go well and the Theater Trip to Actors Playhouse has 28 registered participants.

Ms. Smith discussed the changes to the December event from a Fashion Show to a Holiday Showcase party. Full details and itinerary will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Annual Luncheon will also be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

8. **Sponsorships/Art Show**

Dr. Schiff extended his appreciation to staff of the Parks and Recreation Department; the Marketing Department of the City and the Palace Group Inc. for their support and work towards the success of the Art Show.

Anastasia provided an update on the status of the Art Show. 38 participants (15 new artists) with 105 pieces of art work to be displayed. Judges have been confirmed for all categories; Staff will follow up with the Mayor's office to see if he is able to present the awards for the Art Show.

9. **The Village**

Ginger Jochem reported that the Coral Gables Foundation is moving forward with Coral Gables @ Home and has hired an Executive Director. Carol Brock has spoken to Mrs. Slesnick to invite her to an upcoming meeting.

10. **Date and time of next meeting**

Monday, November 3, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Coral Gables Youth Center located at 405 University Drive.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.