

# CORAL GABLES

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

## Economic Development Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday | September 7, 2022 | 8:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom and Police and Fire Headquarters (PFHQ), Community Meeting Room A  
2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134

EDB MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTING ENTITY
	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	'22	
Julio Grabiell	E	P	P	X	A	P	X	A	P				Mayor Vince Lago
Olga Ramudo, Chair	P	P	P	X	P	P	X	P	P				Vice Mayor Michael Mena
Stuart McGregor	P	P	E	X	P	E	X	E	E				Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Tania Cruz- Gimenez	P	P	P	X	E	A	X	P	P				Commissioner Rhonda Anderson
Mary Snow	P	P	E	X	P	E	X	E	P				Commissioner Jorge Fors, Jr.
Barbara Perez	P	P	P	X	P	P	X	E	P				City Manager Peter Iglesias
Thad Adams	E	P	P	X	E	P	X	P	P				Chamber of Commerce

A=Absent E=Excused Absence P=Present X=No Meeting Ph=Present by Phone Z=Zoom - =Former Board Member

### Staff and Guests:

Belkys Perez, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department

Francesca Valdes, Business Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department

Leticia Perez, International Business Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department

Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department

Chairwoman Ms. Olga Ramudo brought the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

### 1. Review and approval of August 3, 2022, Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Cruz-Gimenez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Mr. Adams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the minutes.

### 2. Excuse Board members absences from August 3, 2022

Mr. Grabiell made a motion to excuse Ms. Snow, Mr. McGregor and Ms. Barbara Perez's absence from the August 3, 2022 meeting. Mr. Adams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the absences.

### 3. Excuse Board member's absence

Ms. Cruz-Gimenez made a motion to excuse today's absence for Mr. McGregor. Mr. Grabiell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the absences.

#### **4. Economic Development Update**

- **Downtown Cleanup**

Ms. Belkys Perez informed the Board that a Downtown Cleanup event was held in mid-August, about 15 people attended and a total of 100 lbs. of garbage was collected. The cleanup events are held quarterly in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

- **Business Maintenance Awards**

Ms. Belkys Perez informed the Board that enforcement of the business maintenance requirements continues. In an effort to highlight businesses that are doing their part, Economic Development, Code Enforcement, the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, and the Business Improvement District (BID) teamed up to nominate businesses that clean and maintain their property for a Commercial Beautification Award. The list of finalists was vetted through the Sustainability Advisory Board, which judged and selected four (4) businesses to receive the award. In the August 24, 2022, City Commission meeting, Trend Boutique was the first business to receive an award. At the September 13, 2022, Commission meeting, Bulla Gastrobar will be awarded a plaque. The last two businesses will be Bachor Bakery and The Globe.

- **Consulates and Trade Offices**

Ms. Leticia Perez informed the Board that there are currently three Consulates moving into the City of Coral Gables. The Consulate of Guatemala has already moved in. The Consulate of Mexico is in the process of renovating their new office. The Consulate of Ireland will be moving in September 2022 to a Co-Op space until they find a permanent location. The Consulate of United Kingdom is looking to move.

#### **5. Business Tax License Report**

Ms. Valdes updated Board members on the new and upcoming businesses in Coral Gables.

#### **6. Open Discussion**

Mr. Grabiell informed the Board that he will be nominated by Commissioner Menendez in the September 13, 2022, City Commission meeting to the Planning/Zoning Board. He has informed Mayor Lago who will make a new appointment to the Economic Development Board.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department.