

## SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of May 4, 2009 meeting

Coral Gables Youth Center

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

Luanne Santangelo  
Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

Paul Hunt  
Senior Services Coordinator

Anastasia Smith  
Recreation Specialist-Senior Services

Tricia Spencer  
Recording Secretary

### GUESTS:

Fred Couceyro  
Parks & Recreation Director

Katie Kreter, resident  
Coral Gables

Marli Lutz  
Executive Director, Coral Gables @ Home

1. Carol Brock called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
2. Chairperson Carol Brock welcomed our guests Fred Couceyro, Katie Kreter and Marli Lutz to the meeting.
3. Approval of Board minutes from April 6th, 2009 – A motion was made by C. Fahringer and seconded by F. Lynn to approve the amended meeting minutes of April 6th, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

Fred discussed the City's finances and the budget. He said that there is currently an expected

shortage of \$9.2 million and the revenues city wide are down to \$4.8 million which is a 4% decrease from last year. There is a hiring freeze and they are looking at alternative ways to cut costs. Fred continued to say that the Parks & Recreation department is in the process of doing their budget and may have to cut about \$600,000 from their budget. The Parks & Recreation Department has already taken cost cutting measures in anticipation. It would be easier if we continue to have sponsorships and volunteers, that way Senior Services will not feel the impact of budget cuts.

Dr. Schiff suggested that the annual senior luncheon should be a nominal charge. He also said that we continue to receive in-kind services from Adam at The Palace, Inc. and that the Senior Art show is doing well, it brought in \$5600 for the first year and a little less the second year.

Fred said that P. Hunt and A. Smith are going to bring him the budget for the Senior Services department and that they will have to present four different budgets.

C. Brock said that L. Ellis is a tremendous asset to the Senior Services department and the Board agreed also. She also assured Fred that the Board is here to support him, that the senior programs are growing, and as a Board they have to move forward and stay positive.

#### 4. **Senior Services Divisional Reports**

##### **a. Report on Senior Services – Paul Hunt**

P. Hunt reported on the Transportation Committee. He said that the Intercredit Bank in Coral Gables will assist with the establishment of the account and coupon transactions. However, before this will occur the Alliance for Aging will need to open an account with Intercredit Bank upon approval of their Board. The target begin date of the Pilot Taxi Discount Coupon Program is July 1<sup>st</sup>, pending the opening of the bank account and printing of the coupon.

##### **b. Senior Center Programs – Anastasia Smith**

20 people registered to go see “Havana Bourgeois” on May 13<sup>th</sup>; there are only 3 seats remaining for the “Chicago” theater show of May 26 and on May 27, the City van will be taking participants to Senior Golden Idol to support a Senior of Coral Gables who will be participating.

The May session of Dancercise is full and registrations for June are currently being accepted. The Coral Gables Fire Department will be conducting a free CPR program and on May 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a “Dial for Life” program to collect cell phones for seniors.

A. Smith also said that L. Ellis has been working diligently to secure speakers for the Lunch and Lecture series. Speakers have been booked up through January of 2010.

L. Santangelo asked the Board if they wanted senior services to explore offering flu shots in the Fall of 2009. Contacts with local doctors, hospitals and the County Health Department should begin as soon as possible.

C. Brock suggested that maybe they can be held on a day of the Lunch & Lecture.

A motion was made by C. Fahringer to have staff explore the offering of flu shots to Seniors in the Fall of 2009. The motion was approved by the Board.

## 5. **Old Business**

### a. Senior Art Show

Dr. Schiff reminded the Board that the Novice category has been removed from this year's Senior Art Show. He also mentioned that the registration forms needs to be edited and ready for inclusion in the next issue of the Golden Gables.

### b. Appointments/Elections

A motion was made and approved by the Board to reappoint C. Brock as the Board as a Whole representative of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board.

L. Santangelo said that she is going to clarify with the City Clerk's office to make sure that the Board's vote will stand since terms of Board members have not yet expired (including C. Brocks).

## 6. **New Business**

### a. C. Colburn Hardy Award

The Board congratulated Norma on winning this award. C. Brock reminded the Board of the City Commission recognition for Norma's accomplishment at the upcoming May 12 Commission meeting. Board members were encouraged to attend if available.

### b. The Community Foundation

M. Lutz is trying to explore ways to help increase membership for the Coral Gables @ Home. She also said that she is looking for senior bloggers for their webpage and that she would love to help with the transportation issue as well.

## 7. **Board Members Comments**

C. Brock commended K. Kreter for the wonderful job she does as a volunteer for seniors and gave her a "Best Volunteer" pin.

N. Lemberg suggested that at the next luncheon they could ask about the transition to DTV and have someone come in to speak to seniors about how they can help with this.

## 8. **Date and time of next meeting**

Monday, June 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Coral Gables Youth Center located at 405 University Drive.

The Board has decided not to meet during the month of July, 2009.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

DRAFT