

# City of Coral Gables

405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2024

8:00 AM

<https://coralgables.zoom.us/j/89943974263>

Youth Center - Conference Room

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Began at 8:22 am

## **ROLL CALL**

### **a. Roll Call and Excusal of Absences**

**Present:** 4 - Board member Erik Rodriguez, Board member Maite Halley, Board member Yamilet Rodriguez and Board member Ellen Chasens

**Absent:** 4 - Chair Carlos Hernandez, Board member Aaron Aizenstat, Vice-Chair Jennifer Marquez and Board member Antonio Gonzalez.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

### **a. Approval of March Meeting Minutes**

**THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING. DID NOT MEET QUORUM**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**a. General Updates**

Director Fred Couceyro began his report by informing the board that the meeting did not meet the minimum attendance requirement and would be an informative meeting. For this advisory board to conduct business and make motions or votes, a quorum of five members is necessary.

Director Fred provided updates on our budgeting process. He mentioned that they are awaiting confirmation on what will be funded and what won't. He continued by explaining how the rooftop pickleball facility had been presented at the previous commission meeting.

The Coral Gables Golf and Country Club Divisional Director Mitch Zuriarrain has formally parted ways to assume a position in the private sector, according to Director Fred Couceyro. He continued by saying that until a suitable candidate is found to fill that position, Deputy Director Carolina Vester will be covering at the Country Club.

**b. Special Events**

Director Fred Couceyro proceeded to update the board on the forthcoming events for the month of April, including The Coral Gables Movies Under the Gables Moonlight - Featuring Jurassic World Dominion – April 19 at 7:30 p.m., Bike and BBQ 2024 – Sunday, April 21 at 10 a.m., Pétanque Exhibition Game Event – Sunday, April 28 at 11 a.m. Summer Open House – Saturday, April 13th at 10 a.m. and Gables Family Literacy Festival – Saturday, May 18 at 11 a.m.

Board members were advised by Deputy Director Carolina Vester to let us know if they would like to volunteer at the Bike and BBQ event and to get in touch with Administrative Assistant Susan. She also told the board that the youth advisory board would be informed in case they would like to volunteer at the event if they desired.

**c. CIP Updates**

**a. Nellie B. Moore Park & William & Leona Cooper Park - Community Meeting - Thursday, April 25th, 2024 at 6 p.m.**

Director Fred Couceyro continued his report on Cooper Park. He added that they would be holding a community meeting for that park on Thursday, April 25th. It's the one in the Golden Gate neighborhood, closer to Carver Elementary. Initially, it was a two-part project. It was meant to be Cooper and Nellie B. Moore. We opted to complete at least one project due to the increasing expenses associated with them.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Project development - 130 Almeria**

During the presentation on the 130 Almeria Park project development, Director Fred, Deputy Director Carolina, and the developers discussed the park's projects plans, criteria, and guidelines. Due to a lack of quorum, they will put it back on the agenda with updated park project updates.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Catalonia Park evening activity**

The evening activity in Catalonia Park will be moved to the next agenda item because there isn't quorum, Director Fred continued to advise the board members.

**b. Youth Center overnight/ overflow parking**

The Youth Center overnight parking will be moved to the next agenda item because there isn't quorum, Director Fred continued to advise the board members.

**c. Pickle Ball court availability flyer**

Deputy Director Carolina noted that the Pickle Ball court flier will be distributed to board members with all the locations.

**d. Salvador & Biltmore Tennis members availability versus (USTA) programming**

Board member Ellen Chasens brought up the limited number of tennis memberships at Biltmore and Salvador. She mentioned that everything is mostly USTA. She had no idea that the city itself could facilitate a program of that kind. Rather than depending solely on the USTA for everything, that could be a more member-friendly option. Therefore, she is not sure if the city can come up with something. Director Couceyro answered that he does not believe that limiting opportunities for one group over another is the correct method to do this. He believes it is to create greater opportunities while maintaining the number of opportunities that they have now.

**e. Underline amenities presentation**

The underline amenities presentation will be moved to the next agenda item because there isn't quorum, Director Fred continued to advise the board members.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY**

Date of the next meeting: Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 8:15 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:41 A.M. WAS MADE BY MAITE HALLEY AND WAS SECONDED BY ELLEN CHASEN. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**NOTE**