

City of Coral Gables

405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 10, 2019

8:15 AM

The Board meets the second Thursday of every month.
Coral Gables Youth Center, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, FL
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

8:26 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion to excuse Desmond Gonzalez was made by Felix Pardo, second by Carlos Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

Motion to excuse Nancy Leslie from September's meeting was made by Felix Pardo, second by Carlos Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

Present:

Kirk Menendez
Felix Pardo
Carlos Hernandez
Wilfredo Fernandez
Nancy Leslie
Monica Segura
Charlie Rua

Absent:

Desmond Gonzalez

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve September's meeting minutes was made by Carlos Hernandez, second by Felix Pardo. Passes unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Fred began his report with informing the board with the upcoming events calendar and made mention to the Pumpkin Patch event that will be held at Pittman Park on October 19th and the City's conjunction with local merchants of Giralda.

Holiday Tree lighting and the Holiday Park opening will occur December 6th. Carlos Hernandez asked if the location of the tree will be in the normal location and not behind the park. Fred notified the board the Tree will remain in front of City Hall.

Fred also let the Board know of the Junior Orange Bowl Parade is now being held later on December 15th. Carlos Hernandez suggested that the JOB Cross Country event should tie in with the JOB parade to help cross market the event to help increase exposure of the event. Felix Pardo was in agreeance and thinks there is a lack of coordination within the JOB committee.

Kirk Menendez asked Fred's opinion on why there is such a lack in attendance at the JOB parade. Fred suggested that there has been a nation-wide trend with all parades and that they simply are not drawing the attendance that these events used to in the past.

Fred also let the board know of the new purchase of a concessions trailer for this upcoming Holiday Park and the City's intentions on using the trailer at other City's parks events.

Following upcoming events, Fred discussed with the board pending capital improvement projects first beginning with discussing the 5 new neighborhood parks, which are well under way and are scheduled for substantial completion January 13, 2020. He also advised the board that there will be a 30-day grace period for any punch list items. The parks will be turned over to the Community Recreation department February 13th, 2020. Fred also explained we are hoping for all ribbon cutting to happen at the end of February.

Granada's Pro shop was discussed and its upcoming plans for renovations for ADA accommodations and impact windows which will include Bob's Burgers. Fred went into detail about the extent of the renovations and the exterior of the building the project can go from anywhere between \$250,000 to \$900,000 depending on the extent of the renovations.

Carlos Hernandez asked in efforts to produce more revenue and in anticipation of a severe influx of non-resident greens usage due to the closing of the City of Miami golf course, can the City increase the price for non-resident golf fees. Fred said he will investigate the possibility.

Fred then transition into discussing the current state of the Granada Golf Course rain shelters and discussed about the meeting the staff had with the architects/designers for the project. The project is currently pending a valued engineered design from the architects.

Board commended Troy Hall, the Parks and Golf Course superintendent, on the overall condition and look of the course.

Nancy after reviewing last month's minutes, would like to have a board meeting hosted at the new William Kerdyk Tennis Center.

Fred explained to the board that staff will be meeting next Thursday with designer Urban Robot who will be producing design plans for Ponce Circle Park as well as the community outreach schedule. After Fred discussed the upcoming meeting with Urban Robot, the board wanted to bring up several concerns to the designer in the direction of how the park is going to be utilized. These concerns included an amphitheater and its effects of noise at night, not having any children's attractions in the park, to be aware of pedestrian accessibility to the park and making sure the traffic mediation does not disrupt the flow of traffic.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to reappoint Board-Member-at -Large Wilfredo Hernandez was made by Carlos Hernandez, motioned was second by Monica Segura. Motion passed unanimously.

With Fred's absence from the September's board meeting, Felix Pardo wanted to inform Fred of his decision to pursue as a citizen of Dade-County and not as a Board member, more information on the Miami- Dade Impact fees. Fred asked if Felix as made any headway on the matter and Felix has yet to make progress.

Fred again discussed the dates and agenda items for the upcoming Master Plan Visioning Workshops for both the Community Recreation Department as a whole and the War Memorial Youth Center. The visioning workshops are scheduled for October 23rd and October 24th.

The board wanted information on the upcoming Miami-Dade County renovation of the Coral Gables Public library. Fred explained that this is not a City project. Nancy relayed that the next public meeting will be from 6-830pm on Tuesday at the library and it will reveal new building plans using a new design firm.

Carlos Hernandez encouraged all board and staff members to attend the public meeting for the Coral Gables Library because the library represents the Youth Center and the two facilities need to be cohesive.

Wilfredo asked if the City maintains the butterfly garden at the library. The City's public service department does the up kept on the garden and may be redesigned during the renovation.

Felix asked if there are any plans to get the Youth Center fields off the city water and use well water. Staff explained we have been currently funded for a well identifying project for the next 5 years totaling \$100,000. Staff will begin to use these funds to identify possible new wells in neighborhood parks. Unfortunately, because of saltwater intrusion the Youth Center field at this time, will not be a candidate for such project.

Staff showed final design of Majorie Park to the Board. Felix made a motion to approve the park design. This motion was seconded by Nancy Leslie. This passed unanimously.

In closing, Charlie Rua commented that he loves the new extended hours at the Youth Center on Saturdays which now closes at 7pm.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Date and time of next meeting will be November 14, 2019 @ 8:15 a.m

ADJOURNMENT

at 9:45 a.m.

NOTE