

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
Communication Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 19, 2018, 8:30 a.m.
Youth Center Auditorium
405 University Drive
Coral Gables, FL

MEMBERS	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	COMMISSIONERS
	'17	'17	'17	'17	'17	'17	'17	'17	'17	'18	'18	'18	'18	
Sandra Gonzalez-Levy												P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Tina Sayago							P	R	*	*	R			
Margarita Delgado	P	R												
Derrek Space	P	P	*	*	*	*	P	P	*	*	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Alexandra Pantin	E	P	*	*	*	*	E	P	*	*	P	P	E	Commissioner Vince Lago
Connie Crowther	P	P	*	*	*	*	P	P	*	*	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
TJ Villamil	P	A	*	*	*	*	E	E	*	*	P	E	E	Commissioner Michael Mena

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
R = Resigned
* = No Meeting
+ = No Quorum

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Michael Rocha, CGTV
Christopher Cohen, IT Department
Rodulfo Raimundo, IT Department

Chairperson Sandy Gonzalez-Levy spoke briefly about the FIU bridge incident.

Motion:

Mr. Derrek Space made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2018 meeting. Ms. Connie Crowther seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy commented that she had texted Ms. Higgins Fallon a request to have all Communications Committee members present for the regular monthly meetings. If not all members can attend, she will request that the meetings be cancelled.

Mr. Space agreed. Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy said that members need to coordinate their schedule around our meetings.

Report on Public Affairs

Mr. Michael Rocha mentioned that the March 15th recommendation from this Committee regarding public engagement portals will be discussed at the April 24th Commission Meeting. He informed members that Ms. Higgins Fallon will be at the meeting to discuss the issue.

Mr. Rocha also announced that the city has formalized a partnership with WLRN 91.3 FM for emergency communications during hurricane season.

Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy mentioned that she was present at the Miracle Mile opening celebration. The event was hot, fun and packed with people. She suggested having a band or live music on the sidewalks or central area during the weekends to attract visitors. She thought the event was great.

Report on Information Technology

Mr. Rocha introduced Information Technology Director Raimundo Rodulfo, who will provide a report on smart city projects.

Mr. Rodulfo introduced IT Analyst Christopher Cohen. Mr. Rodulfo reported that the city is launching a smart city hub on the coralgables.com website. His office is working with Ms. Higgins Fallon to produce flyers and technical brochures to promote the new smart city hub.

Mr. Rodulfo reported about the strategic planning and innovation being implemented to continue to improve quality of life, with all technology working to achieve better customer service. The entire smart city ecosystem brings together people, organizations, academia, and things like robots. He spoke about the value in the transparency portal with open data and analytics that provide real time information and translates information into business sales. He spoke about engaging citizens through our various apps.

Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy asked whether the current city network supports this new technology, or if this is something the city is moving toward. Mr. Rodulfo replied that this is live technology and that the foundation has already been built. He described the various steps of building the technology foundation, which has already taken place as well as the existence of redundancy of communications. He also spoke about the Bloomberg Philanthropies Champion City challenge, of which the city is a finalist thanks to a solar power smart micro-grid being developed with a University of Miami professor.

Mr. Rodulfo continued describing the Internet of Things currently offering a real time urban visibility such as smart lights on Miracle Mile, geofence traffic, parking and pedestrian sensors. He announced that Miracle Mile and Giralda have public WiFi. He also mentioned the city's public safety license plate readers, CCTV cameras offering video analytics integrated on the Crime Intelligence Center. Thanks to these implementations in the past three years, the City is experiencing the lowest levels of crime ever.

Mr. Cristopher Cowen spoke about the current statistics regarding vehicle and residential burglaries. The city is using a crime view software that provides data mapping of all points of crime, offering trend analysis that take all variables and allows for crime forecasting. A monthly Problem Solving Initiatives meeting gathers all city leadership to analyze these crime prevention information.

Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy inquired about how the public is alerted about crime and break-ins and how can this Committee assist in communicating this information. Mr. Cohen replied that currently they are using message boards and the NSAs offer human touch information regarding public safety.

Ms. Connie Crowther said that crime has been the number one concern of citizens of Coral Gables. Information like a heat map showing where crimes are predominant needs to be communicated to the general public, including via old fashion media methods.

Mr. Cohen pointed out that Coral Gables has the most license plate readers in the county. Ms. Crowther suggested pushing this information to the rest of the community.

Further discussion was held regarding the smart city hub and its various applications.

Mr. Derrek Space inquired if the Waze app information is going to be incorporated into the city's Traffix App. Mr. Cohen replied that this app is different and is used only to report traffic incidents.

Further discussion was held regarding the current publicity issue related to the Chief of Police.

Current Events and Programs

Mr. Rocha announced the upcoming Pioneer Day scheduled for April 21. Ms. Crowther said that Pinewood Cemetery is a hidden treasure and an interesting place to visit.

Mr. Rocha also announced the upcoming electronic recycling of April 21, as well as the Arbor Day Celebration of April 27.

Chairperson Gonzalez-Levy mentioned again her desire to have all members present at the next Communications Committee meeting, and if needed, to move the meeting to another day so that everyone can attend. Mr. Rocha will relay the message to Ms. Higgins Fallon.

With no further issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.