

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 12, 2024

8:15 AM

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

Youth Center - Conference Room

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

8:17 a.m.

ROLL CALL

a. Roll Call and Excusal of Absences

Present: 7 - Board member Erik Rodriguez, Board member Ellen Chasens, Vice-Chair Jennifer Marquez and Board member Antonio Gonzalez and Board member Aaron Aizenstat.

Excused: 1 - Board member Yamilet Rodriguez, Board member Maite Halley and Chair Carlos Hernandez

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES WAS MADE BY ANTONIO GONZALEZ AND SECOND BY ELLEN CHASENS. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. General Updates

In the beginning of his report, Director Fred Couceyro provided the board with an update on the millage rate and budget hearing that is scheduled to take place this afternoon. After that, he went on to note that during the commission meeting that took place yesterday, they discussed the changes to the operating budget that may include a drone show for the Fourth of July event.

Inquiring about the possibility of the city purchasing drones, Vice-chair Jennifer Marquez and Board member Ellen Chasens posed the question. Because of the type of programming that the drone system has, and because the city does not have the capability or space to store drones, Deputy Director Carolina Vester stated that it will be a rent business.

As the fiscal year comes to an end, Director Couceyro kept updating the board on the staff's excellent performance.

b. Special Events

Director Couceyro proceeded to update the board on the forthcoming events for the month of September, Cycle Day - Tour of Parks - Sunday, September 15 at 9 a.m., AAC Western Roundup

2024 - Friday, September 20 at 2 p.m., Pollinator Palooza - Saturday, September 28 at 9:30 a.m. and A Saturday at the Cinema, September, Paul Newman & Robert Redford's "The Sting" at 11a.m.

c. CIP Updates

Additionally, Director Couceyro disclosed that the Rotary Centennial Park Community Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 1 at 6 p.m.

Administrative Operations Supervisor Sarah Espino began her briefing by providing an update on the Toledo and Alava, Blue Road projects. She went on to describe the concession for the Venetian Pool, Nellie B. Moore Park, and William & Leona Cooper Park. She also continued upcoming initiatives for the youth center and finalizing Phillips Park contract updates.

Deputy Director Carolina reported that the dinner's construction is completed, the new tenant's contract was finalized, furniture was purchased, and the new tenants and their employees were receiving training on the city's new equipment. She stated that a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held when the city manager confirms the date. After the new tenant finishes licensing and training, they will have a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their grand opening.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Rotary Centennial Park Presentation

Updates on the schematic design with option A and option B, site plans, and site features were included in the presentation that Director Couceyro and Deputy Director Vester proceeded to discuss with the audience regarding the Rotary Centennial Park.

A MOTION TO SUPPORT THE ROTARY CENTENNIAL PARK RENOVATION PROCESS WAS MADE BY ELLEN CHASENS AND SECOND BY AARON AIZENSTAT. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Youth Center overnight/ overflow parking

Vice chair Jennifer Marquez requested youth center overnight parking decal updates. Director Couceyro notified the board that they will use parking violation stickers and instructed Youth Center Supervisor Carlos Pichardo to purchase them. Once Carlos Pichardo rearranges the staff's schedules so they may stay till 10:30 p.m. to obtain car information and they will start placing violation stickers.

Board member Aaron Aizenstat enquired as to whether residents of Anastasia may be warned more effectively before staff members place violation stickers on their vehicles. They can begin with flyers and go on to the violation stickers, according to Director Couceyro. Vice-chair Jennifer Marquez suggested that we make door hangers in its place. Director Couceyro answered they will look into it.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Date of the next meeting: Thursday, October 10 at 8:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourn at 9:18 a.m.

NOTE