

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

9:30 AM

Sister Cities Conference Room - Coral Gables Museum

Landmarks Advisory Board

*Board Member Ajit Asrani
Board Member Richard Bennett
Board Member Evelyn Díaz
Board Member Alice Goldhagen
Board Member Donna Heisenbottle
Board Member Albert Menendez
Board Member Don Slesnick*

The Landmark Advisory Board will be holding its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, commencing at 9:30 am EST.

Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81769745993>.

In addition, a dedicated phone line will be available so that any individual who does not wish (or is unable) to use Zoom may listen to and participate in the meeting.

Meeting ID: : 817 6974 5993

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Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/koHpBvqy7>

305-461-6769 (Coral Gables local number)

To speak to the Landmark Advisory Board on an Agenda Item, please “Raise your Hand” or send a message to one of the meeting hosts using the Zoom Platform.

If you joined the meeting via telephone, you can “Raise your hand” by pressing *9.

The public may also comment on an item on the agenda using the City’s already-established e-comment function which may be found on the City’s website at: www.coralgables.com/commissionmeetings once the meeting’s agenda is published or by sending an email to cityclerk@coralgables.com prior to the start of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was Called to Order at 9:36 AM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Board Member Slesnick, Board Member Asrani, Board Member Goldhagen, Board Member Heisenbottle, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Menendez and Board Member Diaz

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. [26-1212](#) Landmark Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2025

A motion was made by Board member Bennett, seconded by Board member Asrani, to approved the minutes for the Landmarks Advisory Board meeting on February 25, 2026. This motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: 7 - Board Member Slesnick, Board Member Asrani, Board Member Goldhagen, Board Member Heisenbottle, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Menendez and Board Member Diaz

IV. NEW / OLD BUSINESS

1. Chair Slesnick is disappointed in the lack of activity on this board and lack of responsiveness of some items, eg. walking tour.

Board requests a report from staff on the expected responsibilities of this board.

2. Walking Tour - Staff has been in contact with Michael Maxwell, Chair of the Historic Preservation Board. Mr. Maxwell intended for the landmark tour to be on a bus. Trolleys are not longer pulled off routes, they are too busy. Mr. Maxwell has a list with staff on this subject. Staff has not had an opportunity to connect with Mr. Maxwell on this list.

Staff to provide a plan for the landmark tour with a van before Memorial Day.

3. Water Tower - The city is in the process of clearing out storage from the water tower for a structural assessment. Board member Diaz mentions the light fixture is not working on the tower.
4. Streetlights - Chair Slesnick said he met with the City Manager and will press FPL for a response.
5. Landmarks - This board is requesting a list of landmarks throughout the city. Staff will circulate the list.
6. Gondola Building - The City Commission received a replay from the State of Florida authorizing the Gondola Building be placed next to the tennis center.

7. **Pinewood Cemetery Restoration** - Staff has updated the board on this project. The project will start in phases of removal, approximately 72 trees to be removed. Will go in and remove 10 at a time in order to see what needs to be replanted. Will be working with a Landscape Architect to plan the pathways.

Staff and Public Works has met with Brian Keeley, neighbor and former CEO of Baptist Health South Florida. Mr. Keeley stated that his family supports the clean up effort. There is a memorial tree in Mr. Keeley's name in honor of his neighbors. At that time Public Works did a lot of the cleanup in this area. Mr. Keeley was also going to refresh the orchids in the area.

Chair Slesnick discussed the possibility of neighbors contributing to the restoration.

The next invasive clean-up event is scheduled for March 20, 2026. Planning for Pioneer Day is in the works by the Advisory Board.

8. **Public Works** - Board members are requesting a member of Public Works be present at the next meeting on April 29, 2026.

VI. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

1. **Board Elections:**

A motion was made by Board member Bennett, seconded by Board member Asrani, to elect Don Selsnick as Chairperson for the Landmarks Advisory Board. This motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Board member Asrani, seconded by Board member Heisenbottle, to elect Albert Menendez as the Vice Chairperson of the Landmarks Advisory Board. This motion passed unanimously.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE