

CORAL GABLES

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

Economic Development Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday | December 1, 2021 | 8:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom and Police and Fire Headquarters (PFHQ), Community Meeting Room A
2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134

EDB MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTING ENTITY
	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	'21	
Julio Grabiell	Z	Z	Z	P	P	P	X	P	P	A	P	P	Mayor Vince Lago
Olga Ramudo, Chair	P	E	Z	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	E	P	Vice Mayor Michael Mena
Stuart McGregor	Z	E	Z	P	P	Z	X	E	E	E	P	P	Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Tania Cruz-Gimenez	-	-	-	-	-	Z	X	E	P	P	E	P	Commissioner Rhonda Anderson
Mary Snow	-	-	-	-	-	P	X	P	P	P	P	E	Commissioner Jorge Fors, Jr.
Barbara Perez	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Thad Adams	-	-	Z	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	Chamber of Commerce

A=Absent E=Excused Absence P=Present X=No Meeting Ph=Present by Phone Z=Zoom - =Former Board Member

Staff and Guests:

Julian H. Perez, AICP, CFM, Director, Economic Development Department
 Belkys Perez, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department
 Francesca Valdes, Business Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department
 Leticia Perez, International Business Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department
 Yenis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department

Chairwoman Ms. Olga Ramudo brought the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

1. Review and approval of November 3, 2021, Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Grabiell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Mr. McGregor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the minutes.

2. Excuse Board member absences

Mr. McGregor made a motion to excuse today's absence for Ms. Snow, and excuse Ms. Ramudo absence from the November 3, 2021 meeting. Mr. Grabiell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the absences.

Mr. Adam made a motion to excuse Ms. Cruz-Gimenez's absence from the November 3, 2021 meeting and Mr. McGregor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the absence.

3. Business Explorer demo

Ms. Belkys Perez provided Board members with a demonstration of the new software acquired by the City for the purposes of recruiting businesses. The new software, accessible via www.businessexplorer.coralgables.com, is a valuable tool with demographic, labor force, and business insights, among other items, specific to the City of Coral Gables. It is the same platform used by the Beacon Council.

4. Economic Study Update

Mr. Julian Perez informed Board members that the upcoming Economic Study Kickoff meeting will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021.

5. Downtown Cleanup

Ms. Belkys Perez informed Board members about the city's efforts to ensure the downtown is clean. The Chamber of Commerce, BID and City will host a holiday-themed downtown cleanup December 2nd. There are several prizes for the most pounds collected. The volunteers will meet after the cleanup at Clutch Burger located on Giralda Plaza for lite bites and the announcement of the cleanup winners.

6. International Cultural Events

Ms. Leticia Perez informed Board members that the City of Coral Gables will be accepting applications for its International Cultural Events Initiative. The City will assist five foreign government agencies produce international culturally-enriching events in 2022.

7. Business Tax License Report

Ms. Francesca Valdes updated Board members on the new and upcoming businesses in Coral Gables.

8. Open Discussion

Ms. Belkys Perez reminded the Board members that the January 5, 2022 meeting will be an incentive discussion and Commissioner Fors is interested in attending.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yenesis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department.