

CORAL GABLES LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, February 8, 2017

Coral Gables Branch Library, Meeting Room

MEMBERS	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	APPOINTED BY
Jane Maranos	P		A		P		E		E		P		Mayor Cason
Lisa Bennett	P		P		P		P		P		P		Vice-Mayor Quesada
Charlotte Smiley	-		P		P		E		P		P		Comm. P. Keon
Blanca Mesa	P		P		E		P		P		P		Comm. V. Lago
Donna Heisenbottle	P		P		P		P		P		P		Comm. J. Slesnick
Myra Silverstein	P		P		P		P		P		P		City Manager, C. Swanson-Rivenbark
Sherry Zhang	P		A		P		P		E		P		Board As a Whole

STAFF:

Bob Boberman, Landscape Services Superintendent
Ayliin Hernandez, Clerical Assistant, Recording Secretary

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

Miriam Maer, Coral Gables Library Patron
Rafael Costa, Library Services Specialist, Partnership Development
Will Runyan, Library Manager
Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Leonard Roberts, Economic Development Asst. Director

OPEN MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Bennett, Chair, at 3:00 p.m. The roll was taken and a quorum was present. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of December 14, 2016 and the minutes of January 11, 2017.” The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.**

OLD BUSINESS:

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION ON LIBRARY RENOVATIONS: On behalf of the Library Advisory Board (LAB), the Chair, Lisa Bennett, addressed the City Commission at the January 24, 2017 meeting. Ms. Bennett requested Commission Action to “*expedite renovations to the Library due to the deteriorated condition of the exterior and interior of the building, the outdated and unattractive interior fixtures and furnishings, the poor use of space for public and employee use, and inadequate technology upgrades and computer availability appropriate for 21st century library.*” (CCMtg, January 24, 2017, Agenda Item 2-2) See attached. During the presentation, Ms. Bennet referenced the Library photographs taken on January 11, 2017, the Summary of the Library Walk-through on March 25, 2016, various e-mails and the timeline, the Interlocal Agreement, a letter from Mayor Gimenez to Mayor Cason dated October 15, 2014, the Historic Designation of the Coral Gables Library and the Assessment of the Historical Artifacts. (LAB, January 17, 2017, Item16-5647) See attached. Ms. Bennett also requested that information and photographs of the Library be printed in the “Living in the City Beautiful Magazine.” The Request For Action on the Library Renovations was unanimously supported as well as the LAB's request that photos and information about the Coral Gables

Library commensurate with other City facilities be included in "Living in the City Beautiful Magazine." A motion was made to adopt the matter by Resolution 2017-24. The motion was passed.

LIBRARY RENOVATIONS: Based on the previously mentioned support for the renovations, discussion developed on having the historical artifacts remain at the Library throughout the renovation process. Should the items need to be removed from the Library, the board would like them appropriately tagged. **A motion was made to "Ensure that the historical artifacts remain in the Library even after the renovations are completed." The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.** The board requested that the new design incorporate the historical artifacts. Ms. Bennett mentioned there should be an addendum with the Inventory List would help ensure that the historical artifacts are included in the design. **A motion was made to, "Have the new Library design appropriately incorporate the historical artifacts in the Library for public enjoyment." The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.** Mr. Roberts advised a walk-through was conducted with the designers. A preliminary design will be presented before the board for review. Discussion focused on certain items *within public space* and whether they have historical significance. The floor tiles (interior and exterior), iron fixtures, window frames, wall paper and the interior wall texture were mentioned. Other items will need further evaluation. Mr. Roberts advised that the historic furniture will be properly cataloged. Mr. Roberts provided an update on some of the improvements. The electrical panel was upgraded. The fountains will be restored by Conservationist Rosa Lowinger. The brass sign at the entrance will be cleaned. Discussion developed on interior flooring, computer cables and the importance of the historical window frames. The need for an Architect was mentioned. Discussion developed on a Master Plan. The board requested a Master Plan be prepared including the Library grounds. **A motion was made, "In conjunction with the current plans for public space in the Library, going forward, the board requested that a Master Plan be developed for the entire Library building and with the Library grounds included". The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.** Mr. Roberts mentioned that Commissioner Suarez and Commission Keon are in support of the Library renovations. The board expressed appreciation for the progress made so far.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE/BUTTERFLY GARDEN: Mr. Roberts advised the landscape improvements are 95% completed. Phase I of the building exterior pressure cleaning was also completed. The process will need to be repeated several times. With regard to the building stains caused by the irrigation system, a softener was installed and the long term plan is use City water.

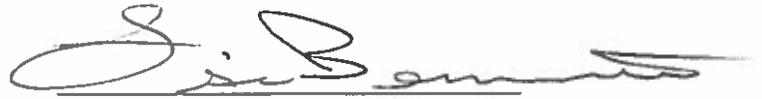
PUBLICATIONS & PUBLICITY: The board mentioned the next publication of the City Magazine will include information on the Library.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT: Discussion focused on increasing presentations by authors. Grants were mentioned. Mr. Costa mentioned a grant of \$6,400 had been received. He added that future programs are being developed. Discussion developed on how the programs will be affected when the renovations begin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / GENERAL DISCUSSION:

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

APPROVED:



Lisa Bennett, Chair

ATTEST:



Bob Boberman, Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017, AT 3:00 P.M.
IN THE CORAL GABLES BRANCH LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
3443 Segovia Street, Coral Gables, FL

