

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of Meeting, October 2, 2014
War Memorial Youth Center, Conference Room

MEMBERS	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY
Ana Martin-Lavielle	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Anna Louise Fulks	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Alexander Adams	P	P	A	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	Comm. Pat Keon
Barbara Perez	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Kay Murff	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	Comm. Frank C. Quesada
Robert Berman	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	E	Interim City Manager, Carmen Olazabal
Paul Zamek	P	P	E	P	P	P	A	P	-	-	P	P	Board as a Whole

STAFF:

Brook Dannemiller, Public Service Director, Board Secretary
Ayliin Hernandez, Clerical Assistant, Recording Secretary

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

Judy Mangasarian, Coral Gables Garden Club Member
Alejandro Gonzalez, Public Works Civil Engineer
Gustavo Santana, AECOM

OPEN MEETING: The Chair, Ana Martin-Lavielle, opened the meeting at 8:38 a.m., the roll was taken and a quorum was present. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of September 4, 2014. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.”** Introductions took place.

NEW BUSINESS:

GRANADA GOLF COURSE PROJECT: Mr. Santana (AECOM) advised that a public meeting will be held on October 9th at the Country Club at 6:00 pm. He also mentioned that the scope of this project involved maintenance improvements and pedestrian circulation of the golf course. Cypress Golf Management is the sub-consultant. They have been working on the maintenance improvements since earlier this year. The sub-consultant is in charge of the Tees, the bunkers, the fairways, and the movement of the Green on 2 and the Tee on 3. The sitting water issue will also be looked into. The trees will not be removed or relocated. There are Coconut Palms from the Tree Succession Plan that will need to be relocated; some will be planted on the north end of Country Club Prado, some will be planted around the historic entrances and some will be used as buffers. Mr. Santana mentioned that the Historical Resources Department has been reviewing the golf course improvements to ensure that the historic aspect is preserved. The Board inquired on the fairway of 3 and 6 where the St. Augustine sod encroached on the path. Mr. Santana replied that Mr. Zakany from Cypress Golf would look into it. The Pedestrian Circulation aspect of the

project involves adding a pedestrian walkway within the right-of-way and along the perimeter of the golf course. It will allow pedestrians to walk or jog without vehicular conflict. The objective is a safe pedestrian environment with minimal maintenance. The materials under consideration are asphalt, concrete, rubber and decomposed granite (crushed stone). The Board mentioned that the rubberized material would be better for joggers. Mr. Santana advised that the materials were under review by the Historical Resources Department. There are 2 alternatives to the walkway design. Alternative #1 considers extending the cart paths. Alternative #2 considers connecting the disjointed cart paths. Discussion developed. Up lighting of the Banyan Trees is under consideration. The shelters will be replaced with hurricane resistant shelters. The water fountains will be repaired and additional water fountains are under consideration. The Board inquired whether bicycle path stripping had been included. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that bicycle path striping was included in the Bicycle Master Plan. This project focused on renovating the golf course in the near future. The Board inquired on the budget for this project. Mr. Gonzalez estimated between \$600,000 and \$1,000,000. The Board inquired whether lighting improvements had been included. Mr. Santana confirmed that lighting had been included. Ms. Murff commented favorably on the disconnected cart paths. She also recommended a pocket park on the open space just west of hole #7. Mr. Santana replied that the open spaces are being persevered for future improvements. Mr. Dannenmiller mentioned that Pine Trees and native plants may be used to buffer the tennis courts and the Boy Scouts building. An inquiry was made on the sidewalk improvements. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that a Sidewalk Improvement Project is in process. Public Works is in charge of it and it will be implemented first. Mr. Adams made the following suggestions: ensure ADA compliance, look into the drainage grates in the sidewalk, keep a space between the road and the path, reduce the speed limit to 25 MPH in neighborhood streets and a Public Works evaluation of the main intersections of Granada Blvd to ensure pedestrian safety. An inquiry was made on the improvements of the historic structures. Mr. Gonzalez replied that Public Works had a separate project for historical structures. It is in the procurement process. Discussion developed. The Board approved Alternative #1 with several comments. **A motion was made to “Approve Alternative #1 with the following comments:**

- Ensure ADA compliance.
- Look into the drainage grates in the sidewalk.
- Maintain space between the road and the pedestrian path.
- Reduce speed limit to 25 MPH in neighborhood streets.
- Evaluate pedestrian safety at the main intersections of Granada Blvd.
- Look into the bicycle path striping.

The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.”

ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE: The Board nominated Ana Martin-Lavielle for Chair. **A motion was made to “Reappoint Ms. Martin-Lavielle as Chair. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.”** The Board nominated Anna Louise Fulks for Vice Chair. **A motion was made to “Reappoint Ms. Fulks as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.”**

ARBOR DAY PLANNING: National Arbor Day is on Friday, April 24, 2015. The Board discussed selecting the date and location for the Coral Gables 2014 Arbor Day Celebration. The schools in close proximity of the locations should also be looked into. Various locations were discussed. A request was made to have the event at the triangle of Durango St & Banos Ct. Mr. Dannenmiller mentioned that the plans for the Durango St & Banos Ct triangle will need to be looked into. Also, the community’s input for the triangle needs to be considered. Mr. Zamek

assured that the residents of this area preferred one large tree, as was there originally. Another request was made to have the event at the Coral Gables Library. Discussion developed on the existing landscape improvements of the Library garden such as the plantings, the sculpture relocation and sculpture renovations. Ms. Martin-Lavielle requested that everyone bring a list of their preferred dates and locations to the next meeting. Mr. Dannenmiller mentioned that the tree planting locations should be clear of overhead power lines. He added that utility underground clearance will be requested at a later time.

COUNTRY CLUB PRADO AND PONCE NORTH OF 8TH STREET: Mr. Dannenmiller reported that the Board's previous comments were under consideration.

ANNUAL REPORT: Discussion took place. City staff time generated most of the expense. The Annual Report was approved.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Dannenmiller mentioned that the public meeting for the Alhambra Park Project had been rescheduled for Monday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m. at the Youth Center. The public meeting for the Maggiore Park Project had been rescheduled for Thursday, October 23rd at 6:00 p.m. An inquiry was made on the playground equipment and the design for the parks. Mr. Dannenmiller provided a detailed description of the equipment and the design; he also assured the Board that they would receive a presentation of the final plans. An inquiry was made on an update of Ponce Circle Park / Hartnett Park. Consulting the Hartnett family was also mentioned. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that safe access to the park was a priority. He added that he will check with Mr. Pino and the consultant to see when a preliminary plan is ready for discussion. The Board complimented the traffic direction on Coral Way and Segovia Circle. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that there will be more improvements West bound on Coral Way. An inquiry was made on the two Circles. Mr. Dannenmiller advised that Cindy Birdsill is handling those projects. An inquiry was made on decreasing the speed limit to 25 MPH. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that speed limit regulations are handled by Miami-Dade County. An inquiry was made on the sculpture on LeJeune Rd. and Ponce De Leon. Mr. Dannenmiller replied that it was likely done as part of the art in public spaces program.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ana Martin-Lavielle, Chair

ATTEST:

Brook Dannemiller, Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014, 8:30 a.m.
Youth Center Conference Room, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, Florida