

CORAL GABLES LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
 Discussion on the Library Historical Artifacts, January 16, 2018
 Coral Gables Branch Library, Meeting Room

MEMBERS	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Jane Maranos	E	P					P						Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli
Charlotte Smiley	P		P				P						Vice Mayor Patricia Keon
Lisa Bennett	P		P				P						Commissioner Frank Quesada
Colette Worm	-		-				P						Commissioner Vince Lago
Samuel Boldrick	-		P				P						Commissioner Michael Mena
Myra Silverstein	E		E				P						City Manager, C. Swanson-Rivenbark
Sherry Zhang	E		P				P						Board As a Whole

STAFF:

Ayliin Hernandez, Clerical Assistant, Recording Secretary

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

Leo Gomez, Miami-Dade Public Library Systems, Support Services Administrator
 William Runyan, Coral Gables Library, Manager
 Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director

OPEN MEETING: The discussion was called to order by Lisa Bennett, Chair, at 10:10 p.m. The roll was taken and a quorum was present. The City Manager was unable to attend the meeting.

LIBRARY RENOVATIONS: Discussion developed on the historic furniture and artifacts in the Library as well as the letter from Eunice Merrick that accompanied the donated historic furniture displayed in the Library (E. Merrick, 1969). The Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director Dona Spain mentioned that she reviewed the historic furniture and artifacts and submitted her recommendations. She proceeded by reading the details of her recommendations. Some items will be relocated and other items will remain in the Library. With regard to the items remaining in the Library, she recommended a loan agreement with yearly renewals. She mentioned the City Manager approved the restoration of two chairs that will remain in the Library. She pointed out the purpose for relocating certain historic items is to ensure that they are preserved. Ms. Spain mentioned she will send a copy of her recommendations (D. Spain, 2017). The board mentioned the historical character of the Library is defined by the historic furniture and artifacts. The board pointed out that these items could be properly archived and preserved at the Library. The discussion was adjourned. Ms. Spain excused herself from the meeting.

A special meeting was called to order by the Chair Lisa Bennett at 11:00 a.m.

Discussion developed on the importance of maintaining the Library’s historical character by having the historic furniture and artifacts incorporated into the new design. It was noted the Coral Gables Library is a historic landmark. Reference was made to the Updated Inventory List created by Jane Maranos (J. Maranos, 2016). Discussion developed on the process of archiving and preserving historic artifacts. A special collection area/room was mentioned. The board mentioned they will continue the pursuit to keep the historic furniture and artifacts in the Library.

Discussion developed on a Request For Commission Action. A motion was made to, **“Request Commission Action in allowing certain historic furniture and artifacts to remain in the Library, after the completion of the renovations.”** The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.

The board was presented with PHASE I of the new Library design. Miami-Dade County Administrator Leo Gomez advised that PHASE I includes part of the Lobby and the Children’s room. The board inquired whether the Children’s room would have a reduction in book shelves. Mr. Gomez confirmed. Mr. Gomez advised that a public presentation will be scheduled in February for public feedback. The board requested special consideration in preserving the historic character of the Library. Mr. Gomez replied that the approved historic furniture and artifacts will be displayed in the Main room. PHASE II of the design will include the Main room and the remaining part of the Lobby. The board requested consideration to brighter and more vibrant colors in the Children’s room. It will generate excitement and energy. The carpeting for the Margret Beacon Meeting Room was discussed. The board mentioned a tile floor rather than carpet will complement the Lobby with flowing continuity. It will also enhance the beauty of the Kay Pancoast Mural displayed in the Meeting Room. A motion was made to, **“Request consideration on the new Library design (PHASE I), for the Children’s Room to have a brighter color scheme, including the carpet. Also, for the Margret Beacon Meeting room to have a tile floor rather than carpet. The tile floor will complement the Lobby with flowing continuity; acoustical flooring is not necessary in the meeting room.”** The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

APPROVED:



Lisa Bennett, Chair

ATTEST:



Bob Boberman, Secretary

Attachments

- E. Merrick, Letter to the City of Coral Gables (1969).
- D. Spain, E-mail recommendations with the attached *Inventory List (2007)*, 2017.
- J. Maranos, *Updated Inventory List (2016)*.