

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
Minutes of February 20, 2009 meeting  
Coral Gables Youth Center  
405 University Drive

MEMBERS		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Joan I. Valdes		R	P	P	P	P	N	P	P					Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Darby Plummer		R	P	P	P	P	N	P	P					Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Robin Symons		R	P	P	P	E	N	E	E					Commissioner Maria Anderson
Haydee Polo		R	P	P	A	P	N	P	P					Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Marty Steinberger		R	P	P	P	E	N	P	P					Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Martha Serola		R	P	P	P	P	N	P	P					City Manager David Brown
Manny Seage		R	P	P	A	P	N	P	E					Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

A = Absent  
C = Cancelled  
E = Excused absence  
P = Present  
N = No quorum  
R = Recessed  
S = Sick

**STAFF:**

Fred Couceyro  
Parks & Recreation Director

Tricia Spencer  
Recording Secretary

**GUESTS:**

1. Darby Plummer called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.
2. Approval of Board minutes from January 23, 2009 meeting – Darby Plummer - The minutes of the January 23, 2009 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.
3. Updates on Board items to City Commission – Fred Couceyro

- Riviera Park School – Fred said that the issue has been deferred for now.
- Washington Park – Fred said that Commissioner Anderson wants to rename Washington Park and they are working with the Historical Resources Department to look up the history of the park. They would like to rename it after an activist. Fred also gave them a copy of the parks naming policy.
- GOB Land Acquisition – Fred said that Commissioner Kerdyk spoke about the GOB land acquisition and suggested that now will be a good time to purchase land. Fred said that there is a house for sale that is in foreclosure on Riviera drive, it is a great property but there is no use for it.

4. City Projects Update – Fred Couceyro

- Shades – Fred said that all the shades are done.
- Riviera Park, Rotary Park & Sunrise Park - Fred said that the bids have gone out and they have received the Rotary bid, they are still awaiting the Riviera Park & Sunrise Park bids.
- Salvadore Park – Fred said that they have started working on park improvements. They are having difficulties with the construction as the irrigation system is not working properly, it could be the pipes.
- Venetian Pool – Fred said that they have started working on the first project which is above water and it will be done by the summer. The second project is under water which will be done after the summer because the pool will need to be closed for two months to fix the expansion joints, chlorination systems and the injection wells.
- Country Club Prado – Fred said that the pool had to be emptied and cleaned, and the pool has since then been refilled and it looks great. However, there is still a federal drain issue and the pool cannot be used for public use as yet.

5. Old Business – Darby Plummer

- DYL Project - This has been deferred.

6. Discussion on Park of the Month – Darby Plummer

- Sunrise Park – Joan Valdes visited the park and said that it is a beautiful park, however, she did observe someone having a huge birthday party in the park and was also using the area of the swings for the party. Martha Serola also visited the park and said that she enjoys checking the water fountain and that the grass may have insects like chiggers or fleas. Fred said that his staff would check on that.

7. New Business – Darby Plummer

- Pittman Park – Fred said that the park is becoming a dog use area and someone has requested to put pet waste baskets in the park and designate it as a pet friendly park. Darby Plummer suggested that they should put a pooper scooper dispenser and have

the police enforce it. Fred said that because of the way the structure is, it is better for code enforcement to do that with police as a back up.

- Golf and Tennis – Joan Valdes said that she was playing a round of twilight golf at the Biltmore golf course with a friend and he had to pay a high price for only 9 holes. Fred said that the cost issue with the Biltmore golf course is maintenance and its current state. Fred also suggested that people could buy a golf membership.

8. Date and time of next meeting – The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. The meeting will start at **8:00 a.m.** and will be held in the **Conference Room at the Youth Center**, located at 405 University Drive.
9. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.