

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES/UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI COMMUNITY RELATIONS
COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010**

**Coral Gables Police Department Community Meeting Room
Coral Gables, Florida**

MEMBERS:

Robert Berman
Tamara Hartnett
Rick Munarriz
Rene Alvarez*
Bruce Steinberger
Sydney Josepher
Dr. Patricia A. Whitely
Rudy Fernandez
David Rivero
Ethan J. Alpern*
Lionel Moise

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APPOINTED BY:

Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Comm. Maria Anderson
Comm. Rafael Cabrera, Jr.
Comm, Wayne Withers
City Manager, Patrick G. Salerno
Vice President, Student Affairs, UM
Vice President, Community Relations, UM
Director of Public Safety, UM
Inter-fraternity Council President, UM
Student Government President, UM

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Virginia Goizueta, Building and Zoning Department

A = Absent

E = Excused

P = Present

+= No Meeting

*** = New Member**

- = Resigned Member

GUESTS: Alicia Corral, UM Campus Planner; Gilbert Arias, UM Assistant VP for Student Affairs; Mindy Herris, Multimedia Coordinator

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Berman at 5:05 p.m. Committee members introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 5, 2009:

Mr. Rick Munarriz made a motion to approve the October 5, 2009 minutes. Mr. David Rivero seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. UPDATE ON U.M. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVES:

Ms. Corral & Ms. Herris updated the Committee on the following:

- In compliance with the 2006 UMCAD amendments, the internal road and the Miller circle must be completed this year. Construction is scheduled to begin in May and be substantially completed by the start of school in September. The University is waiting for the maintenance of traffic (traffic study) to be provided prior to making a decision whether to mail a notice or hold a meeting with the neighbors regarding this issue. The intersection will be disrupted for a couple of months.

Mr. Berman asked if the internal road would be done first and then the circle or were they both going to be done concurrently. Ms. Corral responded that the construction would be completed concurrently and would take approximately three months.

- The Alumni Center might be done by July allowing for a summer move.
- Wellness Center began construction of a two story addition in the courtyard and it is expected to be completed by February 2011. The wellness center remains open for business during construction.
- The Cox science building received a grant for a 38,000 square foot addition for new programs. The University hopes to begin construction in December 2010.
- The University green located in front of the Library has been named the Tad and Bosey Foote Green in recognition of the Tad Foote's contribution of beautifying the campus and the landscaping. A plaque was unveiled in the naming ceremony a couple of weeks ago.
- On April 16th -18th The Clinton Global Initiative University will be held at the University of Miami. All aspects of this event are being handled by the CGIU staff with limited input from the University. The University is expecting approximately 100 University presidents from across the country and 1,000 students from various Universities. The kickoff event will be held on Friday, April 16th at the Bank United Center. It is a ticketed event featuring President Clinton with tickets distributed by the CGIU. The weekend sessions are strictly student events.
- Commencement will be held on May 13, 14, 15 and 16. Graduate degrees will be presented on May 13th, 2010. The big event will be held on the 14th with three ceremonies; the information on speakers is not available at this time. The Miller school of medicine commencement will be held on the 15th and the law school on the 16th. The University does not anticipate traffic or parking issues for these events.

IV. UPDATE BY THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

Mr. Fernandez updated the Committee on the following:

The University is excited about the CGIU event; there is no other major events coming to the campus. In terms of politics, the University is closely monitoring the issues involving the Jackson Health System finances and are preparing for additional State budgetary cuts on the funding of the healthcare system and higher education.

V. UPDATE/PRESIDENT OF INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL:

Mr. Alpern updated the Committee on the following:

- It is currently Greek week at the University of Miami.; the largest Greek Philanthropy. Last year we donated 20,000 to United Cerebral Palsy; this year, we are hoping to do better than that. We are also donating to Haiti.
- On April 10th, 2010, Greek earth day, we will visit a school in the community and help them out with whatever they need.
- The growth of the Greek Community has increased to 18% with 530 men and women joining the Greek community a couple of weeks ago.

Mr. Berman asked if everyone was getting along with the neighbors. Mr. Alpern reported that everyone was getting along. Mr. Berman added that he had not heard any complaints. Mr. Arias reported the University follows up neighbor's complaints by calling the students in to the Dean of Student's office. In the beginning of the year the University sends the newsletter asking the students to be good neighbors. Letting them know that they live in a beautiful community and they should respect the laws. Mr. Berman noted the system and the staff shall be complimented as it has been a remarkable turnaround.

VI. UPDATE/PRESIDENT OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Moise provided the Committee with the following:

Completed

- Lids on recycling bins
- Tray-less dining (Saved over 46 tons of waste)
- Key Biscayne shuttle
- Ibis ride
- Library 24 hours before finals (doubling the attendance)
- Printer in UC
- Thanksgiving shuttle (to markets, airport, etc.)
- Attendance at sporting events
- Senior Walk

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Continued

- Bookstore discounts

In progress

- Advising compact
- Campus safety
- Movie rental service
- Attendance policy
- Thanksgiving break
- Green U

Mr. Berman asked how the car rental system Zipcar (cars by the hour) was working out? Chief Rivero responded they had doubled from last year to 7 or 9 cars this year. It is a great program. There is a \$30.00 annual fee plus a fee by the hour; divided into four students, you get to rent a car for approximately \$2.50 per hour. Only one accident had been reported. These cars are scattered throughout the campus including some at the medical campus. Mr. Munarriz asked what happens to the cars during summer break. Chief Rivero thought they cut back on the number of cars. Mr. Munarriz noted the car rental was open to the community. Some of the University employees have used the cars, Mr. Arias explained. Chief Rivero pointed out the cars were becoming very popular in big cities with very little parking and places like Asia.

VII. MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Tamara Hartnett was out of town and Sydney Josepher could not attend the meeting.

Dr. Patricia Whitely could not attend the meeting because she teaches on Tuesdays; Gilbert Arias attended the meeting on her behalf. Rene Alvarez was absent. Motion to excuse them by Chief Rivero, seconded by Mr. Munarriz and passed unanimously.

VIII. SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING:

A motion was made by Chief Rivero to schedule the next meeting on Monday, October 4, 2010, motion was seconded by Mr. Munarriz and passed unanimously.

IX. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR:

No matters from the floor.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Goizueta
Secretary to the Community Relations Committee