

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

<b>MEMBERS</b>	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	21	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	22	22	
Carolina Estefan-Chahine	*	P	*	P							Mayor Lago
Elizabeth Parnes	*	P	*	P							Vice Mayor Mena
Maria Counts	*	P	*	E							Commissioner Anderson
Carmen Lizama	*	P	*	P							Commissioner Fors, Jr
Nancy Leslie	*	E	*	P							Commissioner Menendez
Amy Dash	*	P	*	P							City Manager
Vacant	-	-	-	-							Board-As-A-Whole

- P – Present**
- P\*- Present (zoom)**
- E – Excused Absence**
- A – Absent**
- (-) – No Appointment**
- (\*) – No Meeting**

**STAFF:**

Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Asst PW Director-Greenspace/Board Liaison  
 Jose Fonseca, Landscape Designer  
 Pilar Wiese, Recording Secretary

**GUESTS:**

Joanne Matthews, Coral Gables Garden Club  
 Dario Restrepo (via zoom)

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. The roll was taken, and a quorum was present.

### **MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

The board reviewed the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021” The motion was seconded, voted upon, and adopted unanimously.**

### **PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS:**

- **ARBOR DAY EVENT:** Chairwoman Liz Parnes opened a discussion to select a school within Coral Gables jurisdiction for the 2022 Arbor Day celebration. Mr. Dario Restrepo joined the meeting via zoom and nominated Henry S. West Lab Elementary school. He said that the school is right in the heart of Coral Gables and in need for trees. He added that the principal of the school Barbara Soto Pujadas is on board and very excited that the board can consider the school. West Lab is a Magnet school, an A-rated school by the Florida Department of Education, educational research facilities for Miami-Dade County Public Schools and associated with School of Education at the University of Miami under a partnership with the University’s Department of Teaching and Learning. School, and was awarded National Blue Ribbon School in 2019. ***A motion was made to “select West Lab Elementary school for 2022 Arbor Day event.” The motion was seconded, voted upon, and adopted unanimously.***

Board member Carmen Lizama volunteered to serve as a board representative for the event. A future meeting will be scheduled with the principal of the school to plan the event and coordinate Arbor Day activities.

- **LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS:** City maps were distributed with designated zones. Ms. Parnes described the nomination process. Board has currently six members; each member will select five properties within their selected zone: Carmen Lizama (Zone 1). Nancy Leslie (Zone 2). Liz Parnes (Zone 3). Maria Counts (Zone 4). Carolina Estefan-Chahine (Zone 5). Amy Dash (Zone 6). Each member should submit properties with addresses and photographs. Code Enforcement will need to approve the nominations. Advise residents through city publications (social media and e-News) that members will be driving around city, looking for distinctive, quality landscaping.
- **UPDATE MISCELLANEOUS CITY PROJECTS:**

**PONCE CIRCLE PARK:** Conceptual design is being reviewed with Board of Architects. City Project Manager will advise when he is ready to do a presentation to the board.

LAMAR CURRY PARK: Lamar Curry Park, a little triangle just north of Venetian Pool, is under construction.

CRAFT SECTION STREETSCAPE: Large Agave project at the Ponce Circle Park, east of the building to Douglas for five or six city blocks; it is under construction. The whole neighborhood is being revitalized. All the streets are being rebuilt and big wide swales are being put in with very large oak trees, and other tree species to create large green boulevard.

MAGGIORE PARK: Triangle space next to the Chinese Village is under construction.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10:30 AM  
2151 SALZEDO ST, CORAL GABLES, FL