

City of Coral Gables

405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 7, 2018

5:00 PM

The Board meets the first Thursday of each month.
Adult Activity Center, 2 Andalusia Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33134
Senior Citizens Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

@ 5:06 pm

ROLL CALL

**Attendees: Jane Mass, Jim Berlin, Richard Thurer, Hendrik Woods, Celia
Suarez, Joan Valdes**

Excused Absences: Evelyn Budde, Henrik Woods

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**Joan requested that a change be made to the May minutes. She asked to
clarify her statement regarding the participation in a UM Medical School
Program.**

The statement should read as follows:

**The UM Medical School does not have a study on senior home safety. Joan
mentioned that she "volunteered" to participate in a University of Miami
Medical school study "that assesses safety in senior homes".**

**Jane made a motion to approve minutes and seconded by Joan. Motion
approved by all**

GUEST SPEAKER: BEATRIZ LOWELL, SHINE/ALLIANCE FOR AGING

Beatriz Lowell is a volunteer for (SHINE)

SHINE stands for Serving Health Insure Needs of the Elderly, which is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

This program is part of the Alliance for Aging Program in Miami, which has many different programs. SHINE focuses specifically on medical health insurance programs.

SHINE's mission is to offer free unbiased counseling to the Florida elderly, to help them make informed decisions

SHINE offers one-on-one counseling at the Coral Gables Youth Center on Tuesdays mornings and Friday afternoons. It is recommended that participants schedule a one hour appointment.

During the counseling session participants learn the difference between Medicare with supplement vs. Advantage Plans (HMOs or PPOs). SHINE counselors teach seniors how to find the information on internet using the official Medicare website (medicare.org). SHINE does not offer any specific personal budget information.

SHINE uses a Call Center where people call with specific questions regarding medical health insurance.

The Alliance for Aging has many other programs such as Transportation for elderly, meals on wheels and safety at home program.

Fred mentioned that the City of Coral Gables has an (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding with Alliance for Aging to provide a private space twice per week with access to computer, ports and electrical outlets.

The local Miami Alliance for Aging is region PSA 111, and can be reached by calling 305-670-6500. Patrons can call to schedule individual appointments at the Coral Gables Youth Center to get information on services available. The volunteers also attend Health Fairs and are available to give presentations.

Beatriz suggested that Fabien offer a Medicare educational seminar to the AAC patrons regarding both Medicare and Drug plan options.

Board members agreed that the month of October could be a good time and it would coincide with the Medicare “open enrollment period” which runs October the 15th thru December 7th. Fabien will announce the date in the Fall Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Jane congratulated the Board regarding the passing of two Resolutions.

AARP Age Friendly Community Initiative Resolution and the Resolution to request a shelter located close to the City of Coral Gables.

AAC SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Fred updated the Board on the “overhaul” to the City’s Emergency Operation Plan.

For this initiative, the City has hired additional staff members. Natalie Paz and Mr. Mendez are assisting the City in formalizing and documenting the EOC plans.

Several of the City departments were given specific plans, called ESS, and assigned to take the lead in addressing different types of situations.

As an example, The department of Parks and Recs has the lead on “mass care”. However, it is not responsible for providing mass care. The department will only be responsible for coordinating and disseminating information to residents regarding the closest shelter.

The City is working with the County, as part of the Resolution, to identify shelters that are less than 4 miles. Although this initiative may not be in place for this Hurricane season, the City is putting the wheels in motion in preparation for subsequent storms.

The City recently executed a “table top” exercise. All departments involved in the EOC performed a “real live exercise” to review how they would execute their specific plan of action.

These departments were given scenarios that included a type of storm category, storm track, starting 120 hours out in order to review their plan of action..

Fred mentioned that the AAC plays a big role during a storm because it is the facility where the City’s first responders (RECON team) meet during the storm. The AAC will have a large generator to ensure power pre and post storm.

At this time, the RECON team will review their calendar with action items 120 hours and 48 Hours prior to storm.

Residents that have been identified in a “needs list”, who require medical assistance or special requirements, will be contacted.

This team will either do “wellness visits” or coordinate with county to arrange for residents requiring medical attention to get to shelters.

The City Team also does “welfare checks” after the storm

The City Special Population Coordinator will make calls to “special needs residents.

Jane mentioned that she had heard in a Storm Preparedness presentation that the Coral Gables HS was being assessed as a “potential” secondary shelter. This could benefit those residents evacuating in the A/ B Zones.

Fred did not have any information regarding Coral Gables HS.

Fred complimented the Board on their work putting together the shelter Resolution. He reassured them that all their work had “opened the door” to continue the “shelter dialogue” with the county.

Fred believes that there will be continued focus on this issue because it is a City Manager Directive and approved by the Commission.

Jane mentioned that Natalie Paz had invited her to attend an EOC Planning meeting, and was going to provide her with additional information Jane will share with the Board during the next meeting.

The Board requested that Fabien do a presentation on the content of both, the AARP Age Friendly Community application and ideas on the Age Friendly Mini Grant use of the money.

It was suggested that during the next meeting, Board members come prepare to discuss their interest in any senior related initiatives that they want to pursue.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Next meeting will be on July 5th.

Fabien to survey the Board members to confirm attendance to ensure that there is a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

@ 6:07 PM