

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
WATERWAY ADVISORY BOARD
HYBRID MEETING AT CITY HALL/ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, June 7, 2023 - 5:30 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS	District	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY:
		22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	23	23	
Manny Chamizo	2	*	*	P	*	*	P	A	P	A	P	A	P*	Vince Lago
Daniel Tormo	3	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	A	A	P	P	Jim Cason
Juan A. Galan Jr	3	*	*	A	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	Rhonda Anderson
Kevin Ritzenthaler	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	A	A	P	P	P	Kirk Menendez
Joel Kallan	4	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Michael Mena
Douglas Yoder	CR	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Peter Iglesias
Bertram Goldsmith	7	*	*	P	*	*	E	P	P	P	A	P	P	Commission-As-A-Whole
John Swain	2	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commission-As-A-Whole
Levi Meyer	6							A	P	P	A	A	P	Board-As-A-Whole

P – Present

P*- Present (zoom)

E – Excused Absence

A – Absent

R – Resigned

(-) – No Appointment

(*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

- Lorena Garrido, Administrative & Fiscal Affairs Manager
- Yanissey Solivera, Administrative Assistant
- Sergeant Guido Antezana, Marine Patrol
- Lieutenant John Luna, Marine Patrol

GUESTS:

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Mr. Yoder. The roll call was done, and quorum was met.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

Dr. Kallan made the motion to approve the minutes of May 3, 2023, seconded by Mr. Swain, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

DISCUSSIONS:

Mr. Galan brought up the subject of having Code Enforcement attend the September meeting to discuss waterway enforcement. Mr. Yorder said it would be useful to provide Code Enforcement specific questions the Board would like to discuss.

The Board discussed the below questions and requested clarification to be discussed with Code Enforcement at the September meeting.

1. Could Marine Patrol request for Code Enforcement to notify the homeowners of the need to trim the mangroves for navigable waterway?
2. Could the Board obtain a copy of Florida Statutes CH403813 and CH373406?
3. Could the Board obtain a copy of the ride along report that took place in February or March of this year?

Regarding the May 3rd meeting, Dr. Kallan stated that due to the difficulties they experienced with the audio, the Board had trouble hearing Ms. Gray's presentation and asked: 1- Are the homeowners allowed to trim trees around their dock for access purposes without obtaining a permit? 2- Could the City's arborist mark the areas that can be trimmed and notify the homeowners? This will be forwarded to Ms. Gray for clarification and input.

Mr. Galan brought up the subject of installing security cameras on the waterway bridges. Mr. Swain added that in the March 1st meeting Mr. Iglesias, City Manager stated that there is a camera at the exit of the waterway and that for privacy reasons, the City is unable to install additional cameras. Mr. Yorder indicated that having cameras on bridges, which are directly looking at the waterway, is no different than a camera on a traffic light looking at the roadway, but incidentally is picking up private property in the process. Mr. Galan requested for Lieutenant Luna to research and provide feedback and suggestions to the Board.

Mr. Goldsmith inquired about the vast number of dead fish that was found by Gables at the Sea. He stated that he spoke to DERM; however, he didn't hear back from them. Ms. Garrido said that DERM went out on Monday, took some sampling, and didn't find anything. She also stated that Public Works staff inspected the area for dead fishes and didn't find any.

Mr. Meyer inquired about topics and issues the Board has brought up in the past, some of which are as old as 6 years. Mr. Yorder suggested to have staff review the meeting minutes, compile a list of those topics and in the New Year address the issues that are outstanding prioritizing given the Boards view. Ms. Garrido said that if the Board recalls or remembers certain topics of interest, to please forward via email.

Mr. Godsmith made the motion to have Mr. Yorder present the resolution made May 3, 2003, in front of Commission. Motion was seconded by Mr. Galan, all were in favor.

Mr. Galan made a motion to schedule the next meeting the First Wednesday of September. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ritzenthaler, all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

MARINE PATROL REPORT:

Sgt. Antezana introduced his new supervisor Lt. John Luna. He stated that Lt. Luna oversees specialized enforcement Division.

Sgt. Antezana reported on a few incidents they had in April on the waterway which a couple of individuals had what appeared to be a boating accident. The individuals were intoxicated and proceeded to get into an altercation. The primary aggressor was subsequently arrested and charged with disorderly intoxication. They also had an arrest. A patroller arrested a gentleman who was breaking into a boat. The gentleman was a mental ill individual who they have dealt with on many occasions. Sgt. Antezana stated that their biggest issue continues to be people speeding in and around the waterway; however, recently they were able to track the teenagers that have been speeding on their jet skis and spoke with the parents. The teenagers have been doing a better job of complying.

Mr. Galan asked Sgt Antezana regarding the email he sent where a resident complaint about kids speeding through the Snapper Creek Canal. Sgt. Antezana said he will investigate and report back to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.