

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, November 5, 2015
War Memorial Youth Center, Conference Room

MEMBERS	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N		
Ana Martin-Lavielle									-	-	P	A	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Kay Murff									-	-	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Frank C. Quesada
Anna Louise Fulks									-	-	P	P	P	Comm. Pat Keon
Barbara Perez									-	-	P	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Carol Cope									-	-	A	A	A	Comm. Jeannett Slesnick
Joyce Meyers									-	-	P	P	P	City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Robert Berman									-	-	-	P	P	Board as a Whole

STAFF:

Brook Dannemiller, Public Service Director, Board Secretary
Ayliin Hernandez, Clerical Assistant, Recording Secretary

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

Craig E. Leen, City Attorney
Judy Mangasarian, Coral Gables Garden Club Member
Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director

OPEN MEETING: The Chair, Anna Louise Fulks, opened the meeting at 8:37 a.m., the roll was taken and a quorum was present. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of October 1, 2015. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS:

FARMER’S MARKET WORKSHOP: Ms. Murff confirmed the event date as Saturday, February 27, 2016. The set-up will begin at 8:30 am, the program will begin at 9:00 am and the tear-down will begin at 9:45 am. The purpose of the workshop is to inform the community of the Landscape Beautification Committee’s interest in assisting the public in beautifying their landscape. Ms. Perez confirmed that Landscape Architect, Victor Lazzari, has agreed to give a presentation this year as well. Mr. Lazzari will also be available to answer questions.

ARBOR DAY PLANNING: Mr. Dannemiller presented a special request made by the City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark. She would like to honor Landscape Architect, Frank Button, in conjunction with the Arbor Day celebration. Ms. Spain gave a brief explanation on the historical importance of Frank Button and his dedication to the design principles of the City of Coral Gables. He was the City’s master planner and his concept incorporated the City’s beautiful landscape as well as the streets with spacious boulevards, the delightful parks and the site plans for homes. He was also the first Public Service Director of the Coral Gables. His unfortunate death resulted from an accident that occurred while he was supervising a tree planting project in Coral Gables. Discussion developed on the dedication plaque and the text. Ms. Spain distributed a draft copy of the text and requested the Board’s input. Discussion developed on changes to the text. Ms. Spain will e-mail the board members a copy of the revised

copy for further discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Dannemiller will look into the plaque location. A change in the proposed location of the event was discussed. The Board agreed that the historical plaza at the intersection Alhambra Circle and Majorca Ave. just east of Granada Blvd. would be an appropriate location for the event. **A motion was made to “Approve the Arbor Day event location at the intersection of Alhambra Circle and Majorca Ave., just east of Granada Blvd. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.”** Discussion developed on the event speaker. The Board requested that Robert Parsley be the event speaker. Ms. Spain will contact Mr. Parsley. **A motion was made to “Approve Robert Parsley as the speaker of the Arbor Day event.”** Discussion developed on the participating schools. Ms. Perez will contact Coral Gables Preparatory Academy and Saint Phillip’s Episcopal School. The tree planting was discussed. The Board requested a flowering tree. Mr. Dannemiller concurred. He will also look into the location of the planting. Mr. Dannemiller will invite the representatives of the Miami-Dade County Million Trees Miami Project. Ms. Mangasarian will confirm the changes with the Garden Club.

LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS: Ms. Martin-Lavielle and Mr. Berman turned in their award nominations.

UPDATE ON MISCELLANEOUS CITY PROJECTS:

VENETIAN POOL: Mr. Dannemiller advised that additional renovations are planned for the inside of the facility this winter. There is also a cross walk planned for the crossing on De Soto Blvd. The design for the park on the north side is in the pipeline, but has not started. Mr. Dannemiller added that the design concept will be coordinated with and presented before the Garden Club for review.

GOLF COURSE IMPROVEMENTS: Mr. Dannemiller advised the golf course is scheduled to open tomorrow. The Coconut Palms will be planted incrementally as the Tree Succession Project progresses. The Silver Trumpet trees and the Dade County Pines will be planted soon.

TREE SUCCESSION PLAN: Mr. Dannemiller advised that the trees scheduled for removal will have a copy of the building permit displayed on the trunk. He mentioned that the Tree Succession Project is available on the City’s website and it is updated on a regular basis. He added that zone one is near completion. Ms. Fulks inquired on the palm in the median across from Christy’s Restaurant located at 3101 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Mr. Dannemiller advised that median is included in the improvements of the Mediterranean Village Project.

PONCE NORTH OF EIGHT STREET: Mr. Dannemiller advised the bid process was restarted and that tree removals will not be part of this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION: Discussion developed on the protective barriers of sculptures within traffic circles. Discussion developed on the barriers that will be installed around the sculpture at the Coral Way and Segovia St traffic circle. Ms. Spain advised the design was finalized by the artist. The board requested that the final design be presented before this board. Mr. Dannemiller will follow up with Public Works. Ms. Murff mentioned the Miami Herald has an article on the kindergarten students of the Growing Place and their participation in a Fairchild Tropical Challenge. It was noted that their teacher, Mary Cardentey, is devoted the children’s involvement

in nature. The Board was advised to attend the Boards and Committees Ethics Training on Friday, November 6th, 2015. A DVD of the recorded session will be available for persons that cannot attend the training. Discussion developed on board member attendance. Ms. Fulks will contact Carol Cope.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:


Anna Louise Fulks, Chair

ATTEST:


Brook Dannemiller, Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
Youth Center Conference Room-, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, Florida

