



The City of Coral Gables

Historical Resources Department

CORAL GABLES MERRICK HOUSE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Coral Gables Merrick House

907 Coral Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	O	N	D	J	F	M	M*	A	M	J	J	A	S	APPOINTED BY:
	13	13	13	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	
Amy Kutell^											-	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Daisy Baez	E	P	P	E	E	P	E	A	P	P	-	P	E	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Marlin Ebbert	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	E	P	E	-	E	P	Commissioner Pat Keon
Ana Lam	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Laura Yusko	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Joanne Meagher	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	A	P	E	-	E	P	Board Appointee
Susan Rodriguez	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	City Manager

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Dona M. Spain, Historic Preservation Officer
Kara N. Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Emily Ahouse, Historic Preservationist

A = Absent
P = Present
- = No Meeting
+ = Resigned Member

E = Excused
* = Special Meeting
^ = New Member

MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Ms. Yusko called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m. and stated attendance for the record, adding Ms. Lam's attendance when she arrived at 8:50.

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Ebbert made a motion, seconded by Ms. Meagher and unanimously approved, to excuse the absence of Ms. Baez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AUGUST 20, 2014:

A motion was made by Ms. Kutell, seconded by Ms. Rodriguez and unanimously passed, to approve the August 20, 2014 minutes as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Events Committee:

Ms. Rodriguez presented drafts of the SOTPWG sponsor invitations and events schedule, which were reviewed and edited by the Board during the meeting. Staff reported that the City Attorney's office is researching the issue of tax deductibility for sponsor donations. Funds may be raised by the Board for events; however, materials and presentations may not include information about tax deductibility unless/until the tax deduction is clarified.

Ms. Ebbert made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lam and unanimously passed, to approve via email the final print-ready revisions to the SOTPWG sponsor invitation and events schedule as edited during the meeting.

Plans and details for SOTPWG events were discussed. Ms. Rodriguez reported that she and Ms. Kautz met with the Special Events Committee, discussing SOTPWG events, logistics, setup and breakdown.

Ms. Kutell will check on availability of a candidate to portray Santa Claus at the annual December holiday event. Staff will arrange for customary food vendors to participate as they have in the past.

HOUSE REPORT: July and August 2014

- No visitors during July and August as the House was closed for summer.
- Trust Fund Balance: Expenditure account: \$18,968.17; revenue account: \$1,043.00
- Roxy O'Neal Bolton Fund: \$4,940.00 unchanged
- Applications were provided to three people who inquired about becoming docents.
- A rental request was received from the D.A.R. to conduct their monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the months October through May with approximately 30 people in attendance.

Ms. Meagher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbert and unanimously passed, to approve rental of the House to the D.A.R. as requested, and to waive the security deposit.

OLD BUSINESS:

Richard Merrick Paintings:

Ms. Kautz distributed and reviewed a copy of the ArtCare, Inc. (Rustin Levinson, conservator) assessment of all paintings donated by Mildred Merrick's estate as well as current House artwork. Each was ranked in terms of restoration importance and costs to restore them. She also reported that one of the rugs donated by the estate was cleaned and repaired, and will be placed in the second floor hallway.

Villagers Grant:

Ms. Ebbert urged the Board to approve submitting for a Villagers grant to fund the restoration of one of the paintings.

Ms. Ebbert made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rodriguez and unanimously approved, to submit a grant application to the Villagers for the restoration of "Glades, Trees, Birds," painted by Denman Fink.

Staff will secure a restoration and framing proposal for "Still Life with Blue Pitcher," painted by Richard Merrick, to be presented at the next Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Front Area Features of Merrick House:

Ms. Yusko requested the City's replacement of dead plants in the front porch urns. She also pointed out that park-type benches on the front porch were not appropriate and should be replaced by wicker period pieces that will withstand Florida weather. Staff will follow up with research and report at the next meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Monday, October 13, 2014, 8:30 a.m., Merrick House.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain
Historic Preservation Officer