

# CORAL GABLES

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

## Economic Development Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday | November 1, 2023 | 8:00 a.m.  
Location: Zoom and Economic Development Department  
2506 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, FL 33134

EDB MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTING ENTITY
	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	'23	
James Kohnstamm, Vice Chair	X	P	P	X	E	E	P	P	P	X	P		Mayor Vince Lago
Timothy Heffernan	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	X	P		Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Derrek Space	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	X	E		Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Nguyen Castilla Cabanilla	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	E	X	P		Commissioner Melissa Castro
Scott Shuffield	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	X	P		Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Barbara Perez	X	E	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	X	A		City Manager Peter Iglesias
Thad Adams, Chair	X	P	E	X	P	P	P	P	P	X	P		Chamber of Commerce

A=Absent E=Excused Absence P=Present X=No Meeting Ph=Present by Phone Z=Zoom - =Former Board Member

### Staff and Guests:

Belkys Perez, Director, Economic Development Department  
Leticia Perez, International Business Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department  
Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department  
Paulson Jean, IT Network Analyst II, Innovation & Technology Department

Chairman Mr. Thad Adams brought the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

**1. Review and approval of September 6, 2023, Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes. Ms. Nguyen Castilla Cabanilla made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Mr. Scott Shuffield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** There was no discussion regarding the minutes.

### 2. Excuse Board member's absence

**Mr. Scott Shuffield made a motion to excuse today's absence of Mr. Derreck Space. Ms. Nguyen Castilla Cabanilla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was no discussion regarding the absence.**

### **3. Economic Development Activities**

#### **a) Downtown Activities**

Mrs. Belkys Perez informed the Board that with the beginning of peak shopping season, the department is busy with events and activities to support businesses. The City Commission approved the Department's proposal for holiday decorations on Miracle Mile and a 30-foot tree on Giralda Plaza. For two weeks, carolers will stroll through Miracle Mile and Giralda Plaza.

#### **b) Market Meetings**

Mrs. Belkys Perez informed the Board that the department has had several opportunities to promote the city. The department hosted a meeting with the Consulate of Uruguay via Intrade which is a trade consortium of different Trade Commissioners. As a result, we were able to secure a donation of wine for our Holiday Sip & Shop event to be held on December 14, 2023. We also partnered with the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce for an Invest Barbados delegation.

### **4. Business Tax License Report**

Mrs. Belkys Perez updated the Board on the new and soon-to-come businesses in Coral Gables.

### **5. Open Discussion**

Some members updated the Board on their economic development-related activities.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department.