

## **CORAL GABLES LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of Meeting, April 9, 2014  
Coral Gables Branch Library, Meeting Room

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>APPOINTED BY</b>
Jane Maranos	-		P		P		P		P		P		Mayor Jim Cason
Amy Kutell	-		P		A		P		P		P		Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Bruce Litwer						P		E	E		P		Comm. Pat Keon
Danielle Cohen						-		P	P		P		Comm. Vince Lago
Lisa Bennett	-		P		P		-	-					Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Lisa Bennett							P	P		P			Comm. Frank C. Quesada City Manager, Patrick Salerno Board as a Whole

### **STAFF:**

Bob Boberman, Interim Board Secretary  
Ayliin Hernandez, Clerical Assistant, Recording Secretary

**A = Absent**  
**P = Present**  
**E = Excused**

### **GUESTS:**

James Paul, Branch Manager, Miami-Dade Public Library System  
Jennipher Shipley, Branch Supervisor, Miami-Dade Public Library System  
Dorothy Thomson, Former Mayor and Historic Preservation Board Member  
Sharon Trbovich, Coral Gables Garden Club President  
Sherry Zhang, LEED AP

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### **OPEN MEETING:**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Lisa Bennett, at 3:02 p.m. The roll was taken and a quorum was present. Ms. Bennett asked if there were any comments on the February 12, 2014 minutes. The following corrections were requested; Ms. Fuster's internship is in a school and the correct spelling of Ms. Cohen's name is Danielle. Ms. Hernandez confirmed the corrections will be made.

### **GUESTS:**

Ms. Bennett introduced Dorothy Thomson, Former Mayor and Historic Preservation Board Member. Ms. Thomson was pleased to attend the meeting. Ms. Bennett introduced Sherry Zhang, Architect and Photographer. Ms. Zhang is the nominee for the Board-As-A-Whole appointment.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**LIBRARY BLDG. EXTERIOR CLEANING:** Mr. Paul advised that the Library building had been pressure cleaned. Ms. Bennett thanked Ms. Thomson for her assistance in pursuing the building's cleaning. Ms. Thomson shared her experience with regard to the Library's history. She discussed the County's budget shortfall as it relates to the Library system. She added that she brought the cleaning to the City Manager's attention and he referred it to Commissioner Sosa. Ms. Thomson also mentioned that Dade County would contract out the landscape

maintenance. Mr. Paul advised that it had been done. Ms. Thomson emphasized the importance of the Library's routine maintenance. Ms. Cohen asked if the structural cleaning would be provided on a routine basis. Ms. Shipley replied that it would be done on an as-needed basis.

**LIBRARY HISTORY:** Ms. Maranos complimented the Library's historical page on the City website. Ms. Bennett requested creative ideas for new projects. Ms. Maranos mentioned that the University of Miami had a location for historical files. Discussion took place on creating a historical file area at the Coral Gables Library. The City's history could be included as well as the Library's history. Discussion developed on organizing a fundraiser in conjunction with the historical file project. Ms. Bennett reminded that the Commission would need to approve the fundraiser. Ms. Shipley mentioned that the County may have display cases available for storing the historical photographs.

**PUBLICATIONS & PUBLICITY:** Ms. Bennett asked if the historical file project could be advertised on the E-News. Mr. Paul replied that large events could be advertised on the E-News.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Ms. Thomson inquired on the schedule of the Driver's License renewal program. Mr. Paul replied that the service is provided on the second Monday of each month. Ms. Thomson shared the challenges involved in establishing the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) on Ponce De Leon during the 1980's. The DMV station was finally approved as a result of public activism. Mr. Paul reported that the second annual mulching was completed. He added that Mayor Cason will be reading to the Children on Thursday, April 10, 2014. The Senior Citizen's Exercise Classes will be offered during the Summer. Congressional Primary Voting will begin in August. The Library's website has a new design. The Perez Art Museum at Bay Front Park has opened and the Library branches have a limited number of free passes. Mr. Paul inquired whether a memorial bench could be installed as a tribute to a staff member that passed away recently. He added that the County will cover the costs. Mr. Litwer offered to check with the City Attorney and report to the board, at the next meeting.

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE/BUTTERFLY GARDEN:** Ms. Thomson introduced Sharon Trbovich, Garden Club President. The Garden Club provides contributions for improvements. Ms. Trbovich mentioned that the quote for the new plants and a bird bath was approved. She added that the Garden Club would also like to organize public tours in the Butterfly Garden. The tours would inform the public on the benefits of the plants and the butterflies. The Garden Club members would be stationed in various areas with pamphlets. The pamphlets would be kept in acrylic boxes. Ms. Shipley mentioned that the downtown office had a butterfly pamphlet. She offered to bring one to the next meeting. The Garden Club also requested that the Library's dedication plaque, displayed in the lobby, be cleaned. She also mentioned that the Garden Club contribution would be \$1,500.00. Discussion took place on the process of depositing the contribution. Ms. Bennett mentioned that the funds should be handled by the Coral Gables staff. The board will revisit this project at the next meeting. Ms. Trbovich inquired on the irrigation system. Mr. Boberman advised that it is operable. Ms. Thomson shared her experience, in 2001, when the Butterfly Garden was first created. She mentioned that seventy five butterflies were set free as part of the celebration.

**BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE UPDATE:** Ms. Bennett mentioned that the final meeting is streaming online. She will send Ms. Hernandez the link so that she can forward it to the board

members. Ms. Bennett mentioned although the County's budget had a shortfall, none of the Libraries will be closed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**NEW MEMBER NOMINATION:** Ms. Bennett introduced Sherry Zhang. Her resume was shared with the board. Ms. Zhang shared on her experience and qualifications as they apply to Libraries. Discussion took place. Ms. Zhang was nominated for the Board-As-A-Whole appointment. **A motion was made to "Appoint Sherry Zhang for the Board-As-A-Whole seat." The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / GENERAL DISCUSSION:** Ms. Cohen inquired on additional parking for the Library. She asked if the swale could be paved. Bob replied that the new Public Service Director, Brook Dannemiller, could answer that question at the next meeting.

**BOARD ITEM/CITY COMMISSION UPDATE:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

APPROVED:



Lisa Bennett, Chair

ATTEST:



Bob Boberman, Acting Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD  
WEDNESDAY, **JUNE 11, 2014**, AT 3:00 P.M.  
IN THE CORAL GABLES BRANCH LIBRARY MEETING ROOM  
3443 Segovia Street, Coral Gables, FL