

CORAL GABLES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
 RETIREMENT BOARD AGENDA
 THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017

8:00 A.M.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI NEWMAN ALUMNI CENTER
 6200 SAN AMARO DRIVE
 4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS:	M	A	M	J	A	S	O	N	J	F	M	APPOINTED BY:
	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	
Andy Gomez	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
James Gueits	P	E	E	E	E	P	P	P	E	P	P	Vice Mayor C. Quesada
Charles Rigl	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Jeanette Slesnick
Michael Gold	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	Commissioner Patricia Keon
Rene Alvarez	P	P	P	E	E	P	E	P	E	P	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Joshua Nunez	P	E	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	Police Representative
Randy Hoff	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Member at Large
Carlos Fleites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	General Employees
Troy Easley	E	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P	Fire Representative
Diana Gomez	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	Finance Director
Raquel Elejabarrieta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	Labor Relations and Risk Management
Manuel A. Garcia-Linares	P	E	E	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	City Manager Appointee
Pete Chircut	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	E	P	P	City Manager Appointee

STAFF:

Kimberly Groome, Administrative Manager
 Ornelisa Coffy, Retirement System Assistant
 Alan Greenfield, Board Attorney

P = Present
 E = Excused
 A = Absent

3. Comments from Retirement Board Chairperson.

Chairperson Gomez continues with his report. In the time that he has been put in the position as the Chairperson he has been discussing with other people in pension plans how the Retirement System was operated. One of the things he found is that Ms. Groome has been put in the position of serving as Chairperson to the Investment Committee. In speaking to Bill Hanes in Palm Beach he believed this was a conflict of interest to a great extent. He spoke with Mr. Greenfield who had a similar view. Last night he received a call from Craig Leen who said he would be joining the Board for this meeting. The ordinance that made Ms. Groome as the administrator and chairperson of the Investment Committee is an ordinance from 1991. In 2011, Mr. Leen issued a legal opinion because there was a similar situation between two different Boards of the City which basically said it was a conflict. He was surprised that the legal opinion did not go to everyone in the City. In talking to Mr. Greenfield, since it is an ordinance of the City we may have to

pass a resolution today removing Ms. Groome as the Chairperson of the Investment Committee to protect her. They don't have to do a resolution because legal counsel had issued an opinion already that there was a conflict of interest. He would like to remove Ms. Groome for sitting as Chairperson of the Committee and name someone else on the Board to serve as the Chairperson. Mr. Hoff wonders if they can do that. This is a City ordinance. Chairperson Gomez explains that according to the City Attorney since he issued a legal opinion in 2011 it can be done. Mr. Gueits thinks that Ms. Groome should put in resignation as the Investment Committee Chairperson. Mr. Greenfield informs that he doesn't have a problem with creating a resolution but it should be subject to approval of the City Attorney. Mr. Garcia-Linares doesn't understand what the issue is. Chairperson Gomez explains that the issue is having a City employee serve in the role as Chairperson of the Investment Committee that would be a conflict of interest. Technically, Ms. Groome should have been prevented from speaking to anyone on the Board in regards to investment matters. Ms. Elejabarrieta believes that the ordinance should be amended since it is a City ordinance. Ms. Groome thinks that the issue is that since the Board members are not able to speak to each other about issues due to the Sunshine Law and they have to go through her as the Administrative Manager and if she is the Chairperson of the Investment Committee then the Board members would not be able to speak to her about investment issues because of the Sunshine Law. Mr. Greenfield believes that when you read the ordinance it was quite clear when it was adopted that the Chairperson shall be the Administrative Manager. Historically, the Administrative Manager was always either the Finance Director or Assistant Finance Director. So, when the Commission said "the Administrative Manager shall be the Chairperson of the Investment Committee" they never gave thought that to the fact that there would be an employee of the City acting as the Administrative Manager other than the Finance Director or Assistant Finance Director. The City back in those years this was a non-contributory plan and the City was paying 100%. The City wanted to control the finance investments. It is no longer a non-contributory plan. It has changed. Dr. Gomez thinks the Board should have Mr. Greenfield draw up a Resolution asking the Commission to amend this section of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoff and seconded by Mr. Alvarez to have the Board Attorney create a Resolution asking the Commission to amend Section 50-212 – Establishment, members and chairman of the Retirement Ordinance. Motion unanimously approved (11-0).

At the April 13, 2017 Retirement Board meeting, the Retirement Board reaffirmed above motion with same motion being made by Mr. Gueits and seconded by Mr. Alvarez. Motion was unanimously approved (8-0).