

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
 CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
 WEDNESDAY, April 4, 2018 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	
Blake Sando	*	P	P	P									Vince Lago
Shedrick Boren	*	A	P	E									Mayor Raul Fauli-Valdes
Patricia Sowers	*	P	E	P									Patricia Keon
Richard Whittington	*	P	P	P									Frank C. Quesada
Marie-Ilene Whitehurst	*	P	P	P									Michael Mena

P – Present
E – Excused Absence
A – Absent
(-) – No Appointment
(*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

1. Raquel Elejabarrieta, Director of Labor Relations and Risk Management / ADA Coordinator
2. Eglys Hernandez, Labor Relations and Risk Management

GUEST:

None

CITIZEN ADVISORS:

1. Bonnie Blaire
2. Debbie Dietz

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 08:03a.m.

MEETING ABSENCE:

Mr. Shedrick Boren was absent.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

March 7, 2018

Motion by: Dr. Whittington / 2nd: Ms. Whitehurst / All approved unanimously

SECRETARY’S REPORT:

None

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Update regarding Resolution – City of Coral Gables to Host and/or Organize Disability Awareness Event during Disability Month – October 2018

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised that the first resolution was drafted based on the meeting held in January in which the Board requested that the City *Host* a Disability Awareness Event and that she had revised the first resolution based on the motion approved by the Board in the February meeting where the Board requested that the first resolution be revised so that City *Host* and *Organize Jonathan's Day* or in the alternative a similar type event.

Ms. Elejabarrieta stated her concern with placing revised resolution on commission agenda without contacting Village of Palmetto Bay. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated she is aware that Mr. Mizrachi preferred Village of Palmetto Bay not be contacted, however from a professional stand point, the City should reach out to Palmetto Bay and advise them that the City is considering hosting this event.

Ms. Elejabarrieta reiterated the differences between just hosting and hosting/organizing an event. Ms. Elejabarrieta expressed her concern with having the City host and organize an event for a specific entity (Jonathan's Day) as opposed to the City hosting and organizing its own event for disability awareness. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated to the Board that she felt it would be better to proceed with the resolution without specifying it would be for Jonathan's Day, however it was up to the Board to determine how they would like to proceed.

Dr. Whittington asked if status with Village of Palmetto Bay regarding future event was known. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that since the Village of Palmetto Bay had not been contacted and the fact that event recently took place, there is no information available. Mr. Sando advised that he believes there is no question as to Village of Palmetto Bay wanting to continue to organize this event, it is that as owners of Jonathan's Day, CBS 4 and Mr. Mizrachi are researching into changing venues.

Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that it would be best prior to the City commission meeting for the City to contact Village of Palmetto Bay and advice consideration is being reviewed regarding hosting/organizing this event. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that if Board was in agreement, she would reach out to Mr. Mizrachi and advise Village of Palmetto Bay will be contacted.

Ms. Elejabarrieta asked Board if Board wanted to keep mention of Jonathan's Day on the resolution. Mr. Sando stated that he does want to maintain wording of Host and Organize Jonathan's Day on the resolution and even though he understands Ms. Elejabarrieta's concerns regarding City being approached by other entities, he believes that can be dealt with once it happens.

Ms. Whitehurst stated she agrees that the wording should be Host and Organize Jonathan's Day due to the importance of the sponsorships of CBS 4. Dr. Whittington stated he also understands concern regarding the host and organize part of it, but it is ultimately up to the commission. Dr.

Whittington asked if there was an idea how the commission would receive this. Ms. Blaire stated that this is the time for Board members to reach out to their commissioners and advise them of this resolution and provide them with background information prior to commission meeting.

Ms. Whitehurst stated that she believes that the commissioners would like to have an idea of cost involved in hosting and organizing such an event. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that she will be meeting with City administration and will be gathering cost information which will be available prior to commission meeting.

Mr. Sando reviewed resolution wording and requested various changes. Board reviewed changes and approved verbiage by acclamation. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised she will make the changes, provide same to Board and place on April 24, 2018 city commission agenda. Mr. Sando advised that he will be present at the April 24, 2018 commission meeting.

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised Board that on the Agenda of April 10, 2018, Commissioner Keon would be sponsoring the annual Autism Inclusion Resolution and that the related Proclamation on Autism will be issued and accepted by Crystal Academy. Ms. Blaire asked if the Board had reviewed the resolution. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that it is the same resolution which is passed every year and once it is completed, will make available to Board. Mr. Sando asked if CARD has been advised of this. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated she would follow up with legal to see if CARD was advised.

Supper Club Update

Ms. Dietz stated there are currently two more planned, next one April 9th and one to follow May 7th, 2018. Ms. Dietz stated there has been a very nice group which attends and all are starting to incorporate. Ms. Dietz stated that the response she has received is very positive and the restaurant has been very accommodating. Ms. Dietz stated that the parents are also enjoying and integrating with each other. Mr. Sando asked how the Board can assist. Ms. Dietz stated just to continue to pass on information and invitation to others. Mr. Sando asked if the City continues to promote. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated City does continue to promote on its social media platform, currently already on City Facebook page. Ms. Dietz stated they will be reviewing and consulting with group in regards to how to proceed during the summer due to many may be traveling and unable to attend event. Ms. Dietz will keep the Board updated.

Space – Adult Center

Ms. Sowers stated she had visited the space which has been made available at the Adult Activity Center and it is very beautiful as well as inviting. Ms. Sowers asked for assistance how to best proceed with this. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that it would be best for Ms. Sowers to directly contact Ms. Carolina Vester regarding assistance how to best proceed.

Commissioner Sosa Presentation – Funds

Mr. Sando asked in regards to funds received from Commissioner Sosa. Ms. Whitehurst stated that she had spoken with Ms. Mari Palacios who advised that this item actually goes back a while and that they are still trying to figure out how best the \$1.5 million dollars will be utilized. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that the City is in the initial stages of looking at two different properties

whether to purchase or rent, believes to purchase. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated then the City would partner up with an organization that would run programming due to the City not having the expertise or personnel to do so. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that once the City secures a location, they will proceed to determine whom they will partner with to operate center. Mr. Sando asked as to which department or division is in charge of it. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised it is via City Manager's office. Mr. Sando asked if when ready to purchase it gets back on the agenda. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that it would get on the agenda; she will have more information regarding the two locations, get clarity as to whether it is to purchase or lease and will advise Board on next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Coral Gables Cinema – Sensory Friendly Screening

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised the Board regarding Ms. Vester contacting Coral Gables Cinema personnel in regards to scheduling a free showing as well as a sensory friendly screening during April, Autism Awareness Month. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that it may also be possible for some vendors to be contacted and conduct a mini resources fair at this event. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised it would be for Friday, April 27, 2018, 10:30am.

Mr. Sando asked Board if there was anything else they wish to discuss. Ms. Blaire stated that the Board should consider for upcoming meetings inviting representatives from City departments to come in and advise what is going on in their department as it relates to the services provided to individuals with disabilities. Ms. Blaire stated Board may want to follow up regarding parking fine monies and see what was done with last year's funds. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated that she will review which Directors will be available and will schedule for them to attend next meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

May 2, 2018

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Whitehurst / 2nd Dr. Whittington / All Approved unanimously
Meeting adjourned 08:51 a.m.