

CORAL GABLES SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Meeting Agenda
Friday October 21, 2016

Coral Gables City Hall
1st Floor Conference Room
Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. 24	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	APPOINTED BY
Ruth Martinez	p	P	P	P	-	P	P						Mayor Cason
Mary Snow						P	E						Vice Mayor Quesada
Aileen Ortega	p	P	P	P	-	P	P						Commissioner Keon
Samuel Joseph	p	P	P	P	-	P	P						Commissioner Lago
Greg Blackburn	p	A	E	P	-	P	A						Commissioner Slesnick
Nan Markowitz	p	P	P	P	-	P	P						City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
	p	P											Commission-as-a-whole

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
- = No meeting

STAFF:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

GUESTS: Mary Palacio Pike, Milica Kothari, Nan Markowitz, Aileen Ortega, Ruth Martinez, Jennifer Durocher, Michael Lewis, Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick, Beatriz Martinez-Penalver

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

The following represents a summary of the items discussed during the Committee meeting.

- **MEETING AGENDA** -

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:37am.

II. ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Greg Blackburn had an unexcused absence and Mary Snow had an excused absence as she is on Maternity Leave.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. School Improvement Projects (SIP) Updates

- Discussion about adding computer donations to SIP list.

- Update regarding Coral Gables History Tour meeting with stakeholders
 - Positive meeting with buy-in from the District
 - Goal is to initiate tours for the spring semester with a pilot program for 4th graders
 - Sam informed the group that the Coral Gables museum made funding available to Coral Gables Prep and Little Carver to cover museum field trips but have not heard back from the schools. Committee members will follow up with the principals to make sure there is still an interest in pursuing this project, if there is not, Chair will recommend dropping the project from the SIP list.
- Need to reassign SIP projects at the next meeting due to changes in membership.

B. Special Needs Initiative

- Last meeting took place at the Center for Independent Living
- The hope is to eventually host professional development workshops and to help the district create 2 special needs academies- one for autism and one for learning disabilities/dyslexia
- There are 250 kids in the Coral Gables area with special needs
- Ultimately need guidance from the City Commission

C. Commission-at-large seat

- Four highly qualified, very capable individuals want to join the committee
- Discussion regarding whether the Committee should make a recommendation
- **Committee voted unanimously to submit all four resumes to the Commission for their consideration and decision.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. MDCPS Report

- Brief discussion regarding MDCPS report (see attached).

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

- Commissioner Slesnick discusses parking issues at Coral Gables Prep and states that some spaces will become available to parents in the lot across the street and there will be consistent police presence and enforcement.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be on November 18, 2016 at 405 Biltmore Way.