

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 – 10:30 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY:
	21	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	22	22	
Carolina Estefan-Chahine	*	P	*	P	P	A	P				Mayor Lago
Elizabeth Parnes	*	P	*	P	P	P	P				Vice Mayor Mena
Maria Counts	*	P	*	E	P	P	P				Commissioner Anderson
Carmen Lizama	*	P	*	P	P	P	P				Commissioner Fors, Jr
Nancy Leslie	*	E	*	P	P*	P	P				Commissioner Menendez
Amy Dash	*	P	*	P	P	P	P				City Manager
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				Board-As-A-Whole

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

STAFF:

Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Asst PW Director-Greenspace/Board Liaison
 Jose Fonseca, Landscape Designer
 Pilar Wiese, Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

Joanne Matthews, Coral Gables Garden Club

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. The roll was taken, and a quorum was present.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

The board reviewed the February 10th, 2022 minutes. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of February 10th, 2022” The motion was seconded, voted upon, and adopted unanimously.**

PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS:

- **ARBOR DAY EVENT:** Ms. Parnes asked Ms. Lizama-Gaspa if she will continue being the representative of the board to work through the event with the principal and the team as she had a family situation. Ms. Lizama-Gaspa would like to continue serving as a board representative for Arbor Day. Ms. Counts offered to help and assist Ms. Lizama-Gaspa anyway she needs on the endeavor.
Ms. Matthews updated the board on her efforts to reach to West Lab Principal, Ms. Soto-Pujadas. She said that she dropped off a letter, a thumb drive with the video of the event at Carver, and a markup of the program. She has also spoken with Katie, who suggested a maximum of 25 children, to make it manageable. She included that information in the letter and asked Ms. Soto-Pujadas if ok to provide the snacks, cookies from the Garden Club, and to treat the kids with a giveaway for planting. She has not heard back from the principal yet.
She said that unfortunately Katie will not be available to do the presentation. Ms. Counts was volunteered to do the Arbor Day presentation.
Discussion took place about other ways to treat the kids as food might not be allowed into the school.
Draft program was revised. Since the landscape beautification awards used to be presented at same event of Arbor Day and it will not this time, it was decided to replace text to reflect Landscape Beautification Advisory board instead.
Board members asked Ms. Lizama-Gaspa to set up another zoom meeting to follow up on additional coordination details.
- **LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS:** Ms. Leslie inquired how property owners will be informed that they have won a landscape beautification award. Ms. Bell explained that a congratulations letter will be sent to invite award recipients to the City Commission meeting on April 26, 2022. A brief power point presentation will be shown at the Commission meeting. Landscape award recipients will get a plaque of recognition.
Ms. Leslie and Ms. Lizama-Gaspa volunteered to introduced themselves as landscape beautification advisory board members and hand delivered letters to 4615 San Amaro Dr. and 1414 Capri St. respectively.
- **FARMER’S MARKET:** Ms. Parnes confirmed that City Arborist Jorge Rivera will do a presentation at the Farmer’s Market for the Landscape Advisory board on March 26th, 2022. Topic will be “Sustainable Trees for Sustainable Cities.”
- **BOARD-AS-A-WHOLE VACANCY:** Ms. Parnes informed the board that the vacancy for Board-As-A-Whole is open. City Clerk’s office received an application for that position but unfortunately applicant does not meet the

qualifications for that particular appointment, so it had to be declined. Ms. Parnes referred to Resolution 2005-121 that appointment has to be filled by following professional categories: landscape architects, planners, certified arborists, architects or degree horticulturists, botanists or foresters, or any related profession.

- UPDATE MISCELLANEOUS CITY PROJECTS:

PONCE CIRCLE PARK: Plans are in Miami-Dade County for permit review for design development stage, waiting on comments from the county so Urban Robot landscape architects can start moving on their next steps.

LAMAR CURRY PARK: Lamar Curry Park is a little triangle just north of Venetian Pool. The Coral Gables Garden Club has donated over \$200,000 to build the park. Ms. Leslie told the board that Lamar Louise Curry was a teacher at Miami High, never married and left a very large sum of money to the Garden Club to be used for a special project. Construction is underway.

CRAFT SECTION STREETScape: The developer Agave is building the streetscape and it is moving along and project is coming to completion.

ROYAL POINCIANA FIESTA: Ms. Parnes told the board that Royal Poinciana committee has asked again to support them. Board will need City Manager's approval and direction on how the City would like to be involved. Steven Pearson is willing to attend a board meeting to talk about the Royal Poinciana.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, APRIL 14th, 2022, 10:30 AM
2151 SALZEDO ST, CORAL GABLES, FL