

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of January 15, 2010 meeting
Coral Gables Youth Center
405 University Drive

MEMBERS	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Joan I. Valdes	R	P	P	P	P	R	P						Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Valerie Gelnovatch	V	V	V	P	E	R	P						Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Emilio Monte	R	P	P	P	P	R	P						Comm. Maria Anderson
Jorge Guarch	R	P	P	E	P	R	P						Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Marty Steinberger	R	P	P	E	P	R	P						Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Martha Serola	R	E	E	P	P	R	P						City Manager Patrick G. Salerno
Manny Seage	R	P	P	E	P	R	P						Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

A = Absent
C = Cancelled
E = Excused absence
P = Present
N = No quorum
R = Recessed
S = Sick
V = Vacant position

STAFF:

Fred Couceyro
Parks & Recreation Director

Tricia Spencer
Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

- Joan Valdes called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.
- Approval of Board minutes from November 20, 2009 meeting – Joan Valdes – A motion was made by Emilio Monte to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously.
- City Projects Update

Rotary Park – The wall is finished; people have been using the park.

Riviera Park – Construction is moving along.

Biltmore Tennis Center – A permanent seating structure is being built near the practice courts; there will also be a storage space behind the bleachers.

Salvadore Park – A new project will be starting on February 1. Two new metal playgrounds will be installed, there will be an artificial turf, the bathrooms will be fixed and the racquetball court will be repaired. The park is going to have the same look and design and should be done by the end of April.

Venetian Pool – Contractors have started working on the pool.

4. New Business

Renaming of Washington Park – There is a proposal to rename Washington Park. It is a small open space area located in the Golden Gate Subdivision of Coral Gables William Alexander Cooper Park in honor of William Alexander Cooper. Mr. Cooper was the founder and president of the Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association. He was instrumental in placing the “MacFarlene Homestead Subdivision Historic District” on both the Coral Gables Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places; he also served his City as a member of several City Board and Committees. It is going to cost the City \$1200 for the bronze plaque and to rename the park. Packet showing compliance with resolution requirements was presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Joan Valdes to support the renaming of Washington Park in honor of William Alexander Cooper. Motion was approved unanimously.

Land Acquisition – The City is looking into purchasing a property located at 4650 Alhambra Circle; the grant from the County was approved and the City will get a substantial amount of money towards the purchase of this property. It is a 21,000 square foot double lot and the property would be used to build either a passive park or a small playground. The price and agreement will be reviewed by the City Attorney and once that is done, then it will need to be approved by three Boards within the City: The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Economic Development Board and the Property Advisory Board.

Golf Sub-Committee – The Committee consists of Joan Valdes, Martha Serola, Dr. Manny Seage and Jorge Guarch; they are going to be looking at Granada Golf Course and the Biltmore Golf Course.

5. Date and time of next meeting – The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, **February 19th, 2010**. The meeting will start at **8:00 a.m.** and will be held at Riviera Park in the Pavilion located at 6611 Yumuri Street, Coral Gables.

6. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.