

CITY OF CORAL GABLES COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
September 14, 2022

Committee members present:

Connie Crowther, Chair

Diana Arellano

Caroline Blumberg

Derrek Space

Absent:

TJ Villamil

Communications staff:

Martha Pantin, Nicolas Saenz, and Michael Rocha

I. Minutes approved

Diana Arellano made a motion to approve May's minutes. Caroline Blumberg seconded. Unanimously approved.

II. Oral History Project

Michael Rocha recapped the Centennial project of recording people with a history in Coral Gables. He explained that he tries to make each one unique by focusing on a different aspect of Coral Gables based on the perspective of the interviewee mentioning that everyone has their own story for Coral Gables. Rocha showcased Commissioner Kirk Menendez' video that centered around parks.

Martha Pantin told the committee that staff is still gathering people from all over such as Kings Bay and Pine Bay Estates and to please let her know if there are any suggestions. The current list will be sent to the members.

Arellano to follow-up and provide Rocha with a list of online programs for subtitles.

III. Brainstorm Centennial Ideas

Pantin presented Centennial preliminary ideas to be undertaken by Coral Gables organizations and/or city departments. She spoke about the Merrick House Governing Board event 100 Voices and how she would follow-up with them.

Arellano suggested looking at wellness events such as a 5k and have the route be a shape, like a "100" (example below) or have the route have historical significance. Pantin said she would follow up with the Chamber as they organize an annual 5k.

A scavenger hunt was discussed, and Arellano said it would be great to have a Herald Hunt brought to Coral Gables.

Connie Crowther discussed a list of people to add to the written histories and shared a printed list of ideas to Martha Pantin. Crowther specifically recommended Clarisse Cooper. Committee to advise if there are others they believe should be included.

Pantin advised that the Communications Committee would be updated on an ongoing basis on the Centennial project and that she will be meeting with other city boards and committees and departments to get input.

Committee discussed the 90th anniversary event at the Venetian Pool and it was determined best to organize series of inclusive community events versus one event that would entail fund raising although a laser show on day of anniversary could be the signature event.



IV. Communications Committee Annual Report

Annual Report had been shared previously with committee members. Arellano motioned to approve. Blumberg seconded. It passed unanimously.

V. Committee Goals, Future Meetings, and Other Business

Crowther said the emphasis on the centennial is a good direction for the board and agreed with Pantin that the most important aspect of the Centennial is that it builds community.

Pantin congratulated Crowther for being awarded the PRSA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Crowther brought up a final remark that the passport office in Coral Gables is great and efficient.

With no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.