

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
 Minutes of October 23, 2009 meeting  
 Coral Gables Youth Center  
 405 University Drive

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

Robin Burr  
 Venetian Aquatic Club

1. Joan Valdes called the meeting to order at 8:13 a.m.
2. Chairperson J. Valdes welcomed new appointee, Valerie Gelnovatch to the Board.
3. Approval of Board minutes from September 18, 2009 meeting – Joan Valdes – A motion was made by Martha Serola to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously.

4. Robin Burr, a member of the Venetian Aquatic Club introduced herself to the Board. The Venetian Aquatic Club is a volunteer group that teaches swimming classes to kids at the Venetian Pool. 30 members of the club are instructors and 70 are assistant instructors.

5. Update on Board Items to City Commission – Staff

F. Couceyro said that Margaret Hill is retiring due to some budgetary restraints; her last day is on November 01<sup>st</sup>, when the pool closes for renovation. The Parks and Recreation department has been doing a lot of reorganization with its staff because of the budget. We have 30 full-time positions within the department; we lost 6 of those positions. The Youth Center will be closed 3 hours earlier on Saturdays.

6. City Projects Update

Rotary Park – There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony soon. E-mails will be sent out inviting Board members.

Riviera Park – Construction is moving along. The entire park is being redone. It is going to be a non-traditional playground with big climbing rocks and animal statues. There will also be a gazebo in the middle, a mulch patch, fitness trail with outdoor fitness machines on each corner. There was a meeting with the Riviera Day School and the neighbors; a proposal has been written that will limit the school to use the park for two days and pay an hourly rate. It will also be a 3 month pilot program.

Sunrise Park – Bids came in. The shades are up. The trellis and two playground structures are being redone; the basketball courts are going to be fixed. FPL is going to reroute the power line around the park.

Biltmore Tennis Center – Has not gone out to bid as yet. Bleachers are going to be fixed and underneath the bleachers there is going to be a storage space. Decaying infrastructure of building has been fixed. The project has been paid with county funds. There is still money remaining, next step is to fix the lighting on the courts.

Venetian Pool – Renovation for Phase II will begin after November 1<sup>st</sup>. Phase II consists of fixing the chlorination system, expansion joints, pool wall and deck surface. The re-opening date is TBA.

Country Club Prado – Pool has been emptied to work on drainage project.

7. Discussion on Park of the Month

There was no discussion on park of the month. Next month's Park of the Month is Phillip's Park.

8. New Business

A motion was made by Emilio Monte to elect Elena Pesant for the Parks and Recreation Youth Advisory Board. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

9. Date and time of next meeting – The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, **November 13, 2009**. The meeting will start at **8:00 a.m.** and will be held in the **Conference Room at the Youth Center**, located at 405 University Drive.
10. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.