

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO.**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD FOR THE PLACEMENT AND WORDING OF A HISTORIC MARKER BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION OF CORAL GABLES FOR THE “WHITE WAY LIGHTS”

**WHEREAS**, in 1926, 500 ornamental bases were commissioned for the “White Way” streetlights in Coral Gables; and

**WHEREAS**, the light posts were designed by Phineas Paist and Denman Fink; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1981, the ornamental “White Way” streetlights were designated a Local Historic Landmark by the City of Coral Gables; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 15, 2015 representatives of the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables (HPACG) appeared before the Historic Preservation Board with a proposed marker concerning these lights; and

**WHEREAS**, the Historic Preservation Board unanimously (7-0) passed a motion to recommend to the Coral Gables City Commission the placement of a historic marker in the vicinity of the Coral Gables Library bearing the wording proposed by the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables; and

**WHEREAS**, the HPACG will pay for the marker: and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission wishes to approve the marker.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are hereby adopted by reference thereto and incorporated herein as if fully set forth in this section.

**SECTION 2.** That a historic marker will be placed in the vicinity of the Coral Gables Library.

**SECTION 3.** That the following wording is approved for the above referenced marker:

Marker Front:

### The White Way Lights

In 1926, 500 ornamental bases were commissioned for the “White Way” streetlights in Coral Gables. They were designed by Phineas Paist and Denman Fink. At each of the four sides of the base, there is a head in relief symbolic of the life of Coral Gables. Each of these faces represents a different character. “Art and Architecture” and “Horticultural Planting” reliefs are of beautiful women with their appropriate symbolic implements. “Labor” and “Industry” reliefs are represented by men with strong features, also with symbolic implements and tools.

Alternating between the heads are the Spanish castle and rampant lion, both important symbols used often in Coral Gables designs. Encircling the top of the base, in raised letters are the words, “Coral Gables—The Miami Riviera, Fla.”. The posts are of cast iron construction and were originally painted verdigris green. Today, the posts and bases are painted silver. These decorative bases are located in the Riviera Section along University Drive and Riviera Drive from Granada Boulevard past Ponce de Leon Boulevard. Presently, only 78 of the ornamental bases remain in Coral Gables.

In 1981, the ornamental “White Way” streetlights were designated a City Historic Landmark Site.

Marker Back:

### The White Way Lights

90 years ago, Coral Gables city planners were influenced by the aesthetics of the City Beautiful Movement popular in the 1900s. The effect of the “White Way” lighting was for increased beauty as well as to illuminate the streets and sidewalks in the business and residential sections of Coral Gables.

Partners in the restoration, maintenance, and preservation of the “White Way” streetlights are the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables—a nonprofit whose mission is to promote the understanding and importance of historic resources—and the City of Coral Gables.

### 2015

#### **Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables • City of Coral Gables Commission**

Karelia Martinez Carbonell, President

Jane Maranos, Vice President

Ann Goodman, Treasurer

Dolly MacIntyre, Secretary

Lisa Bennett, Board Member

Sallye Jude, Board Member

Ellen Uguccioni, Honorary Member

James Cason, Mayor

Frank C. Quesada, Vice Mayor

Commissioners:

Patricia Keon

Vincent Lago

Jeannett Slesnick

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, City Manager

#### **In Appreciation**

Connie and Tim Crowther

The Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board and Historic Resources Department

#### **In Memoriam**

Sarah Lykes Anderson

**SECTION 3.** That this resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS EIGHTH DAY OF DECEMBER, A.D., 2015.

JIM CASON  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

WALTER J. FOEMAN  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRAIG E. LEEN  
CITY ATTORNEY