



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
July 7, 2009

ITEM TITLE:

Presentation of 2009/2010 Dr. Donald R. Hopkins / Mr. William A. Cooper Scholarship award to Leigh A. Cooper Peabody

SUMMARY:

In 1990, per Resolution 27315, the City of Coral Gables established a scholarship program to be given annually to a black graduate student who is a resident of the City Beautiful. Originally named the "Mayor Emeritus Scholarship Program," it was later renamed "The Donald R. Hopkins Scholarship / William A. Cooper." Dr. Hopkins was a former resident of Coral Gables. He received his BS from Morehouse College, his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Chicago, and his Master of Public Health degree from Harvard. Dr. Hopkins is the Associate Executive Director of the Carter Center where he directs all health programs. Prior to joining the Carter Center in 1987, he served as Deputy Director (1984-1987) and Acting Director (1985) of the Centers for Disease Control. Dr. Hopkins was instrumental in the eradication of the Guinea Worm disease and the control of River Blindness worldwide.

Mr. William A. Cooper was born in 1929 in Miami, FL. He attended George Washington Carver High School and St. Augustine College in Raleigh, NC. He was one of the founders and served as president of the Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association of Coral Gables, which represents the historically black neighborhoods in Coral Gables. He served as president of the Citizens Crime Watch Committee and was a member of the Code Enforcement Board. Mr. Cooper was very active in his church, serving in many capacities and was a strong family man and an advocate for community safety and improvements.

Each year, the Donald R. Hopkins / William A. Cooper Scholarship Committee meet to review candidates with the assistance of college advisors from Coral Gables Senior High School and City Staff. Committee members include Ms. Edwina Prime, Mr. Dan Finora, and former Commissioner Jim Barker, a driving force behind the formation of the scholarship. The award may be renewed for up to three additional years provided all requirements and conditions of the scholarship award continue to be satisfied and documented. This year the Committee has elected to present the award to Leigh A. Cooper Peabody.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: (If Applicable)

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
1.		001-7000-519.8300	
Total:	\$3,000.00	APPROVED BY:	<i>Donald A. Peabody</i>

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney (If Applicable)	City Manager
	<i>Eliza Gudewitz</i>	<i>Pat Hobenos</i>

ATTACHMENT(S):

Leigh A. Cooper-Peabody Application



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