

CORAL GABLES

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday | August 8, 2018 | 3:00 p.m.

PAB MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTING ENTITY
	'18	'18	'18	'18	'18	'18	'18	'18	'18	'17	'17	'17	
Lisa Bennett, Chair								P					Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Jane Maranos, Vice Chair								P					Mayor Raúl J. Valdés-Fauli
Samuel Boldrick								P					Commissioner Michael Mena
Sherry Shu Zhang								P					City Commission as a Whole
Myra Silverstein								P					City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
Charlotte Smiley								P					Commissioner Patricia Keon
Colette Worm								P					Commissioner Vince Lago

A = Absent E = Excused Absence P = Present X = No Meeting Ph = Present by Phone - =Former Board Member

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Leonard Roberts, Interim Director, Economic Development Department

Mariana Price, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department

Alejandro Alvarez, Coral Gables Library

Will Runyan, Coral Gables Library

Meeting Motion Summary:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2018 meeting passed unanimously.

A motion to defer the decision to approve a Memorial Bench for the Butterfly Garden proposed by the Coral Gables Community Foundation until the next meeting passed unanimously.

Ms. Bennett brought the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

1. Review of June meeting minutes (Action)

Ms. Maranos submitted a correction to the minutes which Ms. Price read aloud for the board. Ms. Zhang then made a motion to approve the minutes, which Ms. Silverstein seconded, and which passed unanimously.

2. Vote for Chair and Vice Chair (Action)

Board members held discussion over who to nominate as the next chair and vice chair of the board given that Ms. Maranos and Ms. Bennett will have reached their term limits next May. Ms. Smiley made a motion for Ms. Zhang to be the new Chair and for Ms. Silverstein to be the new Vice Chair, which Ms. Worm seconded and which passed unanimously.

3. Memorial Bench for Library Butterfly Garden (Action)

Mr. Roberts told the board that the Coral Gables Community Foundation was interested in placing a bench in the butterfly garden. Ms. Bennett noted that the CGCF already has at least four benches in the butterfly garden. Board members reviewed photos taken of the benches

currently located around the butterfly garden at the library. There was a general consensus that benches dedicated to individuals should bear some type of connection to the library. Ms. Zhang requested if a garden plan already existed that it be brought before the board for review. Ms. Zhang made a motion to defer the decision to the next meeting to give time for board members to make their own assessment on whether or not to approve of the CGCF's Memorial Bench. Ms. Maranos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. City staff agreed to find out if there is an existing garden plan for the library.

4. Update from County Meeting on Library Renovations (Discussion)

Mr. Roberts reviewed the topics discussed at the County Meeting on Library Renovations. Coral Gables is working on the exterior, which is based off of an interlocal agreement with the County in which the City would be reimbursed for those expenses, which includes the fountain and exterior unique tile replacement. In terms of the interior design plans for the renovation, Mr. Roberts reassured the board that the message from the public was clear, and that the designs for the children's room will be revisited. All comments left by the public will be reviewed and taken into consideration. Next step is to hire a designer, who will also be given the comments from the public which will provide direction for the new design.

The County told Mr. Roberts that they should have an update for the next Library Advisory Board meeting. Ms. Bennett recalled comments made by Ms. Kathleen Slesnick at the meeting, echoing her disappointed sentiments that the meeting to discuss the library renovations was not mentioned anywhere on the County library website. They also had hoped those notices would be placed on the e-News newsletter. Mr. Alvarez explained that each branch has a monthly flyer listing all the major events throughout the system. Email blasts are also sent out but require receiver approval and the Miami-Dade County Public Library System has a Facebook page, which displays information on branch activities. Ms. Bennett reinforced the importance that the City itself should promote information about the Coral Gables Library.

5. Other City Business

Mr. Roberts reviewed with the board that the School & Community Relations Committee will be hosting their next meeting on October 19th at the Coral Gables Library. Also, Family Day on Aragon is hosted at the Cinema every second Saturday from 10 am – 5pm. Ms. Silverstein, also a board member of the Coral Gables Art Cinema, shared with the board postcards for the different movie programs throughout the summer as well as from September through December.

Ms. Bennett shared with the board an email about the Biltmore Hotel getting rid of furniture and suggested that perhaps the library would be interested. Mr. Alvarez responded that there was very little room available in the library to accept more furniture and Mr. Roberts added that while a lot of the furniture appears to be historic, it in fact is not. Board members asked Mr. Roberts for an update of the LaSalle Building, to which he answered that the property owners have agreed to begin negotiations once they have been granted a demolition permit (for which there are still some required items pending).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mariana Price, Administrative Assistant - Economic Development Dept.