

City of Coral Gables

*405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 11, 2025

9:15 AM

Sister Cities Conference Room - Coral Gables Museum

Coral Gables Merrick House Governing Board

The Merrick House Governing Board will be holding its Regular Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, commencing at 9:15 am EST.

Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83315833193>.

In addition, a dedicated phone line will be available so that any individual who does not wish (or is unable) to use Zoom may listen to and participate in the meeting.

Meeting ID: 833 1583 3193

One tap mobile

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Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/koHpBvqy7305-461-6769> (Coral Gables local number)

To speak to the Merrick House Governing Board on an Agenda Item, please “Raise your Hand” or send a message to one of the meeting hosts using the Zoom Platform.

If you joined the meeting via telephone, you can “Raise your hand” by pressing *9.

The public may also comment on an item on the agenda using the City’s already-established e-comment function which may be found on the City’s website at:

(www.coralgables.com/commissionmeetings) once the meeting’s agenda is published

or by sending an email to cityclerk@coralgables.com prior to the start of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Board Members Attending:

Carmen Cason
Bonnie Seipp
Mary Beth Burke
Genevieve Orr

Board Members Absent:

Alexis Ehrenhaft

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. [25-9493](#) Merrick House Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2025

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board members reviewed the mission statement of the Merrick House:

The mission of the Coral Gables Merrick House is to preserve, interpret and promote the house and grounds as a historic house museum that represents the home environment of the Solomon and Althea Merrick family for the benefit of the public. This will be accomplished with the highest standards of the museum profession that our resources allow.

2. This board will vote for the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Board-As-A Whole positions at the next meeting. Staff waiting to hear back on applications received.

3. Junior League of Miami - Thrift Shop Pop-up, January 24, 2026

Maddie Nguyen, Junior League representative, (also Merrick House Docent & City of Coral Gables Employee)

Amy van den Dijssel, Junior League of Miami Centennial Chairperson

This organization is female driven, not-for-profit where they focus on community involvement, leadership, professional development also celebrating their centennial. They are celebrating their centennial through several events throughout the city.

Pop-Up Thrift Shop - Saturday, January 26, 2026, Noon - 5:00 PM

-Want to use the veranda for the event

-Use outside rest room for clothing changes

-Attendees will be registered for the event

-Tours of Merrick House to continue on this day

A motion was made by Board member Seipp, seconded by Board member Orr, to allow the Junior League of Miami event at the Merrick House on January 24, 2026. This motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Board member Seipp, seconded by Board member Cason, to waive the rental fee for the Junior league of Miami event at the Merrick House on January 24, 2026. This motion passed unanimously.

4. Vintage Coral Market - Carolina Castro

At the March 15, 2025, event Ms. Castro received great comments from the community. 250 people visited the event. Goals moving forward for this event is to have a bi-monthly market. She will continue to have local vendors, targeting Coral Gables residents. Will also continue to collaborate with organizations such as the Junior League of Miami, Coral Gables Garden Club and Villagers which were present at the march 15th event.

Board members agreed to October 4, 2025, as the next Vintage Market date. Also decided is March 22, 2026, as the following date for this event.

A motion was made by Board member Seipp, seconded by Board member Cason, to allow the Vintage Market event by Carolina Castro at the Merrick House on October 4, 2025, rain date of October 18, 2025, and March 22, 2026, rain date of March 28, 2026. This motion passed unanimously.

5. [25-9147](#) Merrick House Activity Report - May 2025

6. [25-9406](#) Merrick House Activity Report - June 2025

7. [25-9492](#) Merrick House Activity Report - July 2025

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Upcoming Event Dates:

10/04/2025 - Vintage Coral Market

10/25/2025 - Fall Harvest Event

11/09/2025 - Veterans Day Concert

12/07/2025 - Holiday Event

01/24/2026 - Junior League of Miami Pop-up Event

February - 100 Voices

03/22/2026 - Vintage Coral Market

April - End of centennial event with city hall employees (cake)

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

IX. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE