

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES/UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2012, 5:00 p.m.
Coral Gables Police Department Community Meeting Room
Coral Gables, Florida**

MEMBERS:	N	D	J	F	M	A	MJ	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY:
Belinda Sime*	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	Mayor Jim Cason
Alberto Menendez*	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Ricardo Munarriz	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	Comm. Maria Anderson
Richard Leslie*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Olga Saizaboritoria Lago*	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	Comm. Frank C. Quesada
Sydney Josepher	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	City Manager, Patrick G. Salerno
Dr. Patricia A. Whitely	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	Vice President, Student Affairs, UM
Rudy Fernandez	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	Vice President, Community Relations, UM
David Rivero	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	Director of Public Safety, UM
Brenden Kollar	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	Inter-fraternity Council President, UM
Nawara Alawa*	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	Student Government President, UM

March 5, 2012 Meeting: Gilbert Arias, UM Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs represented Dr. Patricia A. Whitely, and Kenneth Esman represented Student Government President Nawara Alawa at the meeting.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Virginia Goizueta, Building and Zoning Department

- A = Absent**
- E = Excused**
- P = Present**
- + = No Meeting**
- * = New Member**
- = Resigned Member**

GUESTS: Mindy Herris, UM Community Relations Office; Alicia Corral, UM Campus Planner; J.C. Del Valle, UM Assistant Vice President for Government & Community Relations.

Recording and Minutes Preparation: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Chief Rivero at 5:07 p.m. Board members introduced themselves for the record.

II. MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Esman made a motion to excuse the absence of newly-appointed member, Richard Leslie. Mr. Josepher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

Mr. Esman nominated Chief Rivero as Committee Chair. Mr. Kollar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Menendez self-nominated to serve as Committee Vice Chair. Mr. Kollar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 5, 2012:**

Mr. Esman made a motion to approve the March 5, 2012 minutes as presented. Mr. Kollar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. **UPDATE ON U.M. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVES:**

Ms. Corral presented the following report:

- **Development Agreement (DA):** The annual DA report was submitted to the City in August. **Mobility Plan (MP):** The 2012 MP was submitted in June 2012 and accepted by the City. Over the last 20 years, traffic in the residential areas has decreased.
- **Construction: Student Activities Center:** Construction will be completed in mid-2013. **Pavia Garage:** A two-story addition to the Pavia Garage was completed in June and is fully operational. The addition increased parking by 300 spaces. **Internal Road:** The first phase of the internal road, from the new entrance at Miller Drive to the south end of the arboretum, will be completed by end of Fall semester. The project includes a complete upgrade to the parking lots and internal connectivity with extensive landscaping and lighting, all to Code. **Miller Drive Intersection:** The roundabout at Miller Drive has been completed and is operational. The project includes wider sidewalks along the San Amaro campus edge with new trees, shrubs and a wall. Median improvements will continue between Miller Circle and Memorial Drive as part of a separate project. The intersection of South Alhambra and Miller Drive is under City review for determination on its configuration, and is pending a decision whether to install stop signs or kidney islands, and the University will complete those improvements according to the City's decision. Final repairs to the circle at Miller Road and San Amaro Drive will be done over a month period with partial closures of driving lanes.
- **Under Construction: Student Activity Center (SAC):** The new building will house a new Ratshkeller, ground floor campus retail and space for over 260 student organizations. Construction will be completed summer 2013 and should be open for Fall 2013. **Hecht Athletic Center (Schwartz Center for Athletic Excellence):** This project includes a new addition adjacent to the existing Hecht building. Construction will be completed by August 2013. **Art Building:** This building was designated as a local historic landmark, and is in process of being completely renovated for academic uses, expected to be completed by Summer 2013. **Cox Science Addition:** This project is under construction and will be completed in early 2013. It also includes renovations to the plaza in front of the building.
- **Upcoming Projects: Music School Addition:** The current buildings at the Frost School of Music (Bertha Foster, Broby Green Rehearsal Hall, Volpe and Pick Library) were determined to be historically significant by the City's Historical Resources Department, which required an amendment to the Master Plan to preserve the buildings. **UHealth Center/Relocation of Dickinson Drive** projects are also pending.
- **Master Plan:** A new design manual, which has not be updated since 1992, is being proposed.

Ms. Herris presented the following event schedules:

- **Beaux Arts Festival:** This very successful event, annually held in January, is next scheduled for January 19 and 20, 2013.
- **Festival Miami:** October 2 to November 4, 2012
- **Year of Humanities:** Temple Grandin lecture at BankUnited Center; January 31, 2013 for public and February 1, 2013 as seminar for UM students.
- **Ring Theatre:** The new season will begin October 17th with the production of *Boing Boing*.
- **Herbert Wellness Center:** A variety of community classes are available, including cooking and meditation.
- **Lowe Art Museum:** Ongoing exhibitions
- **Cosford Screenings:** Free screening Thursday, October 11, 2012: *A Hole in the Head* (1959), starring Frank Sinatra and directed by Frank Capra, followed by a discussion.
- **2012 Homecoming:** Friday, October 19, 2012: parade, fireworks, boat burning; open to the public.

VI. UPDATE/VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS: GILBERT ARIAS FOR DR. PATRICIA WHITELEY

Mr. Arias reported efforts to generate student voter registration (over 3,000 today), well-received visits by both presidential candidates, and plans for other campaign speakers. He distributed an updated guide brochure on the Coral Gables and South Miami communities as encouragement for students to be good neighbors.

VII. UPDATE/PRESIDENT OF THE INTER FRATERNITY COUNCIL: BRENDEN KOLLAR

- In Spring 2012, the Greek community raised over \$30,000 in one week for United Cerebral Palsy, the highest fundraising success in the school's history.
- In the current semester, the Greek community has raised an additional \$30,000 for other philanthropic efforts, i.e., Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the ALS Association.
- A new fraternity has been added to the campus (2013 Spring semester) and a new sorority (2013 Fall semester).

Mr. Kollar thanked the Committee for the opportunity to serve as a member.

VIII. UPDATE/PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT: KENNETH ESMAN FOR NAWARA ALAWA

- With administrative support, the Safe Ride program was launched. Safe Ride is a free shuttle that provides students with a safe method of traveling throughout the campus late at night.
- During homecoming, a U-Statue will be unveiled on campus (Friday, October 12th).
- The University is bringing Buried Life Speakers to campus as part of the semi-annual speaker series.
- In the last election, a referendum created the Energy Conservation Organization, a new organization involved in decreasing the campus carbon footprint by implementing campus eco-friendly initiatives. Kill-A-Watt will begin in Spring 2013, a competition between all the residential colleges to lower their carbon footprint.
- Category 5, the University's spirit-programming board, brought 80 students to the recent Notre Dame football game in Chicago.

IX. SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 4, 2013

X. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR:

- **Metrorail Pedestrian Overpass:** Mr. Del Valle reported that the design of the overpass is 60% complete.
- **2012 Annual Committee Report:** Ms. Goizueta called for approval of the previously-distributed annual Committee report. **Mr. Esman made a motion to approve the report as presented. Mr. Menendez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Committee Financial Statement Submissions:** Ms. Goizueta reported that financial statement forms were sent to Committee members, and spoke of the open question about whether students were exempt and the anticipated response from the County's Department of Ethics. (Note: On October 2, 2012, an advisory opinion was received from County Staff Attorney Victoria Frigo, the relevant portion of which is as follows: Financial disclosure requirements apply to students serving on the Community Relations Committee if the students are 18 years of age or older. If the students qualify as "dependent students" claimed by their parents on IRS filings, the students should file the County Source of Income Statement indicating their personal income, if any, or "zero" if none. Students are not required to submit information about their parents' finances.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Goizueta
Secretary to the City of Coral Gables/University of Miami Community Relations Committee