

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 12, 2024

8:30 AM

2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL

Police and Fire Headquarters, Community Meeting Room

School Community Relations Committee

Chairperson Winnie Chang
Vice Chairperson Sandy Dimitris
Board Member Erin Anding
Board Member Joshua Goodman
Board Member Ana Lam
Board Member Andrew Nadal
Board Member Cecilia D. Slesnick
Board Member Sharon Watson

The School Community Relations Committee will be holding its Regular Meeting on Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, commencing at 8:30 a.m. While the Committee is back to live in-person meetings, members of the public may participate in person but are also able to participate via the Zoom platform. Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom at (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83893614478>). 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 by dialing: 305-461-6769 Meeting ID: 838 9361 4478.

To speak 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.

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CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:36 a.m.

ROLL/QUORUM CALL

Present: 7 - Board Member Anding, Board Member Lam, Chairperson Chang, Board Member Goodman, Vice Chairperson Dimitris, Board Member Nadal and Board Member Slesnick

Excused: 1 - Board Member Watson

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The School Community Relations Committee Minutes of Dec. 15, 2023.

Attachments: [Cover Memo](#)
[Draft SCRC Minutes - Dec. 15](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Anding, seconded by Board Member Slesnick, that this matter be approved. The motion passed by the following vote.

Yeas: 7 - Board Member Anding, Board Member Lam, Chairperson Chang, Board Member Goodman, Vice Chairperson Dimitris, Board Member Nadal and Board Member Slesnick

Excused: 1 - Board Member Watson

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

April Jones CG Preparatory PTSA: Thanked the SCRC members for presenting the resolution at the Dec. 12 Commission Meeting. She is happy something was approved and stated that we need to stay on top of it.

Estelle Lockhart: Also, gave thanks on the resolution as well. She is hoping for continued brainstorming sessions.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Update (Facilitated by Mari Tere Rojas, School Board Chair)

School Board Chair Rojas was unable to attend the meeting. Chief of Staff Marlene Hernandez presented and read into the record the proffered items by the School Chair at the upcoming School Board Meeting.

Chairperson Chang asked if there would be a post meeting summary available to the public on item H-5. Chief of Staff Hernandez stated that she would double check and provide an update to the SCRC at a later time.

Board Member Slesnick stated that the SCRC needs additional drilled down information on how the proffered items affect the Coral Gables schools.

Sponsored Board Items:

Attachments: [H3 - SCHOOL BOARD CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE MIAMIDA](#)
[H5 - SEMI-ANNUAL PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY SESSIONS WIT](#)
[B-4 - REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 24-002 OF THE SCHOOL B](#)
[H4 - SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF MARCH 2024 AS YOUTH ARTS IN](#)

D. OLD BUSINESS

D-1 Update of History Tours (Facilitated by Ana Lam, Board Member)

Board Member Lam provided an update and stated she met with Sam Joseph to gather more background information on the original program. She reached out to Elvis Fuentes at the Museum to schedule a meeting and further discuss. This is currently being worked on.

Chairperson Chang reiterated that when she last spoke with the museum they said that what was offered on the website is all they can provide. The program might need to take a more creative direction.

E. ONGOING BUSINESS

E-1 General Updates

Acting Staff Liaison Lopez provided the following updates:

- Liaison Lopez is working on scheduling the Sunshine Meeting that was requested at the Commission Meeting between the School Board Chair and Commissioners. Chairperson Chang encouraged the rest of the SCRC members to keep up to date with the Commission discussion and attend the meetings.
- Liaison Lopez will be out of town during the next SCRC meeting on Feb. 16. Anamy Garcia from the City Manager's office will run the meeting in her place.
- Liaison Lopez mentioned that the following schools were recognized in the Miami Herald's Miami-Dade Favorites contest. Sunset Elementary School received Gold 2023 Winner of Miami-Dade Favorites - Elementary School. George Washington Carver Middle School received Bronze - Middle School category.

Board Member Goodman stated that he would like clarification as to how the current data provided on the number of residents within schools is comprised.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Slesnick mentioned the Farmers Market and Beaux Arts Festival.

F-1 Next SCRC Meeting - Friday, Feb. 16, 2024 | 8:30 a.m.

Questions/Comments: srcr@coralgables.com

F-2 Join a local PTA or subscribe to their newsletters using the following links:

F-3 American Sign Language Class - Thursdays, 6 - 7 p.m.

F-4 Pinewood Cemetery Cleanup Event - Friday, Jan. 19 | 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

F-5 Music at McBride Plaza - Every other Thursday | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

F-6 First Fridays in the Gables - Friday, Feb. 2

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

NOTE

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