

CORAL GABLES PINWOOD CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
Development Services
427 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	J 24	F 24	M 24	A 24	M 24	J 24	J 24	A 24	S 24	O 24	N 24	D 24	APPOINTED BY
Jorge Arguelles	E	-	-	P	-	-	E	-	-	P		P	Mayor Vince Lago
Lorrie Martin	P	-	-	P	-	-	P	-	-	P		P	Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Denise West Vice Chairperson	P	-	-	P	-	-	A	-	-	#		P	Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
John Swain	P	-	-	P	-	-	P	-	-	P		P	Commissioner Melissa Castro
Maurice Habif	P	-	-	E	-	-	P	-	-	A		A	Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Richard Bennett Chairperson	P	-	-	E	-	-	P	-	-	P		P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
P. Tristan Bourgoignie	P	-	-	P	-	-	E	-	-	P		P	Board-as-a-Whole

LEGEND: A = Absent; P = Present; E = Excused; * = New Member; ^ = Resigned Member.
 - = No Meeting; # = Late meeting arrival.

STAFF: Anna Pernas, Historic Preservation Officer; Kara Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer, Deena Bell-Llewelyn, Assistant Director of Public Works for Landscape Services

RECORDING SECRETARY/PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Yvelisse Bonilla, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

This meeting was called to order at 2:17 P.M.

In attendance were Mr. Bourgoignie, Ms. Martin, Ms. West, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Swain, and Mr. Arguelles.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mr. Bourgoignie, seconded by Mr. Arguelles, to approve the minutes for the July 1, 2024, Pinewood Cemetery Advisory Board meeting. This motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Florida International University Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design Final Presentation Review

- Linda Chamorro, Assistant Professor – College of Architecture Art & Communications at Florida International University
 - 10 students in their first year of a 3-year Master's in Landscape Architecture program

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Ms. Pernas stated this meeting is to review the 6 proposals being presented by the FIU Assistant Professor and her students. The city's budget process starts in April. The Public Works team are getting proposals to get estimates to remove the 60+ Australian pines. There is no funding in place.

A midterm review was conducted in mid-November by Historical Resources, Public Works and the Public Art Manager. Comments were provided to the students. The students have taken the comments into consideration for their final presentations today.

Ms. Bell-Llewelyn stated that today we will listen to the student presentation. Public Works steps in to obtain proposals for the tree removal with outside vendors so that we have set numbers to work with during next year's budget season. Public Works will be working closely with Historical Resources. The proposals will be in phases, and the presentation should come as a full package.

1. The Pinewood Cemetery Advisory Board has been coordinating with Professor Linda Chamorro and her students on proposals for the restoration and activation of the Pinewood Cemetery. Students worked throughout the semester on documenting the site and coming up with a strategic plan for the future of the cemetery. Students worked as individuals and as pairs to come up with different proposals that were presented to the Board as a part of their final presentations. The Board members provided comments and feedback on each proposal.
2. The Board showed interest in implementing many of the students' suggestions and requested that the presentations be forwarded to them for further review. Staff will coordinate with Professor Chamorro to acquire the materials.

3:30 PM – Board Member Arguelles left the meeting

5:10 PM – Board Member Swain left the meeting

OLD BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 2025 Meeting Dates: The meeting dates still need to be finalized and submitted to the City Clerk's Office. As soon as the meeting dates are complete, staff will circulate them to the Board.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS: None

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY: None

ADJOURNMENT:

This meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Pernas

Historic Preservation Officer