

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2023

8:00 AM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89943974263>

Youth Center - Conference Room

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Chairperson Monica Segura
Vice Chairperson Carlos Rua
Board Member Nicolas Cabrera
Board Member Ellen C. Chasens
Board Member Laura Hernandez
Board Member Bruce Lecure
Board Member Jennifer A. Marques
Board Member Ruben Rodriguez

CALL TO ORDER

Began at 8:06am

THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING. DID NOT MEET QUORUM

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chairperson Segura, Board Member Chasens, Board Member Marques and Board Member Rodriguez

Absent: 4 - Vice Chairperson Rua, Board Member Hernandez, Board Member Lecure and Board Member Cabrera

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

NO QUORUM

[23-5608](#) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of February 9, 2023.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. General Updates

Country Club Divisional Director Zuriarrain brought up getting ready for summer. He advised the board members about the country club's advisory board's date to appoint in June. Board Member Ruben inquired about Country Club updates. Mitch shared with the board members that on Saturday, April 22nd, the pool will officially open since they passed all inspections. In addition, he sold eight more memberships at the club. Member's mixture will take place at the end of every Thursday of the month. He described that, as part of the membership at the country club, they will have activities for the members.

Board Chair Monica Segura and Board Member Ellen Chasen requested more information regarding membership and fees at the country club. The CG Country Club website was shared and shown to the board members while discussing its different memberships, fees, weekly passes for guests and discount at venues for members.

The Board Chair asked about Le Parc Café. What is the situation with Le Parc? Mitch advised that Le Parc is under a contract negotiation with their legal team and our legal team. To work with their contract.

b. Special Events

Divisional Director briefly highlighted our upcoming special events, which include Spring Fiesta Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on May 5th, An Afternoon Cinema "Casablanca" sponsored by Commissioner Menendez on May 6th, the Movies under the Gables Moonlight on April 21st, the Gables Family Literacy Festival on May 20th, the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29th, and the Spectacular Gables Fourth Fireworks Celebration on July 4th.

c. CIP Updates

The CG Country Club roof and pool are done. Structural repair projects will repair the overall towers and over the park and the athletic club.

The Country Club newsletter will come out in a week or two with future information about the club.

Chairperson Segura asked if they could add a medium crosswalk. Mitch shared they tried to update the crosswalk area at Granada. But that project is with the county, and that is something that needs to be passed along to the higher-ups for assistance.

Board member Ruben requested if there could be any signage, a flashing crosswalk, or a memo for drivers to make them aware of pedestrians crossing the streets at the golf course. Mitch said we will share with Director Couceyro.

Board Chair Monica Segura also mentioned construction cones at Salvadore Park, an issue with bees in the park where the children are, and no soap in the restroom at the park. Mitch said that Director Couceyro believes that an increase in trash and food will attract the bees and will notify our park's team to empty.

Continuing with CIP updates, Mitch spoke about Venetian Pool. We expect the concession stand to start construction in September, as well as the pool bottom.

The Parks team had a Capital Improvement workshop.

Upcoming community meetings in Blue Road open space, Toledo and Alava open space, Phillips Park, Cooper Park, and Moore Park are in May.

Someone vandalized Pierce Park. A camera system will be installed soon. Mitch mentioned to the board members he would like the Coral Gables community to be our eyes and ears with any concerns.

Granada Golf pro-shop is moving along with the project.

Merrick Park pathway is currently done. ADA-compliant benches will be purchased soon

NEW BUSINESS

The next item under new business is the dog park in Majorca. Mitch received a lot of negative feedback during the ice cream event at the Country Club. The feedback was that it would draw a lot of traffic to the area. Board Member Jennifer shared her thoughts about the park she frequently visits with her daughter. According to her daughters' words, it's the baby park, and she is interested to see what the city will do with the park. According to the feedback Mitch received, people would like to know where they can take their fur babies and children in the same park location.

Board member Ellen Chasen asked about Salvadore Park's construction and its plan for the park. Her concern is behind courts seven, eight, and possibly six: are they going to have a black screen or divider to separate? Mitch mentioned that when he was part of the project, he understood they were going to place a black screen.

Board member Jennifer asked if it was possible to limit the weight range at Majorca Park. Mitch advised they are looking at rules for the park and that Director Couceyro will be notified and will have an answer by the next board meeting.

Board Member Jennifer Marquez would like to know if it is possible to limit the weight range at Majorca Park. Staff Susan will advise Director Couceyro and will bring it up at the next board meeting.

Chairperson Monica would like to know about James T. Barker Park. She mentioned that dogs are being unleashed at the park and the back gate is being locked. Can the back gate be unlocked? Mitch asked Susan to remind Director Couceyro and advise the board members at the next meeting.

Monica brought up the columns at the country club being tilted. Mitch explained the columns are part of the plan and that the parks department needs to look at them. Susan will notify Director Couceyro.

Mitch mentioned they will assign some parking spots for the members at the Country Club. The reason is to give the members the chance to valet for free during venue events at the club.

a. Potential Dog Park at Majorca Park - April 26, 2023 Community Meeting

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

a. Board Appointments

b. Upcoming Meeting Date - May 11th, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE