

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of October 24, 2008 meeting
Coral Gables Youth Center
405 University Drive

MEMBERS		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Joan I. Valdes		R	P	P	P									Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Darby Plummer		R	P	P	P									Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Robin Symons		R	P	P	P									Commissioner Maria Anderson
Haydee Polo		R	P	P	A									Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Marty Steinberger		R	P	P	P									Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Martha Serola		R	P	P	P									City Manager David Brown
Manny Seage		R	P	P	A									Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

A = Absent
C = Cancelled
E = Excused absence
P = Present
N = No quorum
R = Recessed
S = Sick

STAFF:

Fred Couceyro
Parks & Recreation Director

Norma-Milena Gavarrete
Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

1. Darby Plummer called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.
2. Approval of Board minutes from October 24, 2008 meeting – Darby Plummer - The minutes of the October 24, 2008 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.
3. Updates on Board items to City Commission – Fred Couceyro

- Riviera Park - Fred Couceyro said that at Commission meeting the agreement on the construction and the construction of the gazebo had passed. All of the criteria set by the Board will be followed. The next step is Riviera Park construction phase - residents have approved the design and the street improvements have been done and the rest is in the Bid process. Money is through the bond and a State Grant was awarded for \$135 thousand. Now waiting on the bid process and then proceed with the construction. In terms of the proposed park use by the school, Fred will write up a proposed agreement and continue to go through the process.
- Holiday Decorations – Fred Couceyro said that the Holiday Decorations will go to commission on Tuesday. The Budget was approved for these projects which consist of Lighting and holiday decorations on Miracle Mile and downtown Coral Gables.

5. City Projects Update – Fred Couceyro

- Shading – Fred Couceyro said it was approved and vendor is working on the building permit.
- Youth Center – Fred Couceyro said all projects are completed and have received great reception.
- Salvadore Park – Fred Couceyro said it is going on and the first set of courts should be done by the end of the year.
- Venetian Pool – Fred Couceyro said that the initial bid was awarded and will be heard at next Commission meeting.
- Sunrise Park – Fred Couceyro said no update has been made.

4. Old Business – Darby Plummer:

- DYL Project: - Fred Couceyro said that is still in review permit process and the land swap has not come back to us. The land swap will be an issue because that has to be agreed upon and several factors have to be considered in terms of the worth of the land.

5. New Business – Fred Couceyro

- Skate Parks: Fred said that in some literature he has read, some skate parks have been closing down. Reasons for this have been varied – some are financial, some are safety issues, and some have been due to the unruliness of participants including vandalism and graffiti. He said this is all something to consider as the Board moves forward in the future and considers a skate park for Nat Winokur Park.

Date and time of next meeting – The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, **November 20th, 2008**. The meeting will start at **8:00 a.m.** and will be held in the **Conference Room at the Youth Center**, located at 405 University Drive.
No **Park of the Month** was scheduled at this time.

6. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.