

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES**  
**LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
 Minutes of Meeting, December 6, 2018  
 Youth Center Conference Room

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	
Ana Martin-Lavielle	-	P	P	E	E	P	-	-	P	E	P	P	Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli
Bonita Norman	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	Comm. Patricia Keon
Lucy Reinhardt	-	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	E	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Barbara Perez	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Elizabeth Parnes	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	Comm. Michael Mena
Jose Garrigo	-	P	P	P	E	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Robert Berman	-	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	E	P	Board as a Whole

**STAFF:**

Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Landscape Architect  
 Ayliin Hernandez, Landscape Services, Recording Secretary

A = Absent  
 P = Present  
 E = Excused

**GUESTS:**

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**OPEN MEETING:** The Chair, Barbara Perez, opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m., the roll was taken and a quorum was present. **A motion was made to “Approve the minutes of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LANDSCAPE AWARD NOMINATIONS:** Each member should submit five nominations. Photographs of the nominated landscapes can be included. Residential and commercial properties can be nominated.

**FARMER’S MARKET EVENT:** The event will be held on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn will give the presentation. The board inquired on the name tags and the sign. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn will speak with Norma Gavarrete. The Communications Request Form was sent to Public Affairs. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn will ask Public Affairs to advertise from December 2018 to January 2019, if possible.

**ARBOR DAY EVENT:** Ms. Bell-Llewellyn advised a meeting with the Principal of Carver Elementary School has been scheduled for Friday, December 7, 2018. A follow-up meeting will also be scheduled.

**ROYAL POINCIANA FIESTA:** The Tropical Flowering Tree Society requested the city’s assistance. Assistance will be provided with the advertisement. The Tropical Flowering Tree Society will forward the materials to Public Affairs. Ms. Norman mentioned this is one of the oldest events held in Miami and that Coral Gables has the largest amount of Royal Poinciana trees.

**UPDATE ON MISCELLANEOUS CITY PROJECTS:**

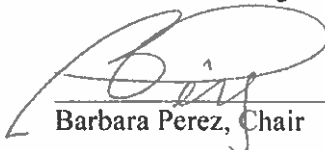
HISTORIC ENTRANCES: Ms. Bell-Llewellyn mentioned 3 of 7 entrances are landscaped. Balboa Plaza had a grand opening. The large flower sculpture at North Greenway Dr. and Segovia St is being landscaped. There are many other walls and entrances in the city. Discussion developed on the fountains. They are historic structures and the leaves are clogging the systems. The City is hiring a fountain/pool specialist for their maintenance.

MERRICK HOUSE: The Grand Opening is on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. City staff handled the landscape design and installation. The Garden Club assisted with Althea's Garden. The Garden Club also provided the Christmas decorations inside the home.

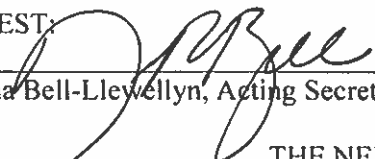
DISCUSSION: On behalf of the Director of UM Gifford Arboretum. Steve Pearson, Mr. Garrigo invited the board to the Annual Tour and Picnic at 10:30 am on Saturday, December 8, 2018. An inquiry was made on the landscape of the parking lot by Valencia Ave. and LeJeune Rd. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn advised there is a pending development proposal. A consultant will be hired for the design of Ponce Park. The scope of the work will include the surrounding streetscapes and sidewalks. It will be major urban design project. The perimeter of the Court House and the Post Office needs the landscape improved. The Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, December 7th, 2018. Landscape improvements for Merrick Park will begin next month. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn mentioned the Cassia tree at the south end of the park needs to be replaced. She encouraged the board to recommend a replacement tree. Ms. Perez will contact Pure Beauty Farms to request a list of the plants that will be donated. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn will contact the Legal Department to ensure the paperwork is prepared. The plants can be used at Merrick Park, the historic entrances and medians. City Manager Mr. Iglesias met with Mr. Garrigo. During their conversation the Manager expressed appreciation for the board's participation. Discussion developed on the maintenance of Giralda Plaza. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn advised a company was hired to maintain the walkway. The City Arborist is monitoring the tree damage at Giralda Plaza. The board expressed concern over the need to incorporate practicality as well as aesthetically when reviewing future projects. Hiring experienced local talent was also pointed out. **A motion was made to, "Recommend that the City incorporate practicality as well as aesthetically when reviewing projects. The board would like the City to take into consideration the maintenance of the hardscape materials and the endurance. Equal importance should be applied to retaining local talent; this will ensure local accountability. The board would like to review future projects prior to final approval."** The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously. The board was encouraged to participate in the online survey for the sanitation service.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVED:

  
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Barbara Perez, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Acting Secretary

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019, 8:30 A.M.**  
YOUTH CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM, 405 UNIVERSITY DR, CORAL GABLES, FL