Ileana Ros-Lehtinen Former Member of Congress

December 12, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm thrilled to hear that there is a proposal to name one of Coral Gables' many lovely parks after Jim Barker, a much revered public servant who worked for so many years to improve the lives of the residents he so faithfully served.

I have had the pleasure and honor of working with Jim on so many projects throughout my decades of public service and I always found Jim to be accessible, honest and hard working.

Jim embodies old fashioned values that remind us of what it means to be a patriotic American who truly wants the best for our neighborhoods, our city, our county, our state and our nation.

Coral Gables is known internationally as a first class city full of compassionate residents and when I think of the best of Coral Gables, the picture of Jim Barker pops up.

I sincerely hope that the Commission gives this proposal the serious consideration that it deserves so that we can properly honor an outstanding Coral Gables resident.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Member of Congress (1989-2019)