

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2026

8:30 AM

City Hall, Commission Chambers

Mayor's Citizens Advisory Council

*Chairperson Sergio Leymarie
Vice Chairperson Mary Snow
Board Member Alexander Bucelo
Board Member Rudford Hamon
Board Member Jeffrey Kurzner
Board Member Sean McGrover
Board Member Arnold Weil*

TO JOIN VIA ZOOM:**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting started at 8:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Board Member Bucelo, Chairperson Leymarie, Vice Chairperson Snow, Board Member Kurzner, Board Member Hamon and Board Member McGrover

Absent: 1 - Board Member Weil

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Kurzner motions, Snow seconds.

MEMBERS SHARE INPUT FROM RESIDENTS

Vice Chairperson Snow

- North Gables: Genoa Street residents have raised concerns regarding cars speeding in the neighborhood.
- City staff was notified, and data is now being collected on this street with the goal of potentially installing a speed table.

Chairperson Leymarie

- Ponce median project is underway and residents are satisfied.

UPDATES FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Chairperson Leymarie

- BID Discussion: Chair provided a recap of Economic Development Director Belkys Perez' presentation to the council during the November meeting, meeting with the consulting firm - Progressive Urban Management Associates (PUMA) regarding the business improvement district, and meeting with the Mayor on ways to enliven the city's downtown and suggestions for city street lights and communication with FPL.
- Advised board members that he would forward an email from PUMA regarding community meetings for the BID.

Mayor's Office update:

- Street light issues discussed during the meeting with the Mayor have been sent to city staff and they will explore having staff do nighttime inspections of the lights as well as ways to streamline outage reporting.
- Additionally city staff will be working with FPL to modify their communications process with the goal of decreasing response times and standardizing bulb color throughout the city.

Board members discussed potential ways the Mayor's council can help the city's Economic Development department improve the city's downtown.

Board member McGrover

- Crypto: Board member McGrover provided a recap of his meeting with city staff where the determination made by the City Manager's office was to find ways to ensure that a crypto wallet would provide a revenue for the city and that staff would explore examples of how other cities have been able to implement crypto as a form of payment.

Mayor's Office:

- Provided a follow up note from the crypto meeting with staff; city staff research has been unable to confirm if any cities in Miami-Dade accept crypto except Miami Lakes.
- A meeting has been scheduled for the end of January to go over options/findings once staff has discussed this matter internally.

Staff Update:

Updates on other pending matters

- Meeting with city staff to discuss the crosswalk at Coral Gables Senior High School was rescheduled to Jan 30.
- Street improvements have begun on Bird Road and LeJeune, including improvements to the crosswalk at Altara Ave.
- Per the Mayor's direction, City staff has been working with the Hyatt Hotel to re-landscape the traffic median at Alhambra and Douglas (it is the Hyatt's responsibility per their development agreement). There is still a small amount of work to be done, but the entrance looks much better.
- The City Manager's office, landscape division and code enforcement performed a sweep of the downtown notifying businesses of violations ahead of the World Cup later this year. The intent is to have businesses comply with the City's cleanliness and beautification standards (pressure clean sidewalks, remove litter, etc.).

UPDATES ON CITY INITIATIVES

Mayor's Strategic Plan Priorities for 2026

Vice chairperson Snow:

- Border signage: Pending responses from Economic Development and Public Works departments in reference to improved signage for the city's new parking initiative, but working on it.
- Potential improvements to the Freebie service
- Potential for an eruv (Jewish symbolic boundary) to be placed around the city's borders.
- Would like to see involvement in coastal clean ups offered by city

Board member Hamon:

- Engagement opportunity for new residents, work with city staff to create

routine events/mixers for new and long time residents to meet; discussed the potential to begin during the city's Farmer's Market Saturdays.

- Suggested doing something for the City's mayors in coordination with President's Day

Board member Bucelo:

- Agreed to handle communications with city staff for the new resident engagement opportunities.

Priority 5:

Vice chairperson Snow:

- Potential for Matt Anderson, the city's Assistant Director of Sustainability, to join the next Mayor's council meeting to discuss ways the council can best promote priority 5.

Board member Hamon:

- Potential for a city composting program, to be discussed with Matt Anderson.

ADJOURNMENT

Leymarie motions and Kurzner seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

NOTES