

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 3, 2022

4:00 PM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86149844627>

Adult Activity Center

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

Chairperson James "Jim" Berlin

Vice Chairperson Celia Suarez

Board Member Jean H. Connelly

Board Member Margaret Groves

Board Member Kelley Schild

Board Member Julian Sevillano

Board Member Richard Thurer

Board Member Hendrick Woods

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began at 4:03pm

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Chairperson Berlin, Board Member Connelly, Board Member Sevillano, Board Member Thurer and Board Member Woods

Excused: 2 - Vice Mayor Suarez and Board Member Schild

a. Roll Call and Approval of Absences

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABSENCE OF KELLY SCHILD AND CELIA SUAREZ WAS MADE BY JULIAN SEVILLANO AND WAS SECONDED BY JEAN CONNELLY. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

A MOTION TO APPROVE LAST MEETINGS MINUTES WAS MADE BY JULIAN SEVILLANO AND WAS SECONDED BY RICHARD THURER. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SUPERVIOR'S REPORT

a. General Updates

AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson began her report by discussing a parking resolution that just passed through the City commission confirming that the City will cover parking for the AAC indefinitely. Katherine then went on to inform the board that this will now make the process of paying for members parking much easier in the future.

Katherine then went on to discuss legislation to prohibit smoking in all City of Coral Gables parks and that this will go for a reading before the commission on November 9th at 10:30am. Katherine noted that this legislation is something that Board Member Richard Thurer has been a big advocate for. Board Chairperson James "Jim" Berlin inquired as to whether this legislation will include cigars as well, Administrative Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain informed him that while it will include vaping but the legislation cannot prohibit smoking of unfiltered cigars. Board Member Richard Thurer then inquired as to the way this legislation will be enforced, Administrative Operations Supervisors Mitchell Zuriarrain went on to inform him that while there is no defined punishment or fine the supervisors of the parks or facilities do reserve the right to expel individuals failing to comply with the requirements. Board Member Richard Thurer then went on to inquire about chewing tobacco in City parks and potentially supporting legislation for this in the future.

AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson then went on to discuss staffing updates, noting there are interviews scheduled to fill the part time maintenance position. Katherine then informed the board that Clinique, one of the GSRs at the AAC has officially resigned and HR has already provided a group of applications, so interviews to fill this position should be scheduled soon.

Katherine then began going over the upcoming Art Show, reminding the board that it will be held on Friday November 18th, she informed the board that there have already been over 80 applications submitted and that registration is still open. Katherine then went over how the classes starting Thursday November 17th will be cancelled starting at 12:15pm and that all classes for Friday November 18th have been cancelled. Katherine then discussed her plan to invite the board to judge the artwork the night of November 17th at around 5pm.

Katherine then went on to discuss the upcoming Afternoon at the Cinema for November, noting that this month they will be showing "Blazing Saddles" and that although this is the last of the movie series for 2022 being sponsored by Commission Kirk Menendez, there have been discussions to bring a new season in the year 2023.

Katherine then discussed the upcoming Holiday Luncheon that will take place on December 16th at 1pm, Katherine then extended an invite to the board noting that the event will be complimentary for as a thank you to all of the board members. Katherine did note that there will also be a DJ and photo booth at the holiday luncheon and that she is looking at once again having the catered lunch be Italian themed since it was so popular at last year's holiday luncheon. Board Member Richard Thurer then inquired as to whether Board Member can bring guests to the Holiday Luncheon,

Katherine informed him that they are all welcome to bring guests, however their guests will not be complimentary noting the prices for the luncheon are \$13.75 for non-residents and \$11.00 for residents.

Katherine then discussed new programming beginning with a Gentle Yoga class that is set to begin on Fridays in November at 11:15, noting that there are already 11 members registered for the class. Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin then inquired as to who would be teaching the upcoming Gentle Yoga class, Katherine informed him that her name is Alexandra Torres and that she is a trained physical therapist and yoga instructor with UM who came highly recommended by one of the centers past instructors.

Katherine then began discussing the upcoming technology classes scheduled to begin Mondays from 2-3:30pm in November to go over smart phones, tablets, and apps. Katherin then began talking about an upcoming dental health presentation with Dr. Aldama a local dentist scheduled to take place the second Wednesday of every month at 11:30am.

Katherine then began discussing the expansion of facility hours into Saturday mornings originally planned to begin in December now being postponed to January due to availability with the upcoming holiday season. Katherine noted that this means the Saturday classes will also now be pushed to December including Zumba and a Stretching and Toning class. Katherine then went on to discuss other upcoming classes scheduled to being in January, from Aqua Zumba Wednesday afternoons to Pickleball lessons Tuesday afternoons.

Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin then inquired as to whether there is a need for more pickleball courts throughout the City and whether those may have been part of the “big plans” Commissioner Kirk Menendez mentioned at the recent town hall. Assistant Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain then discussed that there are plans to bring more pickleball courts to the City and that the plans for Phillips Park may have been what Commissioner Menendez was referring to in particular.

Katherine then ended by mentioning that the AAC has partnered with the Police Athletic League and “be a Santa to a Senior”, where there will be a donation box and ornaments to accept gift donations for seniors who are alone this holiday season.

b. Special Events

Assistant Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain began by discussing an upcoming program at the Lamar Louise Curry Park where there will be Qigong Flow classes offered for free on Saturdays from 10-11am.

Mitchell then moved into discussing the upcoming tree lighting on December 2nd informing the board that holiday park construction is underway and that the park should be completed well before the tree lighting ceremony.

Mitchell then discussed the hot chocolate with Santa events scheduled to take place at holiday park, informing the board that there will be multiple dates for this event, and they will only be open to residents. Mitchell discussed the new Christmas tree will be displayed in front of City Hall, stating that it is expected to take some time to complete the construction of the tree, however it is expected to be a much quicker process in future years. Board Chairperson James "Jim" Berlin then inquired as to whether the tree will be up through New Year's, in which Mitchell informed him it would remain standing throughout the Holiday season.

c. Administrative Updates

Mitchell then went on to talk about the upcoming community meeting on December 6th to discuss the upcoming plans for the Granada golf course restaurant and pro shop that will take place at the Police and Fire Headquarters and over zoom. Mitchell told the board that he will make sure they get sent the zoom invite once it is created so they may attend if they would like to, and that the board will be shown the design ideas in the December board meeting. Mitchell then discussed the ongoing projects, stating that the work has already begun on the pro shop and that the restaurant side is due to begin soon. Board Member Jean Connelly then inquired as to whether there would still be lockers available following the renovations, Mitchell informed her that not every aspect of the renovation been decided yet.

Administrative Assistant Sarah Espino then informed the board that she has reached out to Mayor Lago's office inviting him to this board meeting and he was unable to attend, so she has extended the invite for him to attend the upcoming board meeting for the month of December and have been placed tentatively on his calendar however things may change as the meeting approaches.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Board Chairperson James "Jim" Berlin inquired about the "Sexy" programs discussed in the last October board meeting, to which AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson said that she will look at possibly having some speakers come out to give presentations, noting the possibility of these programs to bring in new members to the center.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board Member Julian Sevillano then said that he would like to recognize the YC for how well run the voting services were this past election, stating that it was extremely easy and quick to vote. Administrative Assistant Sarah Espino and Assistant Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain then went on to inform the board that while the recognition is very much appreciated that the election was run by the county.

Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin then inquired as to whether the Coral Gables Library would be offering passport or driver’s license services following the completion of the renovations. AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson informed him that the passport office will still be the only location to get your passport created, and that this building is also due to be renovated to some degree in the near future. Assistant Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain then informed the board that the license services is the mobile DMV that is now taking place at the YC.

Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin then went on to compliment Administrative Assistant Sarah Espino for sending all of the updated information on the board members terms. Sarah then went on to discuss the term limits, stating that you can remain on the board for four consecutive two year terms. Once, that term limit is reached a member can attempt to join another board take sometime away and then be eligible to join the board once again.

Board Member Hendrick Woods then inquired as to the judging of the Art Show and why the board was asked to be the judges for the show. AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson then went on to discuss how she reached out to at least five separate art galleries for judges and did not receive any interest in judging the show. Katherine stated that she feels comfortable with the board judging the art show because the pieces are anonymous with the names being unknown to the board and believes that the board brings multiple perspectives to the judgment of the art. Administrative Assistant Sarah Espino then brings up the idea of viewer choices, and Assistant Operations Supervisor Mitchell Zuriarrain brings up the idea of having an expert judge alongside the board, Katherine says that she is willing to look into both of these ideas for future shows.

Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin asks for information regarding the Patrick Alexander book reading scheduled for November 9th, AAC Supervisor Katherine Anderson then discussed the upcoming event. Stating that it will be at 6pm and that there will be light food and refreshments

served.

Board Chairperson James “Jim” Berlin then brought up the idea of sending questions intended for Mayor Lagos ahead of the December Advisory Board meeting so they can already have a set agenda and discussion topics before he attends the meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Next Meeting is set for December 1st at 4:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:09pm

NOTE