

# SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of January 4, 2010 meeting  
Coral Gables Youth Center

MEMBERS	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Catherine Fahringer	P	P	P	P	P	P						Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Norma Lemberg	P	P	P	P	P	E						Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Marilyn Bruno				P	P	P						Comm. Maria Anderson
Dr. William Schiff	P	P	P	P	P	P						Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Frank Lynn	P	P	P	P	P	P						Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Evelyn Budde	P	P	E	P	P	P						City Manager Patrick G. Salerno
Carol Brock	P	P	E	P	P	P						Senior Citizens Advisory Board

A = Absent

C = Cancelled

E = Excused absence

P = Present

N = No quorum

R = Recessed

S = Sick

V = Vacant Position

## STAFF:

Fred Couceyro  
Parks & Recreation Director

Paul Hunt  
Senior Services Coordinator

Anastasia Smith  
Recreation Specialist-Senior Services

Tricia Spencer  
Recording Secretary

## GUESTS:

Marli Lutz  
Executive Director, Coral Gables @ Home

1. Chairperson Carol Brock called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. C. Brock welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the New Year; she also thanked Fred Couceyro and Marli Lutz of Coral Gables @ Home for attending. It was also noted that regular attendee Katie Kreter was absent.
3. Approval of Board minutes from December 7, 2009 – A motion was made by Catherine Fahringer and seconded by Dr. William Schiff to approve the amended meeting minutes of December 7, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

There followed a discussion of inclusion of amendments to minutes before they were sent in final form to the Commissioners for their review. Staff will implement the most appropriate way to initiate the suggestions.

4. Approval of Excused Absences – C. Brock said that she heard from Norma Lemberg who is still very ill but at home from the hospital and recuperating; N. Lemberg's absence was excused.
5. Senior Services Divisional Reports:
  - a. **Report on Senior Services – Paul Hunt**

The Pilot Taxi Discount Coupon Program has been extended until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010; the program has sold just over 50 sets coupons. Current coupon holders will be allowed to use their coupons to the extended date, and new persons, 65+, will be allowed to still purchase coupons which must be used by the extended time also. In terms of taxi usage, in a 2006 AARP report, 98% of senior respondents indicated that they did not use a taxi within the past two weeks; this lack of desire for taxi usage could be one of the reasons why all of the coupons have not sold as yet. P. Hunt distributed copies of the telephone survey that is being done by Florida International University graduate students.

**b. Senior Center Programs – Anastasia Smith**

There were 96 participants at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Senior Holiday Party; in attendance were Fred Couceyro, Luanne Santangelo, Assistant City Manager Dona Spain, former Mayor Dorothy Thomson, Belkys Perez from Public Affairs, and Board members, Evelyn Budde, Carol Brock and Marilyn Bruno. We honored volunteers at the party and special recognition to the late Richard Essen; volunteer Teresita Mestre dressed up as Santa Claus and gave out candy canes. There were 10 participants who helped wrap toys for the CGFD. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we went on a trip to the Actors' Playhouse to see "Another Night Before Christmas"; there were 22 participants. Teresita Mestre will be leading our new Beginner's French class. The Center was closed from December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010.

6. Old Business
  - a. **Annual Luncheon Update**

Dr. W. Schiff spoke with Adam Rosenbloom to confirm that the Palace, Inc. will be the prime sponsor by providing the meal for the upcoming annual luncheon. The Board asked Dr. Schiff to confirm with Mr. Rosenbloom that he knows this is a "sit-down" dinner.

F. Couceyro offered the gymnasium at the Youth Center to hold the annual luncheon; it can hold up to 250 people and valet parking can be arranged but must be paid for by sponsorship.

C. Fahringer advised that, as requested at the December meeting, she had contacted two of last year's luncheon sponsors for assistance again this year. Zeke Guilford, represent

the Alma Jennings Foundation, acknowledged the request and indicated he would be back in touch with her on the item. There has been no response as yet from The Bank of Coral Gables.

The Board unanimously agreed that the dates for the annual luncheon should be either on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup> or March 25<sup>th</sup>.

C. Brock suggested to Dr. W. Schiff when he speaks to A. Rosenbloom to find out what date works for him, if he will be providing staff to serve the dinner, and what supplies that he will be including in the catering. If he cannot furnish tables, chairs, linens, etc., does he have a source that we might contact. Also Dr. Schiff was to let Mr. Rosenbloom know that other sponsors would be needed to pay for additional costs of the luncheon. The Palace would be the prime sponsor by providing the meal.

A. Smith needs to find out about the community calendar to make sure that there are no other events coinciding with the date(s) for the annual luncheon.

#### **b. Speaker for Annual Luncheon**

The Board suggested that Max Rothman, President of the Alliance for Aging be the guest speaker for the annual luncheon.

M. Bruno will ask Mr. Rothman if he will be available to speak on the prospective dates for the annual luncheon.

#### **7. New Business**

No new business was discussed.

#### **8. Open Items**

Marli Lutz distributed the Winter issue of Connections, the newsletter for the Coral Gables; Community Foundation. Coral Gables@Home will be having their first annual fundraiser and silent auction titled, "Dishing It Up!" Tour of Kitchens starting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. The self guided Tour of Kitchens will be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. starting at the Old Spanish Village.

#### **9. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board will be held on **Monday, February 1, 2010** at 5:00 p.m. at the Coral Gables Youth Center at 405 University Drive.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.