

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
Economic Development Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 6, 2008
Development Department Office Conference Room
95 Merrick Way, Suite 450, Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS:	M	A	M	M	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	APPOINTED BY:
															(2) (3)
Richard DeWitt	P*	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Ray Zomerfeld	P	E	P	P*	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	A	P	Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Gladys Diaz Jourdain								P	P	X	P	E	P	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Dr. Al Smith	P	P	E	E	E	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
James Casey	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	E	P	P*	A	E	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers

*Present via telephone.

(2)(3) - Emergency meetings per Procurement Code

STAFF:

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, Development Director
 Jessica Wotherspoon, Business Development Specialist

A = Absent

E = Excused Absence

P = Present

X = No Meeting

() = Special Meetings

Chair Richard DeWitt called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. A quorum was reached.

I. Approval of January 16, 2008 Board Minutes:

Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2008 meeting as presented.
Ms. Jourdain seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Recognition of Cindy Dorrel, Employee of the Month, December 2007:

Dr. Smith made a motion to commend Cindy Dorrel for her selection as the City of Coral Gables Employee of the Month for December 2007. Ms. Jourdain seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. Meeting Attendance:

Mr. Zomerfeld made a motion to excuse meeting attendance by Mr. Casey. Dr. Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. Review of Art Cinema Lease:

Ms. Rivenbark explained that the sidewalk program, originally scheduled for discussion with Public Works Director Alberto Delgado, would be deferred as Mr. Delgado was not able to attend.

In anticipation of the Board's upcoming task to review the Procurement Code, Ms. Rivenbark reviewed the draft lease for Coral Gables Cinemateque. After discussing numerous aspects of the project, the Board was asked to further review details of the lease for comment and a vote at the next Board meeting. Ms. Rivenbark advised that, in accordance with a provision of the Procurement Code, three boards would review the process, and explained issues that would be covered in that review.

V. Updates and Discussion Items:

- A. Senior Housing Update:** Ms. Rivenbark reported that The Palace at Coral Gables completed the City's regulatory processes, that site planning was underway and a side discussion emerged related to robotic parking. As a result, Ms. Wotherspoon coordinated a panel of experts to generally address robotic parking and public parking applications. The workshop increased the Commission's knowledge about these issues and they realized that robotic parking works when there is continuity of space usage, but occasional and varied usage does not work well. Experts indicated that robotic parking is ideally suited for 100 or more vehicle spaces, working well with small sites and high land costs. Ms. Jourdain commented that robotic parking could work well for multi-residential uses, with the key to success being supportive software.
- B. Parking/City Greening Discussion:** Mr. DeWitt requested updates on modification of the zoning code to permit after hours parking in private garages, and an update on resolutions passed at the last meeting regarding City greening. The resolutions will be presented at the next City Commission meeting. These items will be added to the next agenda. Mr. DeWitt suggested also including discussion about giving proposed green buildings a priority throughout City processes.
- C. Education Compact Update:** Ms. Rivenbark reported that the School Board head of the Education Compact presented an update to the City Commission. The School Community Relations Committee is developing questions and priorities on projects in which they will be involved. Ms. Wotherspoon attended a meeting on February 5, and reported that the primary topic was expansion of the after-school tutoring program, which appeared to have no barriers to implementation. The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce was asked to help incentivize (through local businesses) the students to participate.
- D. Miracle Mile Sidewalks:** Mr. Delgado will attend the next Board meeting to fully update the topic. Ms. Rivenbark advised that Mr. Delgado's office is now forwarding two options, one for parallel parking and one for angled parking. County monies are not available as hoped.

VI. Additional Business:

William Holly will be asked to revisit the Board at the April meeting.

Mr. Zomerfeld congratulated the Development Department for receiving multiple employee recognitions, and cited these honors as a reflection of departmental management and operating philosophy.

Ms. Wotherspoon commented that the quarterly business report was now available in Excel, which gives her the ability to extract information. The Beacon Council Global Economic Impact Study is available in PDF format.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 5, 2008, 8:00 a.m. Development Office

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Swanson-Rivenbark
Development Director
Secretary to the Economic Development Board