

## CORAL GABLES MERRICK HOUSE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2010, 8:45 a.m.

Coral Gables Merrick House

907 Coral Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	O*	N*	D	COMMISSIONERS
	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Barbara Reese	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Margaret Steele	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Susan Stanton	E	E	E	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	A	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Michelle Moskowitz	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Laura Yusko	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	E	P	E	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Joanne Meagher	P	P	A	P	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Sondra Space	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	City Manager

### STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Kara N. Kautz, Historic Preservation Officer

A = Absent

P = Present

- = No Meeting

E = Excused

\* = Special Meeting

^ = New Member

GUEST: Margaret Meeks

Meeting record / minutes preparation: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

---

Vice Chair Sondra Space called the meeting to order at 8:52 a.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 8, 2010:

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2010 special Board meeting.

### MEETING ATTENDANCE:

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to excuse the meeting absence of Ms. Yusko.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala:** On behalf of the Board, Ms. Space thanked Ms. Reese for her outstanding and comprehensive leadership that propelled the success of the November 12<sup>th</sup> Gala. Ms. Reese expressed appreciation for the work and efforts of Board members, staff and volunteers, citing teamwork and attention to detail as key success factors. Numerous letters and e-mails received from Gala attendees further attested to its success, and funds raised from event underwriting, raffles, advertising, ticket sales and donations netted nearly \$29,000. An article about the Gala will appear in the *Miami Herald*.

Coral Gables Merrick House Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 6, 2010

Continued

**Holiday Open House – Saturday, December 11, 2010, 2 to 5 p.m.:** Details, features and responsibilities were discussed as well as scheduled entertainers and the Mayor's welcome to guests. Ms. Kautz reviewed issues to be managed by City staff, and Board members determined their volunteer set up and event schedules.

**Solomon Merrick Painting Unveiling:** Ms. Kautz scheduled the unveiling of Solomon Merrick's painting on Friday, January 21, 2011, the anniversary of Mr. Merrick's birthday. Invitations will be mailed. The event will begin at 5 p.m. on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Merrick Day at Farmers Market:** The date for Merrick Day is set for Saturday, March 5, 2010. After discussing ideas for the event, it was agreed that details would be determined at the next Board meeting.

**HOUSE REPORT:**

Ms. Kautz reported November 2010 House activity as follows:

- Total visitors: 17 adults; 4 seniors; 6 students; 1 child
- Trust fund balance: \$34,542.63.
- House Rental Status: No requests pending. Dade Heritage Trust did not use the house for its November Board meeting.
- Docents: Two docents are ready to begin service in January. Claire Frances Whitehurst will apply to serve as a docent, and Ms. Kautz will continue docent discussion with Jon Arthur.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**House Visitor Opportunities:** A discussion was held about offering additional opportunities for visitors to tour Merrick House, which requires an increase in the volunteer docent corps. Ms. Space will explore the issue with the Junior League, and Board members will consider possible candidates among their personal network. Ms. Meagher will contact a local story teller who gives excellent presentations about historical figures.

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 10, 2011, 8:45 a.m.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara N. Kautz  
Historic Preservation Officer