

# CITY OF CORAL GABLES

## --MEMORANDUM--

**TO:** HONORABLE  
MEMBERS OF THE  
CITY COMMISSION

**FROM:**   
WALTER J. FOEMAN  
CITY CLERK

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 8, 2011

**SUBJECT:** CORRESPONDENCE:  
CORAL GABLES MUSEUM

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Please be advised that this office is in receipt of 1 piece of correspondence in connection with the above referenced subject matter involving the Coral Gables Museum. (Agenda Item E-1). Said correspondence is being forwarded to you for inclusion into the public record in connection with same.

WJF/sd

Enclosure

cc: Patrick Salerno, City Manager  
Lourdes Alfonsin, Interim City Attorney

Entered into the  
Public Record during  
the City of Coral Gables  
Commission meeting  
of 2/8/11,  
in connection with  
Agenda Item E-1.

WALTER J. FOEMAN  
City Clerk



Dolly MacIntyre  
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January 27, 2011

The Honorable Wayne Withers  
City of Coral Gables  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Entered into the  
Public Record during  
the City of Coral Gables  
Commission meeting  
of 2/8/11,  
in connection with  
Agenda Item E-1.

**WALTER J. FOEMAN**  
City Clerk

Dear Commissioner Withers:

I have just finished reading an article in *Neighbors* which took my breath away! I refer to the Coral Gables Museum deferral.

I have great respect for David Doheny but feel that his letter was out of line in that apparently no one connected with the Museum was even given a courtesy copy and the letter is based on incomplete or even erroneous information. His call for accreditation will be appropriate when the Museum has had the opportunity to build a track record. An unopened museum can hardly be accredited. The last time Vizcaya went through the accreditation process, it took them three years to accomplish it for a museum which has been in operation for half a century.

The Coral Gables Museum, which has received extensive citizen and philanthropic support, has given the community a number of excellent programs, from a lecture series to a fabulous summer camp program, not to mention the gingerbread competition. It has partnered with Dade Heritage Trust and the Villagers to provide learning opportunities for school children which actually resulted in a book by the children being published. It has many more accomplishments under its belt already. There are great exhibits in the works and many exciting and innovative activities being planned. Lack of support from the elected officials is bewildering and destructive. It is virtually impossible to raise funds or make plans when doubt is cast over the institution.

The newspaper article didn't mention the fact that the Historic Resources Department will be housed on the second floor of the building. This is an important component in the public/private partnership with the City. No one connected with the Museum has any personal gain in mind but only wish to be part of the creation of a great facility to honor a great city. Let us move ahead with civility and good will, knowing that we will come to agreement on the working details.

The future of the Museum is only as limited as our imaginations. Does the commission lack that imagination?

Sincerely,

*Dolly MacIntyre*  
Dolly MacIntyre