

CORAL GABLES SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Meeting Agenda
Friday November 18, 2016

Coral Gables City Hall
1st Floor Conference Room
Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. 24	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	APPOINTED BY
Ruth Martinez	p	P	P	P	-	P		P					Mayor Cason
Mary Snow						P		E					Vice Mayor Quesada
Aileen Ortega	p	P	P	P	-	P		P					Commissioner Keon
Samuel Joseph	p	P	P	P	-	P		P					Commissioner Lago
Greg Blackburn	p	A	E	P	-	P		A					Commissioner Slesnick
Nan Markowitz	p	P	P	P	-	P		P					City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark
	p	P											Commission-as-a-whole

Theresa

Guests: Beatriz (Chamber of Commerce), Jennifer Del Rocher (CARD), Assistant City Attorney Cristina Suarez, Iraida Mendez-Cartaya (MDCPS), Jaque Bentolila (MDCPS)

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
- = No meeting

STAFF:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

GUESTS:

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

The following represents a summary of the items discussed during the Committee meeting.

- **MEETING AGENDA** -

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:32am.

II. ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Mary Snow had an excused absence due to maternity leave and Greg Blackburn had an unexcused absence.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Nan made a motion to approve the October minutes and Ruth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- Coral Gables Prep parking
 - Meter maids still guarding parking lot at Coral Gables Prep.
 - Naomi informed Committee that parking lot is permitted to local businesses but 5-6 parking spaces will be made available to the public.
 - Depending on how that goes, more spaces may be made available in the future.
- Henry S. West Laboratory School “No Homework Policy”
 - Significant decrease in Homework, not truly “No Homework Policy” Sam asks whether data is being captured. Iraidia says ultimate measure is end of the year tests.
 - Theresa is a West Lab parent and feels the policy wasn’t well debated and lacked PTA input. She is not a fan of the policy
- Special Needs Initiative (SNI)
 - The CAO to reached out to N. Miami Police for training City to respond to individuals with autism after shooting incident involving autistic man and caregiver, they accepted the offer.
 - Info forwarded to Cutler Bay re: SNI and SIP upon their request, City staff was copied.
- School improvement projects
 - Sam discussed re-assigning SIP list and accountability measures.
 - Mary Snow will keep “Coral Gables History Tours”
 - “Community Schools Project” already checked off- process in place and access to track at Coral Gables Senior High School and school auditoriums available
 - Sam will keep “Special Needs Initiative”
 - *Theresa Rice will handle “City Beautiful Schools”
 - “Financial Literacy”- even though David is gone can still pursue, Aileen will handle but asked for guidance
 - “Mentorship + Community Service Program” will be handled by Ruth
 - “School libraries” (which are a priority to Mayor Cason and Commissioner Slesnick) will be handled by Nan
 - Greg Blackburn will take the lead on “Community Education”

V. NEW BUSINESS

- Gables Point Plaza
 - Nan wants to know more information about development across the street from Carver Elementary, what are the neighborhood improvements, traffic impacts, and means of ingress/egress.
- Presentation by Don Slesnick III on South Florida Digital Alliance (SFDA)
 - SFDA has put 300-400 computers back into schools last year

- They are working on getting a computer lab at the Youth Center and facilitating programs such as Coding Camps.
- Would like to work with the SCRC on helping to upgrade computers in school libraries and classrooms.
- Sam says would be a good fit for “School Libraries” project just need to be cognizant of school board’s criteria for computer donations.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 am.

The next meeting will take place on December 16, 2016 in the first floor conference room of City Hall.