

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS  
 CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
 WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

<b>MEMBERS</b>	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16	
Sally Baumgartner	P	P	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	James C. Cason
Patricia Sowers	P	P	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Patricia Keon
William Beckham	P	P	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Richard Whittington	P	P	*	*	*	*	E	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	Frank C. Quesada
Marie-Ilene Whitehurst							P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	Jeannette Slesnick

**P – Present**  
**E – Excused Absence**  
**A – Absent**  
**(-) – No Appointment**  
**(\*) – No Meeting**

**STAFF:**

1. Dona M. Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director / ADA and Non-Discrimination Coordinator
2. Lorena Garrido, Public Works Department

**GUEST:**

1. Heidi Johnson-Wright, ADA Coordinator, Internal Services Department (Miami-Dade County)
2. Ernie Martinez, Center for Independent Living (C.I.L.S.F.)

**CITIZEN ADVISORS:**

1. Bonnie Blaire

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ms. Baumgartner called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

**MEETING ABSENCE:** None.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

- **April 6, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Whittington moved to approve the April 6, 2016 meeting minutes. Mr. Beckham second the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:** None.

**BOARD-RELATED COMMISSION ITEMS:** None.

**CITY UPDATE:** None.

**BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Mrs. Baumgartner mentioned that Mr. Martinez (C.I.L.S.F.) wanted to share the obstacles he faced during his journey from the Metrorail to the Youth Center via Coral Gables Trolley. She stated he went as far as Ponce de Leon and his journey on his wheelchair to the Youth Center started there. There's no direct transportation from the Trolley stop at Ponce de Leon and University Drive to the Youth Center. She stated this may be an issue for the (C.I.L.S.F.) and their clients. When Mr. Martinez came into the meeting he explained he exited the Trolley on Ponce de Leon and Miracle Mile, versus University Drive. Therefore his journey was longer than expected. He reiterated that getting their clients and consumers to the Youth Center will be challenging. It was suggested to publish the best routes to the Youth Center. Mrs. Spain mentioned she would reach out to Kevin Kinney, Parking Director, to discuss.

*Mr. Beckham made a motion to direct staff to look into more accessible ways to reach the Youth Center. To evaluate sidewalks and possible trolley stops. Dr. Whittington second the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Mrs. Johnson-Wright suggested it may be a good idea to establish a travel training program to teach the disabled community how to get around in the public transportation system and how to find the most efficient routes. Mr. Martinez agreed this would be a good idea.

Mrs. Baumgartner stated that in today's E-News, the headliner is a story about autisms. She also shared a Miami Herald article.

**PROGRAM:**

*Heidi Johnson-Wright, ADA Coordinator, Internal Services Department (Miami-Dade County)*

Mrs. Johnson-Wright provided a presentation to the Board consisting of a summary of her office's duties with Miami-Dade County. This includes being the ADA department coordinator, provides referrals to different entities, advises the administration, provides staff training and community outreach, provides administrative support to the Commission on Disability Issues (CODI), an official advisory board to the Miami-Dade County Commission. She added Miami-Dade County (MDC) has 2.5 million residents and according to census data, there are over 250,000 residents living disabilities in MDC. In addition, there are over 31,000 users of MDC's Special Transportation Services (STS).

Mrs. Johnson-Wright touched on the Parking Fines Reimbursement Program's process. She mentioned an affidavit is executed by the municipality which is reviewed by MDC and then

funds are provided to the municipally. These funds are to be used according to the criteria stipulated in the signed affidavit.

Mrs. Johnson-Wright suggested for the City's ADA Coordinator to meet with the County and other ADA Coordinators in order to address specific concerns and share information.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Blaire also updated on the American Sign Language (ASL) program to be offered at the Youth Center, as a summer camp. The Center for Independent Living – South Florida will provide ASL instruction and education in the City's 2016 summer camp. The fee for the program will be no more than \$12,000 and it's to be funded with the City's Disability Parking Fines revenues.

*Mr. Beckham made a motion to fund the American Sign Language (ASL) summer camp program with City's Disability Parking Fines revenues. Mrs. Whitehurst second the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, June 1, 2016, 8:00 am to be held at the *Coral Gables Youth Center's 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room.*