

CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS

Minutes of February 6, 2008

Youth Center, Second Floor Conference Room

MEMBERS	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	APPOINTED BY
Linda Scarcell											P	P	Donald D. Slesnick II
Zenaida Fernandez	E	*	P	*	*	*	P	P	P	*	E	E	Maria Anderson
Kelly Sastre	P	*	P	*	*	*	P	P	P	*	P	P	“Ralph” Cabrera, Jr.
Bonnie Blaire	E	*	P	*	*	*	P	P	P	*	P	P	William Kerdyk, Jr.
Deborah Swain	P	*	P	*	*	*	P	P	P	*	P	P	Wayne “Chip” Withers

(*) There were no meetings.

STAFF:

Alberto Delgado, Secretary
Beatrix Falstreau, CPS

A - Absent

P - Present

E - Excused

GUESTS:

None.

Ms. Swain, Chairperson, called meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Board videos search

Mr. Delgado requested Paul at CGTV to locate the videos of the various events held by the Board. Paul had found all of these videos, will put them all together in a complete package including the two fairs in 1999 and 2000, the video involving the commissioners in 2002, the presentation before the workshop held by the Board, as well as include any other items relating to the Disability Board.

ADA Settlement Agreement, Projects

Ms. Mendoza distributed a status report prepared by Denise M. Heekin, the City's legal representative, including a chart outlining all the projects and their status which the City has been working on for the past three years as per the ADA Settlement Agreement. Ms. Mendoza also prepared a list of the projects which are under construction or design right now and the projects which are still in the planning stages. Ms. Heekin's report covered the period of October 1, 2006 through September 2007 at which time a one year extension was granted so the projects have to be finished by October 1, 2008. The City will continue working on the projects.

Mr. Delgado elaborated that the report contains many miscellaneous items requiring a lot of tracking and each one has to be followed up on. Some of them simply require

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submittal of photos to show completion but others will have to be inspected. In the mean time the City has to keep track of every minor item completed, keep record, take a photo for submittal. There is a tremendous amount of work due to the many facilities. Ms. Mendoza further elaborated the photo needs to reflect the dimensions. Ms. Mendoza stated plans are ready and have been already bid out for the Granada Pro-Shop bathrooms, plans are ready to bid out for City Hall Bathrooms and City Hall Ramps and they are working on the plans for Parking Garage #1 and #2, the Venetian Pool, and the plans are ready for Salvadore Tennis. These are the large projects they have been working on since the others have been done through Maintenance.

The projects in the planning stages are Fire Station #3, the sidewalks and streets, and the Off Street Parking Lots.

Mr. Delgado stated the findings against the City were moderate, and the results were relatively favorable because the City had already done a lot of projects relating to ADA. Also, the fact that this Board was in existence helped a great deal. Mr. Delgado outlined what was entailed in the audit by the DOJ.

Board Related Commission Items

None

PROFESSIONAL MEMBER REPORT

Meeting Attendance

Ms. Blaire made motion to excuse Ms. Fernandez due to having to be out of town unexpectedly. Second by Linda Scarcell.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Blaire moved to accept the minutes as written, second by Linda Scarcell, unanimously approved.

Old Business

Liaison Reports

Merrick Educational Center DCAT Team

Ms. Blaire attended another monthly meeting. The FCAT test will be administered starting the end of this month and in March to the children who are disabled and homebound despite the fact that there are some concerns and questions about the children being able to take the test. The Merrick School is moving forward and is hoping that before long there will be some type of exception issued so that the test scores do not

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reflect on Merrick. Ms. Blaire reported they are still working on it and the teachers and administrators are doing an amazing job trying to figure out ways to make the children successful.

Web Portal Project

Ms. Sastre advised there is nothing new to report.

Chicago's Department For Persons With Disabilities

Ms. Sastre discussed Chicago (winner of the national disability award) having an incredible system for persons with disabilities, and outlined her contact with various departments. The City has every possible scenario in place to help persons with disabilities, including a department of 37 members. Ms. Sastre brought one page of their web site. Discussion on job descriptions/requirements which had been sent to Ms. Sastre via email attachment.

Disabled Parking Enforcement

Ms. Blaire stated this issue is on hold.

Newspaper Articles

Ms. Blaire related on an article in Sunday's "Neighbors" section regarding a massage therapist who deals only with persons with disabilities.

New Business

Chairperson and vice chairperson election

Election has been postponed to next meeting so that Ms. Fernandez can participate.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.