

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of Meeting, June 5, 2008
War Memorial Youth Center, Conference Room

MEMBERS	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Barbara Katzen	-	-	P	E	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Jack Elmore	-	-	P	E	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Maricris Longo	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	-	P	P	Maria Anderson
George Blet	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Linda Lawrence	-	-	E	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	-	E	A	Wayne "Chip" Withers
Joanna Lombard	-	-	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	A	Board-As-A-Whole
Robert Parsley	-	-	P	E	P	P	-	P	E	P	-	E	P	David Brown

STAFF:

Daniel Keys, Public Service Director

A = Absent

P = Present

E = Excused

GUESTS:

Donna Box, Coral Gables Garden Club President

RECORDING SECRETARY: Janet Carrasquillo, Public Service

Vice-Chairman, George Blet, opened the meeting at 9:16 a.m. and the roll was taken. Janet Carrasquillo brought to the boards' attention that Barbara Katzen had contacted the Public Service Department requesting an excused absence for this meeting. Members agreed that she should be granted an excused absence. A motion was made to "Approve the minutes from the May 1, 2008 meeting." The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE MASTER PLAN: Dan Keys reported that there were no additions made to the map. He noted that discussions have begun on the streetscape in the Spanish Village area. George Blet inquired as to when the landscaping would begin and Dan Keys noted that a date has not been set. Robert Parsley felt that the landscaping would happen fairly soon, due to the utilities being installed. With the excavation involved in utilities, it would be prudent to install the landscaping at the completion of that project. He estimates about 6 months.

GREENING OF THE GABLES: Dan Keys reported that the idea of planting oaks between the new palms has not yet been approved. Dan noted that the Greening of the Gables committee may also be involved in the Ponce Circle Park development.

SPANISH VILLAGE/PONCE CIRCLE PARK: Maricris Longo expressed her concern regarding the designer of Ponce Circle Park. She indicated that the City should be doing the design process. Dan Keys advised that City staff agrees and has been meeting to guide the process. Robert Parsley noted that there are many people involved in the process of designing Ponce Circle Park and the final approved design will be a result of the process that has begun. He noted also that the process includes any proposed designs being brought before the Landscape Beautification Advisory Board for their comments.

TREE EDUCATION/WEBSITE CONTENT: IT representative, Margarita Cardenas, went through the City website with the board. Members discussed website improvements and she made notes to work on each suggestion/request. Photos of the Beautification Award winning homes will be posted as soon as possible along with additional links to assist webpage viewers to find information regarding landscaping and trees in Coral Gables.

NEW BUSINESS:

Financial Disclosure forms were handed out to board members. Those who were not present, will have forms mailed to them. The forms must be mailed to the City Clerk's office in City Hall.

BOARD ITEM/CITY COMMISSION UPDATE: No new items.

CITY PROJECTS UPDATE: No new items.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

APPROVED:

Joanna Lombard, Chairman

ATTEST:

Daniel Keys, Secretary

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008, 9:15 a.m.
Youth Center Conference Room, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, Florida**