

CORAL GABLES MERRICK HOUSE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2008
Coral Gables Merrick House
907 Coral Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	COMMISSIONERS
Barbara Reese	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	E	P	P	E	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Margaret Steele	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Jany Marchena	^	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Olga Baquero-Lima	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Laura Yusko	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Marie Vacca	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Sondra Space	^	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	City Manager

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Kara Kautz, Historic Preservation Officer

A = Absent

E = Excused

P = Present

*** = Special Meeting**

- = No Quorum

^ = New Member

+ = Resigned

RECORDING SECRETARY: Wanda Clark/Nancy Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Chair Yusko called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 7, 2008:

Ms. Vacca made a motion to approve the April 7, 2008 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved.

Excused Absences:

Ms. Baquero-Lima made a motion to excuse the absences of Barbara Reese and Sondra Space. The motion was approved.

Committee Reports:

There were no reports.

House Report:

Ms. Kautz provided the following report:

- Total visitor attendance at Merrick House since the last board meeting: 34, which included seven (7) seniors utilizing their Golden Passes.
- Trust Fund balance: \$44, 114.73, reflecting payment of \$6,250.00 to the painting conservator
- House rental: DAR monthly meeting with no incidents reported.
- Attempts have been made to schedule time with the conservator to unveil the Solomon Merrick painting. In addition to this, the conservator has been contacted to help choose an antique frame adequate for framing the painting.
- There were no new House use applications to present.

Ms. Kautz also thanked Board members for their support of the Coral Gables Museum “Demolition, Denim & Diamonds” fund raiser event.

Board members discussed how to advertise House use for meetings. Suggestions included communicating with the BID or Chamber of Commerce and including House information in the City email newsletter.

Old Business:

Merrick House Brochures & Signage:

Ms. Kautz reported that quotes were being obtained for the procurement process.

Stanchions:

Ms. Marchena presented Crown Industries as a potential stanchion supplier, with the least expensive stanchion appearing more in keeping with House ambience.

Ms. Marchena made a motion to order one black stanchion from Crown Industries as a sample. The motion was approved.

New Business:

Budget preparation: Board members discussed budget considerations for yearly activities:

- **Holiday Open House** (\$4,950)
- **Fall Decorating** (\$500)
- **Fall Event**, potentially the portrait unveiling in September (\$1,000)
- **Merrick Day – Farmer’s Market** (\$1,000)
- **Spring/Summer Decorating** (\$500)
- **Total = \$7,950**

Spring/Summer decorations: During Board discussion, it was requested that the Public Service Department place more plants in the front urns to make them look fuller and add color.

Discussion Items:

Collections policy: Vice Chair Vacca emphasized that a collections policy was becoming increasingly necessary. Ms. Kautz will distribute the collections policy material to Board members for review and discussion at the next Board meeting.

Items from the Secretary:

No items from the Secretary.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 2, 2008, 8:45 a.m., at Merrick House. There will be no meeting in July; however, meetings will resume on August 4, 2008.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara N. Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer