

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of April 06, 2009 meeting
Coral Gables Youth Center

MEMBERS	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Catherine Fahringer	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P			Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Norma Lemberg	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	E			Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Esther Castiglia	V	E	P	A	E	P	P	P	P			Comm. Maria Anderson
Dr. William Schiff	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Frank Lynn	P	P	P	P	P	E	A	P	P			Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Ginger Jochem	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P			City Manager David Brown
Carol Brock	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			Senior Citizens Advisory Board

A = Absent

C = Cancelled

E = Excused absence

P = Present

N = No quorum

R = Recessed

S = Sick

V = Vacant Position

STAFF:

Luanne Santangelo
Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

Paul Hunt
Senior Services Coordinator

Anastasia Smith
Recreation Specialist-Senior Services

Tricia Spencer
Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

Katie Kreter, resident
Coral Gables

Marilyn Bruno, Ph.D., J.D.
Volunteer for SHINE & AARP Legal
Council for the Elderly

1. Carol Brock called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. Chairperson Carol Brock welcomed our guests Katie Kreter and Marilyn Bruno to the meeting. M. Bruno volunteers every third Friday of the month where she discusses important senior issues such as estate and investment planning and health and wellness issues. The Board thanked M. Bruno for helping seniors.

3. Approval of Board minutes from March 2nd, 2009 – A motion was made by Dr. Schiff and seconded by F. Lynn to approve the amended meeting minutes of March 02nd, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

4. **Senior Services Divisional Reports**

a. Report on Senior Services – Paul Hunt

P. Hunt reported on the Transportation Committee. He said that the bank of Coral Gables was unable to provide the accounting/check services needed.

E. Castiglia said that she may know of a bank, the Intercredit Bank located in Coral Gables, which might be interested in helping the seniors with the taxi services.

b. Senior Center Programs – Anastasia Smith

A. Smith said that they have a new class called Jazz Music Classics and it meets the fourth Friday of every month. The Walking, Choral and Dance groups are all doing well. On Saturday, April 11th, is the senior Easter egg hunt at Merrick Park. A. Smith also said that she received a call from Mayor Carlos Alvarez because Miami-Dade county is having a Golden Idol and they are trying to get seniors to participate, whether it is singing, dancing or any other different talent they may have. The Golden Idol takes place on May 27th and they plan to take a trip down there. The Senior Health Fair is not going to be held in May but at a later date.

5. **Old Business**

a. Senior Art Show

Dr. Schiff said that the announcement of the Senior Art Show should be in the Gold Gables' August issue. Dr. Schiff also reminded the Board that the decision has been made to exclude the novice category.

C. Brock suggested that the information be included in the monthly senior activities calendar.

b. Appointments/Elections

C. Brock reminded the Board that every two years in May, the City Commission makes their new appointees to the senior citizens advisory board and she encouraged everyone to return to the board.

c. Senior Citizens Budget Update

P. Hunt distributed copies of the midyear budget review for the Senior Services division.

L. Santangelo said that the mid year budget is from finance and it is exactly at the six month mark. She also said that the actual budget reflects expenses but will bring the revenue to next month's meeting.

6. New Business

a. C. Colburn Hardy Award

Dr. Schiff moved that the board support a nomination of the C. Colburn Hardy award to nominate N. Lemberg. Motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

b. Community Foundation Meeting

C. Brock is going to meet with members of the Community Foundation on April 14th to discuss an on-line news webpage for seniors and how they can work more with the City of Coral Gables. C. Brock asked if anyone comes up with any ideas between now and the day of the meeting to send it to L. Santangelo who will in turn forward it to her.

c. Long Term Senior Citizen Strategy Plan

C. Brock suggested that the Board discuss both short and long term goals for senior programs and services.

d. Prescription Discount Cards

C. Brock informed the Board that about a new prescription drug discount card program. Beginning April 19th the City of Coral Gables will launch a new program that offers free prescription drug discount cards to residents through a program sponsored by the National League of Cities. The discount card can be used by all residents at numerous pharmacies around Coral Gables as well as over 59,000 participating retail pharmacies across the country. C. Brock distributed some of the discount cards to members of the Board.

7. Board Members Comments

L. Santangelo mentioned the Relay for Life event that is going to be held on May 30th and May 31st. If there is anyone who would like to participate can contact her.

8. Date and time of next meeting

Monday, May 4, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Coral Gables Youth Center located at 405 University Drive.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.