

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SCRC)
Meeting Agenda
Friday, August 23, 2019

Coral Gables Planning Dept., 2nd Floor Conference Room
427 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	APPOINTED BY
Ariel Fernandez	A	-	P										Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Samuel Joseph	P	-	P										Vice Mayor Lago
Mary Snow	P	-	P										Commissioner Fors
Erin Anding	P	-	P										Commissioner Keon
Carmen Cartaya	P	-	P										Commissioner Mena
Sandy Dimitris	P	-	P										City Manager Iglesias
Theresa Rice	P	-	A										Commission-as-a-whole

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
- = No meeting

STAFF: Solanch Lopez – Acting Staff Liaison, Dexter Peralta

GUESTS: Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Angela Rendon, Victor Alonso, Eric Andina, Mari Tere Rojas, Wendy Stephen, Philip Argianas, Aleida Martinez-Molina, Luciana Gonzalez, Jennifer Durocher, Estelle Lockhart

The following represents a summary of the items discussed during the Committee meeting.

-MEETING AGENDA -

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 AM.

II. ROLL CALL/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

All members were in attendance except Theresa Rice. A quorum was present.
May and June meeting minutes were approved. Mary Snow motioned approval, Ariel Fernandez seconded.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. SCRC Service in Review (2019-21)

SIP Project Assignment Review

- Thank committee members for service.
- Will board members be taking on new projects?
 - o Board members will be sending over their ideas for goals for the year.
- Little Red School House being renovated by the Community Foundation.
- Carmen recommends 3 goals for the year for the SCRC and getting PTAs involved.
- Ariel is reaching out to schools already.
- Gables Insider can get the word out.
- Financial Literacy Program – Ariel met with two banks and will follow up.
 - o Erin would like to work with Ariel on this program as a former Math, Science, and Economics teacher that knows the curriculum of the MDCPS and someone that has ties with the Federal Reserve Bank and has participated in several of their workshops on financial literacy education as a Financial Literacy teacher.
- Need progress of autism center
- What is the policy of school board with respect to teacher campaign? Looking for ways to get businesses to recognize teachers, including highlighting teachers of the month and principals through Gables Insider.
- Members will be sending Solanch goals to vote next meeting.
- List of teachers will be provided after November.

B. Stakeholders Spotlight: Wendy Blair Stephan from Florida Poison Control

- This office trains school nurses to provide best medical/safety practices.
- This office is very active during Red Ribbon Week and can speak to schools during health & safety events.
- Other speaking opportunities at elementary schools include career days, Red Ribbon Week and health fairs.
- The Community Foundation is currently working on a health Fair at Coral Gables High School. Mary will have Wendy participate.
- Idea came up of talking to science teachers and taking two classes within the year to cover this topic.

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

A. MDCPS Issues:

- **CGSH GOB Renovations Update:**
 - A lot was done during summer.
 - Paint job was excellent. (Half-way complete; Currently working in auditorium)
 - \$11.2 million initial investment, \$15 million more = \$26.2 million in total funds
 - New 2-story building is coming. All additional renovations will make a tremendous difference for the students.
- Victor Alonso provides expanded report:
 - Coral Gables High School is the second oldest active high school in county. Built in 1950. School had deteriorated quite a bit.
 - Was originally allotted an \$11 million renovation which would have addressed mechanical and electrical systems.
 - Superintendent Carvalho was very pleased with the progress so far.
 - Multi-phase project – Project has worked its way south.

- Phase 1 – New construction has already started. VPI Construction won bid for new construction in June and is currently underway. Building 6 will be demolished.
- Looking to have painting done by the end of the fall.
- New central chiller plant will be connected to old chiller plant with original cafeteria being demolished for new building. A courtyard will be added. Replacing everything that is taken down.
- There will be no increase to school capacity.
- Phase 2 – Renovation of original buildings is in design phase now. Replacing every other window bay with impact resistant windows to introduce natural light. All windows being replaced.
- Construction Time frame: Phase 1 - January – December 2020; Summer 2021 (courtyard and demolishment); Phase 2 – Start in 1 year – Fall 2021
- MC Harry through OHL Construction Manager – Renovation portion should begin about September 2020. Fall 2021 to be construction completion date.
- Groundbreaking event at CGHS 8/29 - 9AM.
- Safety to Life related issues are being handled on an ongoing basis.
 - If you hear concerns regarding air conditioning and mold, mold issues are being addressed via Maintenance & Abatement.
 - City is committed to working with school district to provide state of the art campus.
 - October 11 at 4pm – Meeting to determine how to finish out campus. Invite will be sent.
 - Friends of Gables helped to raise funds and advocate for the school.
 - Mayor’s availability for walk-through will be sent.
 - Bathrooms at the school that have not been recently renovated will be renovated.
- Coral Gables Golf Team – Communication was sent to Coral Gables Commission. CGHS Golf Team needs a new home since Melreese course has been closed due to environmental concerns. Looking at nearby options, dependent on team needs and practice times to determine if Coral Gables course locations are possible. Other course opportunities: Crandon and Trump National that are available immediately. Biltmore and Miami Springs are courses that are currently being used.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. SCRC News, Notes & Updates

B. Update by School Board Member

- Over 100+ new programs being rolled out.
- Largest school police force in the nation. Only one of four school districts that has its own police force.
- New school year updates:
 - Reduced point of entries
 - Designated hard corners in all the district schools
 - Using Raptor system
 - A Rated School District
 - A new GPS system for school buses

- New healthier options for school lunch
- Fortify Florida – An app that allows students and parents to prevent crime and report things in advance
- Coral Gables Police is using Safer Watch; City of Coral Gables can watch what is happening at area schools.

C. Public Hearing:

- Luciana Gonzalez – Parent and PTA President of Coral Gables Prep, addresses group.
- Estelle Lockhart – Fellow PTA Carver Elementary parent also addresses group about fall activities.
- Community Partners: Big Brothers Big Sisters Gail Nelson will be speaking to Coral Gables Museum on August 28.
- One Community One Goal Access Breakfast – at UM Watsco Center on August 27 at 8am.
- Disability Affairs Board Meeting - September 4 at 8am
- Friends of Gables High at September 12 at Red Koi

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting ends at 10:05 a.m. Next SCRC meeting scheduled for September 20 at 8:30am.