

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
WATERWAY ADVISORY BOARD
 HYBRID MEETING AT CITY HALL/ZOOM
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023 - 5:30 P.M.
 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS	District	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	APPOINTED BY:
		22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	
Manny Chamizo	2	P	P	A	A	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	A	Vince Lago
Daniel Tormo	3	P	P	P	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	Jim Cason
Juan A. Galan Jr	3	P	P	P	P	*	*	*	A	*	*	P	P	Rhonda Anderson
Alex Stancioff	1	P	P	A	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	A	R	Kirk Menendez
Joel Kallan	4	-	-	-	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	Michael Mena
Douglas Yoder	CR	P	P	P	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	Peter Iglesias
Bertram Goldsmith	7	P	P	P	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	E	P	Commission-As-A-Whole
John Swain	2	P	P	P	P	*	*	*	P	*	*	P	P	Commission-As-A-Whole
Levi Meyer	6												A	Board-As-A-Whole

P – Present
 P* - Present (zoom)
 E – Excused Absence
 A – Absent
 R – Resigned
 (-) – No Appointment
 (*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

- Jorge Acevedo, Utilities & ROW Division Chief/Board Secretary
- Lorena Garrido, Administrative & Fiscal Affairs Manager
- Yanissey Solivera, Administrative Assistant
- Alejandro Pino, Marine Patrol

GUESTS:

- None.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 p.m. by Mr. Yoder. The roll call was done and quorum was met.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

The December 7, 2022 meeting minutes were approved. *Mr. Goldsmith made the motion to approve the December 7, 2022 minutes, seconded by Dr. Kallan, all were in favor.*

DISCUSSIONS:

Ms. Garrido stated during the previous meeting, there was discussion regarding waterway enforcement. She said Public Works staff has monthly waterway inspections with Code Enforcement. This is in addition to the Marine Patrol's efforts. Identified issues are addressed by Code by either giving a warning or citing the property.

OLD BUSINESS: *(Update on discussion by Assistant City Attorney at December's meeting regarding a. Legality of renting dock space in private homes; b. Board review and recommendations on permits for docks and other structures in the waterways).*

Mr. Galan stated since December's meeting presentation he thought of another question relating to boat storage during a hurricane emergency. He said there's limited storage at Dinner Key and other yacht clubs. He feels that during these emergencies, it may be a good idea to allow owners to come into an agreement to allow others to store their boats in docks not being used.

Mr. Yoder asked if the City has any rules about hurricane storage of boats in the waterway. Mr. Galan stated from his past experience, he stated he has seen a number of people who enter the waterway who are not residents or property owners. In addition, there have been a number of sailboats from Dinner Key that tie their boats to mangroves. Mr. Galan would like to know what the rules are pertaining to hurricane emergencies and if this is acceptable.

Dr. Kallan added there are certain areas in the Cocoplum waterway that are designated hurricane anchorage on marine charts. He would like clarification of what this means (legally) and its process. Mr. Goldsmith asked if this area would be used as first come, first serve.

Mr. Galan suggested for areas to identify areas on the waterway that can be used for hurricane storage of boats. This would allow for the Marine Patrol to enforce accordingly.

Dr. Kallan asked if 1-obstruction of the navigable waterway is an infraction of the law that the Marine Patrol can act in any manner; 2- demine the manner; 3-determined if this falls under Federal, State or City jurisdiction. This will be forwarded to the Marine Patrol for clarification and input.

The Board discussed the below questions and request for clarification to discuss with the City Manager at the upcoming future meeting.

1. Clarify why are there two City divisions approving and handling issues on the same waterway. One division handles the docks, while the other handles the boat lifts. The Board feels one department should be responsible for approving intrusions into the waterway.
2. There are multiple departments that make decisions of items on the waterway, how can the Board be incorporated into this decision process?

3. Regarding the Board’s “Creation and Purpose”, the Board is requesting for suggestions on how can they accomplish this?
4. If the Board is not involved in the process of new construction approvals, how can the Board safeguard the waterway?
5. How can the Board be informed and comment on variances affecting the waterways and not become a quasi-judicial board?
6. The Board feels, part of their duties is to safeguard the waterway and navigable depth. How can this be accomplished without their involvement of variance reviews? The Board should be able to review and say if they are in favor or against it.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

MARINE PATROL REPORT:

Officer Pino introduced himself and stated he would report back on the Board’s questions relating to waterway enforcement.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.