

# PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of June 18, 2010 meeting

Coral Gables Youth Center

405 University Drive

MEMBERS	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	APPOINTED BY
Joan I. Valdes	R	P	P	P	P	R	P	P	N	P	N	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Valerie Gelnovatch	V	V	V	P	E	R	P	E	N	P	N	E	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Emilio Monte	R	P	P	P	P	R	P	P	N	P	N	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Jorge Guarch	R	P	P	E	P	R	P	P	N	E	N	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Marty Steinberger	R	P	P	E	P	R	P	P	N	P	N	E	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Martha Serola	R	E	E	P	P	R	P	P	N	P	N	E	City Manager Patrick G. Salerno
Manny Seage	R	P	P	E	P	R	P	P	N	E	N	P	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

A = Absent

C = Cancelled

E = Excused absence

P = Present

N = No quorum

R = Recessed

S = Sick

V = Vacant position

## **STAFF:**

Fred Couceyro

Parks & Recreation Director

Tricia Spencer

Recording Secretary

## **GUESTS:**

1. Joan Valdes called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.
2. Approval of Board minutes from April 16, 2010 meeting – Joan Valdes – A motion was made by Jorge Guarch to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2010. Motion was passed unanimously.
3. Update on Board items to City Commission – Fred Couceyro

The property on 4650 Alhambra Circle was approved by the City Commission. Notices were sent out to the surrounding property owners requesting their input and comments for future development plans of the property. Twenty neighbors approved for the City to build a park on that piece of land however, there were three neighbors that objected. The first objection was from a neighbor that felt that the money used to purchase the property should be from the City's budget. The second objection came from the neighbor that lives adjacent to the property and the third objection was from a neighbor that did not want a big park being built there. There has been changes of land use and zoning that will go before the City Commission in a few weeks.

There are a couple of special events coming up. Gables Hispanic Cultural Foundation is a new organization and will be having its first festival on September 25, 2010. There will also be a couple of 5K runs in the Fall and Giralda Under the Stars.

#### 4. City Projects Update

Sunrise Harbor Park – There has been an issue with the gate, the bracket from the service gate is broken and is being fixed.

Salvador Park – Construction is almost finished.

Venetian Pool – There were issues with the chemical feeding pump and the filtration pump; the contractor had to go back to the pool to fix the problem. The pool has been operating; business has been great since it reopened.

#### 5. New Business

Financial Disclosure Packet – Form 1 in the financial disclosure packet needs to be filled out and filed with the City Clerk by Tuesday, July 1, 2010.

Summer camps – Summer camps started on Monday, June 14, 2010; there are 17 camps being offered such as My First Camp, Art Camp, Teens Outside Camp, Junior Life Guard Camp and Jr. High Performance Tennis Camp. Enrollment in tennis has gone up and the Venetian pool camp is sold out. There is also early drop-off available which starts at 7:30 a.m. and late pick-ups.

Jorge Guarch inquired about the revenue needed to run the Parks and Recreation Department. Fred Couceyro said that the Parks and Recreation Department is within the 60% to 65% recovery range. The golf courses take a lot of expenditure to maintain. Senior Services is one division that does not bring in much revenue. 90% of the Venetian Pool's revenue is from non-residents. Tennis enrollment has also been good.

Fred Couceyro said that the Leisure Guide might be going electronic. Some of the Board members suggested that the Parks & Recreation Department can use Twitter or Face book to market their programs and camps better and it is a good way to reach the youths in the community. F. Couceyro agreed and also said that using Twitter is better than Face book

because it informs everyone, whereas Face book only goes out to friends in that network.

6. Date and time of next meeting – The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is Friday, July 16, 2010. The meeting will start at **8:00 a.m.** and will be held at Coral Gables Youth Center located at 405 University Drive, Coral Gables.
7. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.