

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS  
 CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
 WEDNESDAY, February 5, 2020

- MEETING MINUTES -

<b>MEMBERS</b>	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
Blake Sando	*	P											Vince Lago
Vanessa Liebl	*	P											Mayor Raul FauliValdes
Mary Palacio-Pike	*	P											Patricia Keon
Philippa Milne	*	P											Jorge L. Fors, Jr.
Marie-Ilene Whitehurst	*	E											Michael Mena

P – Present  
 E – Excused Absence  
 A – Absent  
 (-) – No Appointment  
 (\*) – No Meeting

**STAFF:**

Fred Couceyro – Parks & Recreation  
 Ericka Kofkin – Parks & Recreation  
 Raquel Elejabarrieta – Labor Relations & Risk Management  
 Eglys Hernandez – Labor Relations & Risk Management

**GUEST:**

Paola Villanueva – CILSF

**CITIZEN ADVISORS:**

Bonnie Blaire  
 Debbie Dietz

**PUBLIC GUEST:**

Mr. Bi Acumen – Asavaid Consulting Services, Inc.  
 Mr. Mark A. Trowbridge, President of City of Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order at 8:04am

**MEETING ABSENCE:**

Marie-Ilene Whitehurst, Board Member

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

December 4, 2019

Motion by: Mr. Blake Sando / 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Mary Palacio-Pike / All approved unanimously.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

***Resolution – Adventure Day for All (Exhibit 2)***

Ms. Elejabarrieta advised Board of Resolution urging City to continue hosting and organizing Adventure Day for All would be on the February 25, 2020 City Commission Agenda.

Ms. Elejabarrieta reminded Board of upcoming February 20, 2020 Boards & Committee Appreciation reception and advised a reminder will also be sent.

**BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***Asavaid Consulting Services, Inc. - Mr. Bi Acumen***

***(Exhibit 1- Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project)***

Mr. Acumen addressed Board regarding various procedures which can be utilized to obtain data that can help to determine the number of residents with disabilities. Mr. Acumen stated it is best to start research at higher levels and work down. Mr. Acumen explained various forms such as:

- 1) In direct method – commencing at top utilizing mostly Census data and once reaching level of Coral Gables adjustments may be required
- 2) Conduct Survey – partial or complete – identify percentage of population to be surveyed - will require a bit of research to back up mathematical numbers.
- 3) For City to go out, contact medical facilities or personnel and gather HIPAA compliance patient data.
- 4) City can contact a company such as were he was employed previously and request specific data for example by zip code, medicines or diagnoses.
- 5) For City to contact County controller, request data regarding residents whom are recipients of disability homestead exceptions without any personal information revealed.
- 6) For City to contact IRS directly perhaps by zip code and request they provide how many have disability exceptions without specific personal information.

Ms. Liebl stated idea of survey has been addressed before, however concern regarding the elderly population having access and availability to participate has also been discussed. Mr. Blake asked what the time frame would be to have one of these suggestions put together, execute and complete. Mr. Acumen stated it would not be too long, more research needs to be conducted including some type of survey of either 2% or 5% of residents and keep in mind other factors may need to be also considered.

***Deliver the Dream – A New View Workshop - Ms. Vanessa Liebl***

Ms. Liebl explained that there is a non-profit organization called Deliver the Dream willing to come out, conduct a hands-on interactive workshop called New View designed to change perspective on how people with disabilities and other life challenges are viewed and included in the community. Ms. Liebl asked if Board would be interested and it was determined to go forth with scheduling this.

***Board Goals – Short & Long – Ms. Liebl***

Mr. Sando as a short-term goal, spoke regarding previous discussion regarding perhaps hosting a meeting or two at a different venue and time to facilitate the participation of others. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated it would not be difficult to do so and City would provide venue such as the Coral Gables Adult Activity Center, as well as noticing meeting.

Ms. Palacio advised Board of upcoming meeting on February 18, 2020, 6:00pm at Coral Gables Adult Activity Center presented by Autism Speaks addressing pathway to adulthood and transition services available.

Ms. Liebl addressed Board regarding some short-term goals:

- 1) Would like to meet with Ms. Mary Snow of Community Foundation regarding their possible role in Adventure Day for All Event.
- 2) Working together possibly sharing the City of Coral Gables Business Inclusion Award with City of Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Mark A. Trowbridge, President

***Business Inclusion Award & City of Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce  
City of Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Mark A. Trowbridge, President***

Mr. Trowbridge addressed Board regarding possibility of perhaps including Business Inclusion Award in their Diamond Award program which has been taking place for past 23 years. Mr. Trowbridge stated the addition of this category regarding businesses which are more inclusive should not be an issue. Mr. Trowbridge advised various ways how this can be achieved, the availability of the Chamber to bring exposure to this category and how to present same. Mr. Trowbridge advised businesses are not required to be part of the Chamber to be part of the process. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated sounds like an exciting opportunity for City to work in conjunction with the Chambers regarding this award and if determined to do so, how would it be best to proceed. Mr. Trowbridge explained there is the selection of a committee and it would be the one to work with directly. Mr. Sando asked if it would be a good for Board to attend and present this idea to the Chamber at one of their monthly breakfast. Mr. Trowbridge stated it would be good for Board to address businesses at monthly breakfast. Ms. Palacio stated it would be good to commence during the less business monthly breakfast such as June/July. Mr. Trowbridge suggested perhaps prepare information and make it available so that it may be included in the Mayor's State of the City speech.

***Best Buddies Program – Ms. Liebl – A Long Term Goal***

Ms. Liebl advised she met with Ms. Cynthia Fernandez, Program Director of Best Buddies responsible for pairing adult buddies with workplaces and feels it would be great to get Chamber involved so that companies can explore opportunities of hiring individuals with disabilities. Ms. Dietz advised of a follow up call received from Best Buddies regarding Ms. Libel's conversation with Ms. Fernandez and suggested all three meet up for coffee. Ms. Liebl advised she has invited Ms. Fernandez and she has agreed to attend March Board meeting.

***Respite Night Services – Alzheimer's Patients - Ms. Liebl – A Long Term Goal***

Ms. Liebl would like to research the possibility of providing not only a respite night for Alzheimer's patient care givers but also an enrichment experience for patients who reside in Coral Gables. Ms. Liebl stated when a patient participates in respite program, there will be an opportunity to obtain information such as name, address, contact person which can be put on file and City maintain records of residents with Alzheimer's.

Ms. Elejabarrieta asked what the City's role in this type of project would be. Ms. Liebl stated City would provide location, security for same, obtain personal information, take picture of patient, hire company to come in, take responsibility and provide service. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised there is a procurement process which needs to take place prior to any company being hired, budget issues, check with parks & recreation board to see if they agree as well as other steps required prior to any resolution to be conducted. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised further research will follow up regarding process with Board.

Ms. Blaire stated for Board to keep in mind a few years ago Commissioner Sosa gave City of Coral Gables approximately one million dollars for a brick & mortar facility where respite care for Alzheimer's patients could be provided. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised she will follow up on this as well.

***City of Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce having a Non-Voting seat on Board***

***Mr. Mark A. Trowbridge, President***

Mr. Trowbridge suggested in order to be more collaborative, if City manager can be approached regarding considering the Chamber having a non-voting seat on this Board as it already does so on other City boards like the Economic Development Board and Non-Stability Board. Ms. Blaire advised there is in place the ability of being a Citizen Advisor which is available for former retired members, people with special knowledge and any expert the Board designates qualifies. Ms. Blaire advised perhaps this should be looked into. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised Ms. Blaire had provided information and it could be placed for discussion on next meeting's agenda.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

***Holiday Park Set-Up Accessibility Issues – Mr. Fred Couceyro – Parks & Recreation, Director***

Director Couceyro addressed Board regarding Holiday Park and concerns regarding current set up not being accessible and inclusive to all. Director Couceyro advised City has an existing approximately 10-year contract with a vendor for the current setup, however, even though could be expensive change orders can be considered. Mr. Couceyro advised that they have tried to improve on this every year, example matting. Mr. Couceyro stated since this is not a permanent structure, every year they evaluate what needs to be addressed and do so. Mr. Couceyro addressed the sand, which he stated it is not accessible so therefore a beach wheelchair has been made available.

Ms. Palacio asked reference status of Salvador Park project to make it accessible. Mr. Couceyro explained what was approved and how various steps of this project are moving forth.

Ms. Liebl asked if there is consideration of having an area at Holiday Park without sand due to sensory issue, lack of handicap parking space, why handicap entrance was so far away, there is no play area or structure which can be utilized by someone in a wheelchair and not able to take a picture at the cutouts.

Mr. Couceyro advised the sand is there and since this is not a permanent structure it is necessary for safety in case a child climbing falls to ground. Ms. Kofkin stated regarding handicap entrance being so far away, should be only during the actual tree lighting and sign indicating further entrance should have been removed. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised issue regarding the cut out was identified and corrected. Mr. Couceyro stated this not being a permit structure, some things are difficult to do, and suggestions can be looked into. Also the City is in the process of adding a handicap parking.

Ms. Milne asked if it has been observed or is there a record of how many people with disabilities visit the Holiday Park. Mr. Couceyro stated there is no record, however, the City has hosted Crystal Academy where participants come to the park. Mr. Couceyro stated he is not sure if this is due to at any time there maybe 1000 people at park which can cause issue with patrons who have sensory issues. Mr. Blade asked if it would be possible like what has been done with the cinema, to have a day and time designated for patrons with sensory issues to come to Holiday Park. Mr. Couceyro stated this year a Saturday morning was designated and promoted as Hot Chocolate with Santa, facilitating the opportunity just for Coral Gables residents to visit with Santa and there should not be an issue of having a sensory sensitive morning as well. Mr. Couceyro stated City would promote event, announce in advance and to establish how many residents would be interested in attending, tickets would be distributed. Mr. Couceyro stated he feels this is a great idea and will be further discussed with Ms. Carolina Vester and Ms. Norma Gavarrete.

Ms. Dietz stated she believes there are solutions of making things accessible such as looking at the park through the concept of universal design making it accessible to all, start planning now for new vendor contract in two years and perhaps get together a committee of people who care as well as knowledgeable of the issue which can assist City in making recommendations since it locks itself into multi year contracts. Ms. Dietz suggested City obtain volunteers, people with disabilities which can be involved in the planning of it as well as visit the park so that any necessary corrections can be conducted prior to opening to the public, avoiding having to make changes once set up is completed. Mr. Couceyro stated there may be issues, however no complaints were received from attendees regarding ADA. Mr. Couceyro stated universal design concept is easier for a permanent structure and more difficult for a temporary installation.

Ms. Milne asked reference having a suggestion box available at the Holiday Park where patrons can write down their comments. Mr. Couceyro advised this has been available in the past as well as staff on site which can be addressed directly, and patrons have done so.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**NEXT MEETING:**

March 4, 2020

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 9:15am

# **EXHIBIT 1**

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# BI Acumen

Business Intelligence & Big Data Analytics

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(dba Asavaid Consulting Services Inc.)

**Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project**

Date: Dec 22, 2019

Hello Vanessa:

It was great meeting you in person and discussing your project regarding Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project.

Congrats for you being in the head of the Committee in 2020 for Coral Gables Disability Project. I am sure you will be a flying success leading the team.

As I had mentioned in our meeting that I would take sometime to look into the availability of the data for this project.

Attached please find relevant information and would like to caution you that these are computed estimates from publically available data sources.

Would also like to acknowledge here that my partner, Marcelo Salup in my other business CEO-Analytics.com helped me with some of the research.

Vanessa, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me. Wishing you and family Season's Greetings and Happy New Year - 2020 !

Sincerely....Adi

**Adi K. Asavaid**

CEO

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**Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project**

For: Vanessa Liebl (choicemd.com) and The City of Coral Gables, FL  
By: BIAcumen and CEO-Analytics: Adi K. Asavaid & Marcelo Salup

**Overall Objective:**

- Determine the number of Physically disable residents of Coral Gables, FL and by type of Disability

**Methodologies:**

1. Determine the count and type of disable residents using appropriate published data. Using statistical inferences for the data gaps.
2. Conduct a Survey of the individual Coral Gables households to determine the count and type of Disabilities in Coral Gables, FL
3. Create local area doctors and hospital connections to get HIPAA compliant data for disability counts.
4. Purchase data from 3rd party syndicated data providers e.g. Symphony, IQVIA, etc.

**Presentation:**

- a. This presentation is restricted to the first methodology only.
- b. The survey methodology can be provided and presented if requested specifically.

**Comments:**

1. Assumptions and Inferences need to be made to provide end results.  
Note: The use of inferences will provide results for order of magnitude and not exact results.
2. This methodology would provide more accurate data. Accuracy of the data would increase with the Respondent rate of the Survey nears 100%.
3. This is time consuming and expensive alternative. This alternative depends heavily on the co-operation with others.
4. This expensive and indirect method. Accuracy is highly subjective. E.g. Number of Disability Patient Procedures and Patient Disability Rx in the Coral Gables area.

- a. Please see subsequent tabs in the workbook

Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project

**Concept**

Population Estimate - July 1, 2018  
 Population Estimate - April 1, 2010  
 Number of Households  
 Persons 65 years and over - %  
 Persons under 65 years - %  
 Number of Persons under 65 years  
 Number of Persons 65 years and over  
 % of Population with Disability under 65 years (2014-2018) - %  
 2016 % of US Population with Disability ALL Ages - %  
 Using the National 2016 % of US Population with Disability ALL Ages and adjusting to higher 65+ population in CG %  
 Number of Persons In CORAL GABLES with Disability ALL Ages

USA	Miami-Dade	Coral Gables	Source
327,167,434	2,761,581	50,999	United States Census Bureau
308,758,105	2,498,013	46,747	United States Census Bureau
119,730,128	870,051	17,820	United States Census Bureau
16.0	16.2	18.1	United States Census Bureau
84.0	83.8	81.9	Calculated
274,820,645	2,314,205	41,768	Calculated
52,346,789	447,376	9,231	Calculated
8.6	5.90	3.90	United States Census Bureau
12.8			Institute on Disability
		14.5	Institute on Disability
		<b>7,385</b>	Calculated

Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project

Disability by Types

Concepts and Public Information

1. American Community Survey (ACS) has about six types of disabilities:

- Vision, Hearing, Cognitive, Ambulatory, Self-care and Independent living.

Coral Gables Count Source/Comments

Population Estimate - July 1, 2018	50,999	United States Census Bureau
Number of Persons in CORAL GABLES with Disability ALL Ages	7,385	Estimated and Calculated in Previous tab

**Vision Disability:**

- In USA 11 million (4.72%) have vision impairment that can be corrected by glasses/contact lenses
- In USA 3 million (1.28%) have vision impairment that cannot be corrected by glasses/contact lenses

National Institute of Health  
653 National Institute of Health and Calculated

**Hearing Disability:**

- In USA 30 million (13.0%) has hearing loss in both ears, based on standard hearing examinations

6,630 National Institute of Health and Calculated

**Cognitive Disability:**

- In USA 6.5 million (2.8%) has hearing loss in both ears, based on standard hearing examinations

1,428 SpecialOlympics.org and Calculated

**Ambulatory Disability:**

- In USA 4.61% have Ambulatory disability

2,351 2018 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium and Calculated

**Coral Gables Disability Estimation Project**

**Data Sources and URLs:**

[https://disabilitycompendium.org/sites/default/files/user-uploads/2017\\_AnnualReport\\_2017\\_FINAL.pdf](https://disabilitycompendium.org/sites/default/files/user-uploads/2017_AnnualReport_2017_FINAL.pdf)

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/study-finds-most-americans-have-good-vision-14-million-are-visually-impaired>

<https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/quick-statistics-hearing>

<https://www.specialolympics.org/about/intellectual-disabilities/what-is-intellectual-disability>

[https://disabilitycompendium.org/sites/default/files/user-uploads/2018\\_Compedium\\_Accessible\\_AboveReaderFriendly.pdf](https://disabilitycompendium.org/sites/default/files/user-uploads/2018_Compedium_Accessible_AboveReaderFriendly.pdf)

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/miamidadecountyflorida/IPE120218>

# **EXHIBIT 2**

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION  
CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS URGING THAT THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES CONTINUE TO HOST AND ORGANIZE ADVENTURE DAY FOR ALL, WHICH IS AN EVENT EMBRACING PEOPLE OF ALL ABILITIES AND HAS BEEN HELD DURING DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH – OCTOBER.**

**WHEREAS**, the Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs (the “Board”) advises and provides input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support inclusion and full and effective participation of individuals with disabilities within the City of Coral Gables; and

**WHEREAS**, every October the City of Coral Gables issues a Proclamation proclaiming the month of October “Americans With Disabilities Month in Coral Gables”; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 7, 2018, the Board passed a resolution recommending that the City host and organize Adventure Day For All, a disability awareness event during disability awareness month (October); and

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2018, the City Commission supported the Board’s resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has hosted and organized Adventure Day for All the past two (2) years; and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of the City’s commitment to fostering inclusion in our community, the Board urges that the City continue to host and organize Adventure Day For All during disability awareness month (October).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs recommends and urges that the City continue to host and organize Adventure Day For All, a disability awareness event during disability awareness month (October).

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON  
DISABILITY AFFAIRS ON THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2019

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RAQUEL ELEJABARRIETA  
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD