

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of February 02, 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					Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Norma Lemberg	P	P	E	P	P	E	P					Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Esther Castiglia	V	E	P	A	E	P	P					Comm. Maria Anderson
Dr. William Schiff	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Frank Lynn	P	P	P	P	P	E	A					Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Ginger Jochem	P	P	P	P	E	P	P					City Manager David Brown
Carol Brock	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 Programs

Tricia Spencer
 Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

Katie Kreter, resident
 Coral Gables

Harriet Wolf, resident
 Coral Gables

1. Carol Brock called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.
2. Chairperson Carol Brock introduced and welcomed our guest, Katie Kreter and Harriet Wolf to the meeting.
3. Approval of Board minutes from January 5th, 2009 - A motion was made by C. Fahringer and seconded by N. Lemberg to approve the meeting minutes of January 05th, 2009. Motion was passed unanimously.

4. **Senior Services Divisional Reports**

a. **Report on Senior Services – Paul Hunt**

P. Hunt said that he attended a meeting at the Coral Gables Library in which he met with ITN America to discuss dignified transportation for seniors. ITN stands for Independent Transportation Network. AARP has put together a grant of \$50,000 per year to give to three (3) communities in Florida. It is a county-wide program and they are looking for communities that have a minimum population of 200,000. Sarasota is one and they are considering Miami-Dade as another.

P. Hunt said that he attended another meeting on November 17th, 2008 which was brokered by Met Life and Liberty Mutual to discuss a program called Jumpstart the Conversation which offers grants of \$2500 and \$1000. P. Hunt submitted a grant proposal and was awarded \$1000 for the senior transportation program. Please see attached proposal.

N. Lemberg requested to have a transportation sub-committee meeting in two weeks at her place of residence at 5:00 p.m. to further discuss transportation services for seniors.

P. Hunt also distributed copies of a senate bill written by Senator Rich for the board members to read.

b. **Senior Center Programs – Anastasia Smith**

A. Smith distributed copies of the senior activities calendar for the month of February and copies of the Golden Gables. A. Smith said that there will be a trip to the casino and the annual senior luncheon this month. She also said that the Dancercise class attendance is full; the new walking group starts on Wednesday, February 11th at 9:15 a.m. The Advanced computer class has a low attendance and the Beginners computer class has reached the minimum capacity.

6. **Old Business**

a. **Senior Art Show – 2009 Dates**

Dr. Schiff and the Board confirmed the date for the 2009 Senior Art Show which will be held on the 13th and 14th of November. A. Smith distributed copies of the 2008 Art Show Follow-Up Report which provided the board members and guests with information on the attendance, Artists and entries, the cost as well as how many volunteers worked at the event. C. Brock requested that the report include in-kind services. L. Santangelo also asked that the staff cost be added to the report as well.

b. **Annual Luncheon**

A. Smith confirmed the time and date of the luncheon as well as the guest speaker. The guest speaker is Secretary of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs E. Doug Beach and he will be speaking about senior issues. Pastor White of the University Baptist Church will be asked to conduct the invocation. All available reservations have been

made and an additional 50 spaces were added to accommodate residents of the community. C. Brock and the board discussed ways to improve the coordination of attendance for the 2010 Annual Senior Luncheon. By a vote of 5 to 1, a motion was made by C. Fahringer and second by Dr. W. Schiff to improve the coordination of attendance by giving preference/priority to the residents of Coral Gables, administer a set date for everyone to RSVP for the luncheon, have a separate date for residents and non-residents to RSVP. N. Lemberg opposed the motion because she said that people who attend activities at the senior center should have priority over residents who just live in Coral Gables and do not participate in any senior activities.

- **Sponsors** – This year's luncheon is sponsored by The Bank of Coral Gables, The Palace, Inc. and the Alma Jennings Foundation. Representatives from The Bank of Coral Gables and The Palace, Inc. will be sitting at information tables to answer questions the attendees may have. C. Fahringer said that on behalf of the Alma Jennings Foundation, Mr. Zeke Guilford Esq. donated \$1,000 to the senior services department.

7. New Business

- **Report of meeting with Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark and Maria Jimenez** – C. Brock met with Interim Assistant City Manager Catherine Swanson-Rivenbark and Interim City Manager Maria Jimenez to discuss senior issues such as what is the City's long term goals for senior services and transportation. C. Brock also said that she was given copies of statistical demographics to illustrate the growing number of seniors that live in the City of Coral Gables. C. Brock distributed this information to the Board.
- **Distribution of Eldercare article** – C. Brock distributed copies of an article on eldercare titled, "Coral Gables Seniors on the Information Superhighway".
- **Senior Citizens Grants for Centers** – N. Lemberg distributed a copy of the Elder Update newspaper with an article in it titled, "Florida Invests in Senior Center".

8. Report of Board Members

No reports.

9. Date and time of next meeting

Monday, March 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Coral Gables Youth Center located at 405 University Drive.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Jumpstart the Conversation Proposal