

City of Coral Gables

405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 18, 2024

8:30 AM

Police and Fire Headquarters, Community Meeting Room

Mayor's Citizens Advisory Council

*Board Member Alexander Bucelo
Board Member Rudford Hamon
Board Member Jeffrey Kurzner
Board Member Sergio Leymarie
Board Member Sean McGrover
Board Member Mary Snow
Board Member Dorothy Thomson*

TO JOIN VIA ZOOM

<https://coralgables.zoom.us/j/81201547235>

Meeting ID: 812 0154 7235

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Board Member Bucelo, Board Member Hamon, Board Member Leymarie, Board Member McGrover, Board Member Snow, Board Member Thomson and Board Member Kurzner

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Kurzer, Seconded by Bucelo

MEMBERS SHARE INPUT FROM RESIDENTS

Chair observed there are multiple streetlights not functioning properly. He observed that 14 street lights are not working from Ponce de Leon Blvd. between 8 street and Miracle Mile. Chair would want to determine from FPL how often they check the lights and what their process is for learning of outages and resolving.

UPDATES FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Member Mary Snow - Coral Gables Community Foundation Community needs assessment is in full swing. Project partner is University of Miami. University is working with focus groups to solicit feedback and gather data for community needs. They are looking to have survey results by Labor Day. Findings will be used to determine funding priorities and will be shared with donors and community to find and discuss most pressing issues.

Member Hamond will schedule meeting with Raimundo Rodulfo, director of Innovation and Technology, to discuss the development of the city mobile application and get an update on the Wi-Fi expansion project.

Chair Leymarie gives an update on helping HOA and condo associations stay up to standard and is in process of identifying HOA presidents who are well experienced to begin group, looking to provide training to these groups and maintain standards for managing. Mayor Thomson mentions senate bill regarding payment for condos 15% of assessments. Chair says that many associations seem to be disorganized and not aware of communications regarding state bills, examples such as Thomson mention and this is what he would like to do for the boards.

Member Kurzner – Hermes and Melissa provided an insightful walkability plan at June Mayor's Council meeting and will continue to meet with them to discuss further. Member Kurzner will meet with SCRC to discuss walkability around the schools.

Member Bucelo requests to chair the Art Week in Coral Gables initiative. He is on board for the Coral Gables Museum and is already discussing plans for that week.

Member McGrover leads hub of the Americas initiative but has no update today for this item.

Council will invite Economic Development director to speak on current efforts and see if we can assist the initiative.

UPDATES ON CITY INITIATIVES

Discussion led by Catherine Cathers from Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department on city's current Art Week initiatives

Discussion led by Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture specialist.

Since 2016, the City of Coral Gables hosts an annual Art Basel event at Coral Gables Museum that gets submitted to Art Basel organizers for incorporation of week's events. There are no art fair plans as Basel is the main showcase for the events. Coral Gables events are geared for residents and local community versus larger scale international audience. Mayor Thomson says the current commission especially Mayor Lago has put a lot of emphasis and interest in Art Basel.

Catherine explains the process of how art is selected for Art in Public Places Program. Funding comes out of art funded from private development fees, mandated by Miami Dade County. The Arts Advisory Panel advises and recommends but ultimately Commission makes final decisions. New initiatives include private developer projects. The best way for Council to help is to get the word out on current art projects.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor's Council board meetings will be held in CMR-A for the next few months due to construction at City Hall. Thomson asks if acoustics will be fixed at City Hall as part of improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

NOTE