



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
May 31, 2022

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution. A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, naming the city-funded swim lesson scholarship program at the Venetian Pool in honor of Sonia Dallas, long-time city volunteer and Water Safety Chair of the Venetian Aquatic Club.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The Community and Recreation Department provides a match of ten scholarships to the Venetian Aquatic Club's Scholarship program each year to provide free swim lessons to those most impacted by financial hardships and to ensure that an essential life skill such as learning how to swim and to be safe around the water is available to those who are unable to afford swim lessons. It is the recommendation of the Community Recreation Department, following extensive community testimonials, to formally name the City funded scholarships after Sonia Dallas. Dallas went above and beyond in service to the City, Club and community, and volunteered countless hours of her time as the Club's Water Safety Chair from 1985 to 2021, when she passed. Dallas was an inspiration to her fellow club members and water safety instructors and had a direct impact on multiple generations of children and adults who learned both how to swim and how to teach swim lessons to impact future generations. Dallas served during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and worked each day throughout the summer, even while her health was in rapid decline. Her presence will be strongly missed but her impact has left an impression on multiple lives and future generations.

Attachments

- 1. Draft Resolution**