

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 23, 2024

8:30 AM

City Hall, Commission Chambers

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 ACCESS MEETING VIA ZOOM:**Join Zoom Meeting**

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

Meeting ID: 812 0154 7235

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL**

- Present:** 5 - Board Member Hamon, Board Member Leymarie, Board Member McGrover, Board Member Snow and Board Member Kurzner
- Absent:** 2 - Board Member Bucelo and Board Member Thomson

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**NEW BUSINESS**

- Council feedback
- Kurzner suggestions: Communication about city developments
 - Stormwater assessment - what communication efforts are in place for road closures and construction?
 - Sidewalks - Identify walkability/sidewalk options for area surrounding Doctor's Hospital and Coral Gables High. Identify sidewalks where walkability is key.
 - Jeffrey Kurzner will champion sidewalks issue.
- Have Melissa De Zayas and/or Hermes Diaz attend June meeting for presentation on sidewalk plan specific to Coral Gables High.
- Community feedback
 - Have Venetian Pool closing times mirror Coral Gables Golf & Country Club pool
 - Sunset/sundown instead of 5:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair leads discussion with brief presentation.

- Mission statement: Mayor's Citizens Advisory Council
- Role and Overview:
 - Council helps "fill the gaps" between citizens and city leadership
 - Identify initiatives and recommend them to Mayor and Commission
 - Convey input from citizens to city leadership
 - Be a resource for city leaders and boards to help enrich/ activate current initiatives.
 - Be open to input from people on zoom and public

- Board member McGrover invites commission and residents to give suggestions to the board.
 - Share city's strategic plan with board to compare
 - Office of Management and Budget leads City's strategic plan
 - Would be ideal for Council to see latest presented strategic plan to complement.
- For upcoming meetings: Update meeting structure to include the following components in upcoming agendas:
 - Report input from Citizens - 15 min
 - Updates from Board Members on their projects - 15 min
 - Presentation from other City Stakeholders/ Update/ Input from on City Initiatives - 15 min
 - New business - 15 mins
 - Review and discuss possible projects and project leads within board
 - Community Needs Assessment - Champion = Board member Snow
 - App Deployment - Board member Rudford Hamon
 - HOA Update
 - City staff confirmed with Clerk's Office that city does not have a specific board related to condominium association boards. City does feature South Waterways HOA.
 - Council champion - Chair Leymarie;
 - Have Douglas Ramirez, deputy development services director or Jennifer Garcia, principal planner from Development Services provide an update on the HOA process.
 - WiFi Citywide
 - Update provided to Council members.
 - Goal is to make WiFi accessible city wide - How can this be implemented and how can we extend the range? Goal is also to be an option for residents who can't afford to get coverage for WiFi.
 - Champion = Board member Rudford Hamon
 - Member McGrover motion, Rudford Hamon seconds on collaborating with Communications and Public Affairs to promote the app.
 - Walkability - Champion = Board member Jeffrey Kurzner
 - Community Needs Assessment -
 - Vice Chair Snow reports that the Coral Gables Community Foundation has asked UM to be official partner to collect and interpret data with the goal to have data collected by Sept 1.
 - Vice Chair will provide future updates to the Mayor's Citizens Advisory Council on topic.
 - CG Art Week

- Instead of Fashion Week idea, activate an Art Week to tie into Art Basel
- Look into preexisting city efforts.
- Catherine Cathers - Historical Resources and Cultural Arts department, invite to July meeting for input.
- Get insight from Coral Gables Museum, Elvis Fuentes, July meeting.
 - Have both Historical Resources and Coral Gables Museum director speak at July Mayor's Council meeting
- CG Hub of the Americas
 - To attract investment in business community, encourage economic development of the city and sister cities partnership.
 - Coral Gables is coined as Gateway of the Americas.
 - International Affairs Coordinating Council works as part of the sister cities effort.
 - Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce helps drive the effort as well.
 - Recent press about city's reputation at drawing attention of high-level institutions.
 - Member McGrover will champion.
 - Invite Economic Development Department for presentation on July meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

NOTE