

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
 CITY OF CORAL PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
 2151 Salzedo Street 1st Floor CMR A Room
 VIRTUAL – VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, January 18, 2022

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	
Blake Sando	P												Mayor Vince Lago
Samantha Duran	E*												Rhonda Anderson
Mary Palacio-Pike	P												Kirk Menendez
Philippa Milne	P												Jorge L. Fors, Jr.
Haley Moss	A												Michael Mena
Vanessa Liebl	P												Ex-Officio Member Chamber of Commerce

*Via Zoom

A – Absent
 E – Excused Absence
 (-) – No Appointment
 (*) – No Meeting
 (**)-No Meeting – COVID19

BOARD MEMBERS:

QUORUM: In-Person Quorum was reached.

STAFF:

Peter Iglesias – City Manager
 Edward Hudak - Police Chief
 Karla Green – Human Resources Director
 Fred Couceyro – Parks & Recreation Director
 Carolina Vester – Parks & Recreation Assistant Director
 Ericka Kofkin – Parks & Recreation
 Stephanie Throckmorton – Assistant City Attorney
 Raquel Elejabarrieta – Labor Relations & Risk Management Director
 Marjorie Tapia – Labor Relations Analyst
 Eglys Hernandez – Labor Relations & Risk Management

GUEST:

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson
 Samuel Joseph

CITIZEN ADVISORS:

Debbie Dietz
 Dr. Jennifer Durocher, Director of UM-NSU Card

PUBLIC GUEST:

County Commissioner Raquel Regalado
 Craig Leen
 Cynthia Fernandez, Best Buddies

Lileana de Moya, The de Moya Foundation

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 4:51pm.

Ms. Palacio introduced all the Board members as well as others present to the audience.

MEETING ABSENCE:

Haley Moss

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

December 1, 2021

Motion by Blake Sando / 2nd Motion: Philippa Milne / All approved unanimously

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

County Commissioner Raquel Regalado – Initiatives for Individuals with Disabilities

Ms. Palacio introduced Commissioner Regalado and advised of all present via zoom.

Commissioner Regalado addressed everyone present. Commissioner Regalado shared various experiences and challenges faced in past as well as currently regarding having a neurodivergent child.

Commissioner Regalado stated the following were initiatives as well as discussions which have commenced and should continue:

- Importance of making information regarding available resources easily accessible to all parents/care givers of neurodivergent people.
- Continuing of early intervention assistance for families and expanding same further into older years
- Make parents aware of importance to instill in their children at a much younger age regarding vocational experiences.
- Learning how to best identify the needs regarding work force.
- Providing proper training for employees to assure better interaction.
- Setting up tracking regarding skill set evaluations commencing at an earlier age to determine the strengths and weakness of a young neurodivergent individuals.
- Discussing employment opportunities with neurodivergent individuals while they are still in school.
- Assure equal pay for their work.

- Having a transit system in place accommodated for their needs.
- Making sure accommodations are made available whenever necessary and possible.
- Making sure a neurodivergent person is part of any board or initiative addressing their needs.
- Providing situations where neurodivergent people can express their feelings, needs and abilities.
- Setting up tracking regarding skill set evaluations commencing at an earlier age to determine possible employment opportunities.

OLD BUSINESS:

Resolution regarding Self-Contained Classrooms – Ms. Elejabarrieta

Ms. Elejabarrieta provided update in reference to Resolution passed by the Advisory on Disability Affairs Board last month regarding Self-Contained Classrooms. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated Resolution will be presented at upcoming January 25, 2022, Commission meeting. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised the City's School Community Relations Committee also passed a similar Resolution which will be presented during same Commission meeting.

My Squad – Ms. Elejabarrieta

Ms. Elejabarrieta provided background regarding this program for adults with intellectual and mental disabilities. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised upcoming event is scheduled at the Biltmore Hotel for Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 6:00pm to 9:00pm and it is Pickleball and Pizza. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated they are expecting a bigger turn out and will be held outside. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised at past events, there have usually been around ten to twenty participants with disabilities and expect the same or perhaps more for this upcoming event.

Ms. Palacio addressed Ms. Fernandez and Ms. De Moya regarding seeking their support with promoting these events to their participants. Ms. Elejabarrieta stated this was a great idea and would be forwarding information of event to their organizations.

Ms. Milne stated it is a three-hour long event which is great, and dinner is provided.

G.U.I.D.E. – Ms. Elejabarrieta

Ms. Elejabarrieta provided information regarding the G.U.I.D.E program to all present. Ms. Elejabarrieta advised approximately ten families are currently registered and City is in process of reaching out to them.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: February 2, 2022

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Motion by Adjourn: Philippa Milne / 2nd Motion: Blake Sando / All approved unanimously.