

CORAL GABLES MERRICK HOUSE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2008
Coral Gables Merrick House
907 Coral Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	COMMISSIONERS
Barbara Reese	A	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Margaret Steele	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Jany Marchena	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Olga Baquero-Lima	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Laura Yusko	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Marie Vacca	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Sondra Space	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	City Manager

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Betty Perez, Historical Resources Department

A = Absent

E = Excused

P = Present

*** = Special Meeting**

- = No Meeting

^ = New Member

+ = Resigned

RECORDING SECRETARY: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Chair Yusko called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 15, 2008:

Handwritten revisions to the September 15, 2008 meeting made by Ms. Kautz were submitted and noted to be included.

Ms. Space made a motion to approve the September 15, 2008 meeting minutes as revised by Ms. Kautz' notes. The motion was approved.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Yusko thanked Ms. Steele and Ms. Space for decorating the House for the fall season.

House Report:

In the absence of Ms. Kautz, unable to attend due to illness, the House report was not reviewed.

Committee Reports:

Holiday Open House:

Ms. Baquero-Lima distributed and reviewed an updated report on plans and the projected budget for the Merrick Open House scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2008 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

During the report, Board members commented, asked questions and volunteered to help with a myriad of details to ensure the success of the event.

Self-guided tours will be available to those interested during the event. Though it would be ideal to have newly-printed House brochures prior to the event, the vendor has not yet received the City check. Older brochures will be used if the new ones are not ready prior to December 13.

Invitations (1,000) will be mailed prior to Thanksgiving, and will be prepared by several Board members the evening of Monday, November 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Ms. Yusko.

Coral Gables Garden Club members requested to have House access for decorating on Thursday, December 4, 2008. A few Board members will also help.

Ms. Reese will write an article about the Open House for The Miami Herald Neighbors. Ms. Baquero-Lima will meet with Ms. Higgins Fallon regarding the City's e-news statement. Flyers will be prepared and provided to retail stores, Coral Gables schools and pre-schools, scouts, houses of worship and grocery stores.

February Party:

Ms. Reese and Ms. Vacca reviewed old City scrapbooks to develop ideas for the party, the theme and details of which will be announced at the next Board meeting.

New Business:

Decorations Committee Expenditure:

Ms. Steele reported an expenditure of \$54.75 for Fall House decorations, the receipt for which will be given to Ms. Kautz for reimbursement.

Donation Policy Revisions:

Submitted Board comments/suggestions included:

- Change the name of Coral Gables House to Coral Gables Merrick House;
- When the City policy is mentioned within the Donation Policy, the referenced City policy should be stated;
- Item C: items pertinent to Coral Gables should read 1900 through 1929;
- Regarding the acquisition policy, need to address donations that pre-date the collections policy;
- Change reference to a furnishings committee to a collections committee;
- Item 5, C: Objects in the collection will not be given or sold privately to staff or volunteers . . . add Board members and anyone else connected to the collection.

As review of the policy continues, Board members will furnish written comments to Ms. Kautz.

House Grounds Use:

Ms. Steele reported that her oil/acrylic class will use House grounds on November 4, 2008.

Discussion Items:

Ms. Reese requested a textiles update, expressing hope that the refurbishing project would make progress prior to the February event. Ms. Steele recommended interior decorator Lucille McKey as a possible decorator to work with Susannah Worth.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 17, 2008, 8:45 a.m., Merrick House

The December meeting will be held Monday, December 8, 2008, 8:45 a.m., Merrick House

Respectfully submitted,

Kara N. Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer