

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 8, 2025

8:00 AM

<https://coralgables.zoom.us/j/89943974263>

Youth Center - Conference Room

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Chairperson Carlos Hernandez
Vice Chairperson Jennifer Marques
Board Member Aron Eizenstat
Board Member Antonio Gonzalez
Board Member Maite Halley
Board Member Erik Rodriguez
Board Member Yamilet Rodriguez
Board Member Richard Smit

CALL TO ORDER

Began at 8:21 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Board member Antonio Gonzalez, Board member Maite Halley, and Board member Aaron Aizenstat, Board member Yamilet Rodriguez, Chair Carlos Hernandez and Richard Smit

Excused: 2 - Board member Erik Rodriguez and Vice-Chair Jennifer Marquez

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL MINUTES MEETING WAS MADE BY ANTONIO GONZALEZ AND SECONDED BY RICHARD SMIT. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. General Updates:

Director Couceyro initiated his report by informing the board of the results of the City of Coral Gables Elections which were conducted back in April. He announced the victories of Mayor Lago, Vice Mayor Anderson, and the newly appointed Commissioner Lara. He continued by mentioning that the city held a Special Commission meeting on Tuesday, May 6. He subsequently disclosed that former City Manager Alberto Parjus had resigned from his position. Until a replacement is found, Deputy City Manager Joe Gomez will serve as the interim City Manager.

He then proceeded to provide updates on Le Parc Café and Birdie Bistro.

The board was informed of Administrative Operations Manager Sarah Espino new position as Assistant Director by Director Couceyro. In addition, he disclosed that they have advertised for a second Assistant Director and a Golf & Parks Superintendent, and they will be conducting interviews for these positions.

The board members were informed of the Summer Camp Orientation and Summer Camp by Director Couceyro.

Furthermore, he disclosed the results of his most recent meeting with the staff members of the youth center and the parents of the soccer program. He reported that the meeting was challenging, and the soccer program is presently being restructured by the youth center staff. He will provide them with an update during the forthcoming meeting.

b. Upcoming Events:

Director Couceyro proceeded to update the board on the forthcoming events for the month of May, Coral Gables Family Literacy Festival - Saturday, May 17 at 11 a.m., Memorial Day Ceremony - Monday, May 26 at 9 a.m., Brunch with Mom- Sunday, May 11 at 11 a.m., Coral Gables Coral Gables Open House - Saturday, May 17 at 10 a.m. and Patriotic BBQ - Sunday, May 25 at 5:30 p.m.

c. CIP Updates:

Director Couceyro went on to give an update on the golf course, mentioning the large Chinese banyan tree and the shelter. He then went on to provide updates on Blue Road, Dorthy Thompson Neighborhood Park, Underline Dog Park, and Venetian Pool.

He continued by going into further detail about William & Leona Cooper Park and Nellie B. Moore Park. Along with continuing upcoming projects for Rotary Park and Ingraham Park exercise equipment and Phillips Park.

Assistant Director Espino subsequently provided information about the upcoming project to renovate the flooring of the indoor basketball courts, fitness center, dance room, and check-in area at the youth center in early August.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

A MOTION TO POSTPONE THE JUNE MEETING WAS MADE BY RICHARD SMIT AND
WAS SECONDED BY MAITE HALLEY. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:16 A.M. WAS MADE BY ANTONIO GONZALEZ AND WAS SECONDED BY RICHARD SMIT. ALL IN FAVOR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

NOTE