

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS  
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2014, 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	S 13	O 13	N 13	D 13	J 14	F 14	M 14	A 14	M 14	J 14	J 14	A 14	S 14	O 14	N 14	APPOINTED BY:
Sally Baumgartner	-	-	P	E	*	P	P	P	P	*	*	P	E	P	P	James C. Cason
Patricia Sowers	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	*	E	P	P	P	Patricia Keon
William Beckham	E	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	*	E	E	P	P	Vince Lago
Bonnie Blaire	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	P	*	*	P	P	P	P	William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Richard Whittington	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	E	*	*	P	P	P	P	Frank C. Quesada

**P – Present**  
**E – Excused Absence**  
**A – Absent**  
**(-) – No Appointment**  
**(\*) – No Meeting**

**STAFF:**

Lorena Garrido, Central Division Supervisor – Public Works Department  
Alejandro Gonzalez-Pagan, Sr. Project Engineer – Public Works Department

**GUEST:**

1. Katie Kreter, Senior Advisory Board
2. Lieutenant Barta, City of Coral Gables – Police Department

**CITIZEN ADVISORS:**

None.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ms. Blaire called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**MEETING ABSENCE:** None.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

- **October 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Mrs. Bumgartner moved to approve the October 1, 2014 meeting minutes. Mr. Beckham second the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** None.

**BOARD-RELATED COMMISSION ITEMS:** None.

**CITY UPDATE:**

Mr. Gonzalez updated the Board on the Granada pedestrian bridge. He stated the project began August 2014 the substantial completion is expected January 2015 and final completion by February 2015. While the structural component of the project is currently proceeding as they expect the actual bridge to be delivered in November. In addition, there will be landscaping, irrigation and sidewalks added to the north and south side of the bridge, to the nearest intersection.

Mrs. Blaire asked if the car path will be extended as part of this project. Mr. Gonzalez responded the scope of work for the bridge does not include any modifications to the car path.

Mrs. Blaire said that if there's an open ceremony upon completion of the bridge, she requested for the Board to be notified.

Mrs. Blaire encouraged members to be on the look-out for anything that may need to be reported to Public Works for action. They may contact them at 305-460-5000.

**BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Ms. Garrido mentioned the Board's annual report needs to be prepared for this year.

**PROGRAM:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Blaire reported that Board members attended the last City Commission meeting to accept the Proclamation acknowledging October as National Disabilities Month. Mrs. Sowers has the proclamation and will bring it to December's Board meeting.

Mrs. Blaire asked Mrs. Baumgartner for an update on the audible signals. She stated there's no update and that they are waiting for Mr. Kephart to come back to the Board with more information. Mrs. Blaire suggested Sally be involved in the committee for the Miracle Mile/Giralda project.

Regarding the Consumer Information for Disability Affairs (Center), Mrs. Kreter and Mrs. Sowers have discussed the equipment that will be needed to run the Center, including a TTY line.

Mrs. Sowers also suggested reaching out the Switchboard of Miami for assistance with the resources. Mrs. Blaire will be in touch with them to set something up.

Mrs. Blaire mentioned that the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Division (Economic Development) want to move forward with assisting the Board. The Board should be thinking about what we want the Chamber to do. Prior discussions included providing information / seminars to the downtown merchants and restaurants on how to handle their public who have disabilities. This information may include how to handle service animals, deafness, wheelchair accessibility, etiquette, and evaluation of their business, tax breaks, etc.

Mr. Beckham stated that his son, Bill Beckham, Jr., may be interested and is highly capable of assisting.

Mrs. Baumgartner suggested having a breakfast with a program.

Mrs. Sowers suggested having Mrs. Lampon do a presentation regarding employment.

Mrs. Blaire agreed these are all key points and we may want to start with service animals.

Lt. Barta commented that there are many disabled veterans that use service dogs. Therefore having a “service animals presentation” will be beneficial. Also, it may be a good suggestion to incorporate a veteran into this presentation.

Mrs. Sowers stated this is a great idea and she has a contact with the veterans group in Broward and Dade counties.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, December 3, 2014, 8:00 am to be held at the *Coral Gables Youth Center's 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room.*