

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015, 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

| MEMBERS | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | APPOINTED BY: |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------------------|
| | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | |
| Sally Baumgartner | * | P | P | P | P | * | * | P | E | P | P | P | P | P | James C. Cason |
| Patricia Sowers | * | P | P | P | P | * | * | E | P | P | P | P | P | P | Patricia Keon |
| William Beckham | * | P | P | P | P | * | * | E | E | P | P | P | P | P | Vince Lago |
| Bonnie Blaire | * | P | P | P | P | * | * | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | William H. Kerdyk, Jr. |
| Richard Whittington | * | P | P | P | E | * | * | P | P | P | P | P | P | E | Frank C. Quesada |

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

STAFF:

Lorena Garrido, Central Division Supervisor – Public Works Department

GUEST:

1. Kelly Denham, City of Coral Gables – Police Department
2. Letty Ellis, Senior Advisory Board

CITIZEN ADVISORS:

1. Katie Kreter, Senior Advisory Board
2. Debbie Dietz, Disability Independence Group

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MEETING ABSENCE:

Dr. Whittington was excused.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

- **January 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Mrs. Baumgartner moved to approve the January 7, 2015 meeting minutes. Mrs. Sowers second the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Garrido reminder the Board of the Miracle Mile Streetscape Presentation to Boards and Committees scheduled for February 5th at 6pm at the Youth Center Theater.

She also reported on previous concerns from the Board regarding the City's Christmas Park not being accessible due to the mulch and sand. Public Works is looking into options to remedy this situation.

BOARD-RELATED COMMISSION ITEMS:

The Memo of Understanding for office space use for the Center (Consumer Information Center for Disability Affairs) has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office. It still needs City Commission approval.

CITY UPDATE: None.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Mrs. Blaire stated that the Switchboard of Miami will be providing training for the Center's volunteers. A training date will be scheduled.

Mr. Beckham reported on the Chamber of Commerce presentation. He said they are on the schedule for their March 18th meeting at 8am at the Right Space to Meet, 100 Miracle Mile, Suite 200. He discussed possible topics such as having Matt Dietz discuss the legality of doing business with the disabled, the positives of doing business with the disabled, discuss the Consumer Information Center, having his son, Woody talk on how the disabled see barriers and possibly having a veteran be present.

PROGRAM:

- *Presentation by Cynthia Birdsill, Economic & Cultural Development Director Re: City of Coral Gables' Adult Activity Center – Proposed Layout*

Mrs. Birdsill presented the layout of the proposed Adult Activity Center which will be located on Andalusia Street, ground floor of the Palace's parking garage. The Board's feedback was as follows:

1. Make sure that everything complies with the Florida building code.
2. Assess if there are enough handicapped spaces.
3. Are there appropriate door pushes for the elevator and entrance doors?
4. Make sure all braille signage is checked for accuracy— apparently we have some braille signs that were not accurate.
5. Make sure there is an audible crossing at the intersection with Douglas.
6. Should have automatic door openers throughout.

7. Concerned about how accessible the back hallway will be with steps and not ramps. There are 2 lifts proposed; will there need to be an employee available to operate them at all times? What happens if there is a power failure while someone is in the hallway? Will there be back up power for the lifts?
8. Operationally, make sure staff is ready to assist the hearing disabled with signing or contracted services for signing.
9. Other comments made – that for Streetscape, they would like audible crossing signs, and braille signs (that are checked for accuracy). Pedestrian crossing signals should automatically activate even if the button is not pushed.
10. Also noted that the time to cross LeJeune is not long enough for someone who has mobility issues or needs to walk slowly.

Mrs. Birdsill stated that the City hopes to have the center up and running by the end of the year.

Mrs. Ellis discussed some current Adult Activity Center programs/support groups such as: support group for Alzheimer care takers, hearing loss and visually impaired.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 8:00 am to be held at the *Coral Gables Youth Center's 2nd Floor Conference Room.*