



The City of Coral Gables

Historical Resources Department

CORAL GABLES MERRICK HOUSE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2015, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Coral Gables Merrick House

907 Coral Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	APPOINTED BY:
	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	
Amy Kutell^			-	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Daisy Baez	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Marlin Ebbert	P	E	-	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Pat Keon
Ana Lam	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Laura Yusko	P	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	E	E	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Joanne Meagher	P	E	-	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Susan Rodriguez	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	City Manager

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Dona M. Spain, Historic Preservation Officer
Kara Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Emily Ahouse, Historic Preservationist
Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant

A = Absent

P = Present

- = No Meeting

+ = Resigned Member

E = Excused

* = Special Meeting

^ = New Member

GUESTS: City of Coral Gables Sustainability Specialist Matt Anderson

**Ms. Lam arrived at 8:46 A.M.; Ms. Spain arrived at 9:00 A.M.

MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION: Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant, Historical Resources

Ms. Ebbert, as acting chair, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and stated attendance for the record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH 9, 2015:

A motion was made by Ms. Baez and seconded by Ms. Kutell to approve the minutes of March 9, 2015.
The motion was unanimously passed.

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Baez made a motion, seconded by Ms. Meagher to excuse the absence of Ms. Rodriguez. The motion was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

April 12, 2015 Go-Green Gables Eco-Fair:

Ms. Ebbert introduced Matt Anderson, the City's new Sustainability Specialist, and reported that she met with City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark and was informed that recycling bins would be provided for the event

and distributed with proof of a driver's license and that the event would be published in the City's E-News. Mr. Anderson stated that he would be at the event to assist with the bins.

Logistics were discussed in regards to the placement of the STS (Strive To Save) Electronic recycling truck and after deliberation it was decided that the truck would be parked by the garage due to the size.

Ms. Ebbert continued with her report presenting a copy of a door hanger flyer and suggested having some educational material with the bins. Mr. Anderson stated that he would discuss with Jessica Keller (City) to see what they would be able to provide for the event in regards to educational flyers.

Ms. Ebbert also reported that South Miami Pharmacy might send someone to inform the public about drug recycling. However, no actual pharmaceutical drugs would be recycled at the event.

Ms. Kutell suggested having someone from DERM at the event to promote the Baynanza event. Mr. Anderson informed that he was aware of the event and had a flyer.

After some discussion, Ms. Meagher requested that the flyer be e-mailed to her so that it could be placed on the poster.

Ms. Ebbert also reported that she had reconfirmed everyone for the event, including the banjo player, and Juan Riera. Commission Vince Lago would be doing the welcoming remarks. It was also reported that the Columbus boys would not be able to help on Sunday. Ms. Kutell stated that her sons would be able to help. The boy scouts would be helping and doing the flag raising.

Ms. Katuz asked about their set up needs. Ms. Ebbert stated that round tables and chairs would be needed and advised that Ellen Book would give two presentations about composting. More discussion continued in regards to setup and logistics. Ms. Ebbert stated that she would obtain the table linens from the Barnacle.

Ms. Ebbert stated that she would keep in touch with Mr. Anderson throughout the week.

Ms. Meagher suggested doing 4 displays on the porch. Also, she stated that she had obtained boxes of children's costumes, which will be given out for free at the event.

HOUSE REPORT: March 2015: Ms. Kautz reported the following:

- Total visitors in March: 2 Adults; 5 Seniors; + 27 seniors on group tour taken March 11, 2015 from Mandel JCC in Palm Beach Gardens + 55 seniors on group tour taken March 26, 2015 from Bonita Springs; 0 Students; 0 Youth; 0 Children
- Trust Fund Balance: \$26,462.50 (expenditure account); \$5,427 (revenue account).
- Roxy O'Neal Bolton Fund: \$4,939 (unchanged).
- Rental Requests: None new.
- Dress donation: Approved by the Board in November.

Ms. Meagher presented the dress obtained from Toni Garcia to the board. She suggested that the dress would look better on a dress form.

- Villagers Grant to restore child portrait: \$3,000. The entire portrait will cost \$8,750.

Ms. Kautz reported that a Villagers grant had been received in the amount of \$3,000 to finish the treatment of "Portrait of a Child," painted by Denman Fink. Ms. Kautz relayed the painting's history and distributed a handout showing the painting. Ms. Ebbert inquired what the total cost would be to restore it. Ms. Kautz

informed that the total was \$8,750.00, however the \$3,000 grant reduces the amount. Ms. Kautz asked if the board was interested in funding the remaining cost to help restore the painting.

Ms. Meagher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lam to cover the remaining cost using funds from the trust fund to restore "Portrait of a Child", by Denman Fink. The motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

House Restoration Update: Ms. Spain reported that plans had been received for the first floor of the garage building which were not approved because of the issue of making the two bathrooms handicap accessible. Revisions were made and then approved. The projected construction date is slated for June or July with a completion date in December.

Ms. Kauz added that there were two places that were being looked at for storage, one being Museo Vault, for once construction begins and all the items will have to be removed from the house. Ms. Meagher offered her assistance for the summer with cataloging the items in the Merrick House.

Part Time Merrick House Docent Coordinator: Ms. Spain reported that it was part of the budget request that was being worked on for the next fiscal year.

Porch Benches: Ms. Kautz reported that she will reconfirm that all checks have been received. Contact had been made with the bronze company requesting a mock up and a response from them is still pending. Once it has been received she will e-mail for approval.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Meeting Location: Discussion was held in regard to where the Board would meet once the construction started at the Merrick House. Ms. Spain suggested that the board meet at the Historical Resources Department.

CITY COMISSION UPDATE: None

CITY PROJECTS UPDATE: None

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY: None

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Monday, May 11, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Merrick House.

ADJOURMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kane Kautz for Dona Spain

Dona M. Spain
Historic Preservation Officer