

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of Meeting, January 3, 2019
Youth Center Conference Room

MEMBERS	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	
Ana Martin-Lavielle	P	P	E	E	P	-	-	P	E	P	P	P	Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli
Bonita Norman	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Patricia Keon
Lucy Reinhardt	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	E	P	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Barbara Perez	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Elizabeth Parnes	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Michael Mena
Jose Garrigo	P	P	P	E	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Robert Berman	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P	E	P	P	Board as a Whole

STAFF:

Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Landscape Architect
Ayliin Hernandez, Landscape Services, Recording Secretary

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused

GUESTS:

OPEN MEETING: The Chair, Barbara Perez, opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m., the roll was taken and a quorum was present. **A motion was made to "Approve the minutes of December 6th, 2018, as corrected. The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.**

Steve Pearson was invited to discuss the Gifford Arboretum on the University of Miami campus. Mr. Pearson expressed gratitude for the invitation. Mr. Pearson explained the importance of the Arboretum for the community as well as the school. It is an extremely diverse botanical garden; it has over five hundred species of plants. It is for botanical research and educational advancement. The Arboretum is also a community resource. Mr. Pearson mentioned the Arboretum needs maintenance; however, preservation requires leadership as well as resources. Unfortunately, the Director's position is vacant. Discussion developed on writing a letter to the University of Miami to express the Board's interest in the preservation of the Gifford Arboretum. The Chair, Barbara Perez, offered to draft a letter on behalf of the board. **A motion was made to, "Have the Board write a letter to the University of Miami with focus on the Gifford Arboretum and the relationship with the City of Coral Gables. The board would like to express the importance of preserving the Gifford Arboretum." The motion was seconded, voted upon and adopted unanimously.** An inquiry was made on having the February 7th, 2019 meeting at the Arboretum at 8:30 am. Mr. Pearson concurred. He will look into the parking. Discussion developed on using the Tree Keeper Program to map the Gifford Arboretum plants. Volunteers of the Biology Department could participate. Ms. Perez offered to display a pamphlet of the Arboretum at the Farmer's Market event.

OLD BUSINESS:

LANDSCAPE AWARD NOMINATIONS: Code Enforcement is reviewing the nominations.

FARMER'S MARKET EVENT: The event will be held on Saturday, February 9th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn is the speaker. Landscape Services will create a sign and name tags will be ordered. Publicity has been on E-news since December 2018.

ARBOR DAY EVENT: Discussion developed on recognizing Mr. Pearson for his contributions to the community. A plaque will be looked into. Mr. Garrigo nominated the Gifford Arboretum and he sent three photographs. The board will select one of the photographs for Mr. Pearson's plaque. A meeting is scheduled with the Carver Elementary School Principal on Tuesday, January 29th, 2019. Katy Sobrado will not be able to attend. The meeting date will be rescheduled. Ms. Parnes will represent the board. She will look into the school's parking. Discussion developed on food and refreshments. Water should be provided. The Children's program will be held in the auditorium. A fruit tree will be planted.

ROYAL POINCIANA FIESTA: Mr. Pearson provided a brief history of the Royal Poinciana Fiesta. An agreement was reached and the Trolley service will be provided. The City will also provide the publicity. The Flowering Tree Society needs to forward the publicity materials to Public Affairs. Ms. Parnes will attend the meeting with the Flowering Tree Society on Friday, February 15th, 2019, at 9:00 am.

UPDATE ON MISCELLANEOUS CITY PROJECTS:

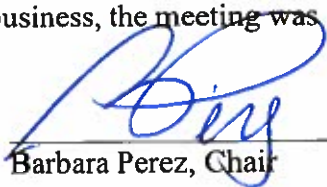
HISTORIC ENTRANCES: Ms. Bell-Llewellyn advised that Segovia St. and Coral Way is being landscaped. There are a total of seven entrances.

MERRICK HOUSE: The Grand Opening was held on Sunday, December 9th, 2018. City staff handled the landscape design and installation. The Garden Club assisted with Althea's Garden. The Garden Club also provided the Christmas decorations inside the home.


DISCUSSION: Ms. Bell-Llewellyn will speak with the City Attorney's office to prepare the paperwork for the Pure Beauty Farm donations. Mr. Garrigo pointed out the Tree Succession Project is available online. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn attended a meeting with Miami Dade County regarding the Underline. Dade County has an online link for this project. A dog park will be built across Ponce de Leon. The board was encouraged to volunteer for various selection committees for contract reviews citywide. An inquiry was made on the landscape improvements of the Court House. Ms. Bell-Llewellyn is looking into this site and will report back.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVED:


Barbara Perez, Chair

ATTEST:


Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Acting Secretary

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 8:30 A.M.
UM GIFFORD ARBORETUM, 1301 MEMORIAL DR, CORAL GABLES, FL**