

# **City of Coral Gables**

405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, March 4, 2019**

**5:00 PM**

**City Hall, Commission Chambers, 2nd Floor**

### **City of Coral Gables / University of Miami** **Community Relations Committee**

*Chairperson Sarah Artecona*  
*Vice Chairperson Belinda Sime*  
*Board Member Erick Fernandez*  
*Board Member Wendy Kallergis*  
*Board Member Philip Kates*  
*Board Member David Rivero*  
*Board Member Frank Rosell*  
*Board Member Judith Welsh*  
*Board Member Dr. Patricia Whitely*  
*Board Member Interfraternity Council President*  
*Board Member Student Government President*

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Sarah Artecona.

## ROLL CALL

- Present:** 6 - Board Member Fernandez, Board Member Artecona, Board Member Sime, Board Member Welsh, Board Member Whitely and Board Member Council President
- Absent:** 3 - Board Member Kallergis, Board Member Kates and Board Member Rosell
- Excused:** 2 - Board Member Government President and Board Member Rivero

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Present:** 6 - Board Member Fernandez, Board Member Artecona, Board Member Sime, Board Member Welsh, Board Member Whitely and Board Member Council President
- Absent:** 3 - Board Member Kallergis, Board Member Kates and Board Member Rosell
- Excused:** 2 - Board Member Government President and Board Member Rivero

19-8399 CG / UM Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2018

No vote was taken on the Minutes due to lack of quorum.

## PUBLIC HEARING

**Discussion / Q & A - City's Swales, Hermes Diaz, Public Works Department, and Kevin Kinney, Parking Department**

Hermes Diaz, Interim Public Works Director & City Engineer, and Kevin Kinney, Parking Department Director, discussed that the Commission has tasked them with reducing signs throughout the City. There has been a sign pollution and, at this time, there will not be any additional No Parking signs installed.

The University Members expressed their concern with people parking on the swales and, specifically, a damaged septic tank located at 5900 San Amaro Drive. The tank was damaged due to the weight of the cars parking in the area. They requested for those parking illegally to be cited and ticketed by the Parking Department and the Code Enforcement Division. They are requesting for a No Parking sign to be installed in this area.

Mr. Diaz will look into this matter and also speak to Deanna Bell-Llewellyn, Landscape Architect, to discuss landscaping options.

Ms. Artecona requested a resolution to this matter within thirty (30) days.

**Update on the University's Events, Sarah Artecona**

Baseball tickets are now available to residents. Residents can receive up to four free tickets. The Athletics Department will deliver the tickets during the first week of March.

The MBS Dean's Distinguished Leaders Lecture Series is scheduled for March 6th at the Miami Business School Storer Auditorium.

The University is co-hosting with the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce the 2019 Candidate Forum on March 7th at the Watsco Center Fieldhouse. All candidates will be present.

On March 7th the Lowe Arts Museum presents Lowe After Hours. There will be exhibitions, food and entertainment. Refreshments are courtesy of Bacardi.

Sprink Break will be March 9th through March 17th this year. Classes end April 26th and Commencement ceremonies will be held May 9th and 10th.

On April 7th there will be a Frost Museum Live! Signature Series, Zephyros Winds: One of America's Leading Chamber Ensembles. The concert will be held at the UM Gusman Concert Hall.

CollegeTown survey was provided in the eNews.

**Update by the University's Interfraternity Council President**

The IFC is encouraging tailgate parties be held away from the Stadium in order to have more control on alcohol related incidents around the Campus. Ms. Artecona requested for the IFC to provide her with the dates Campus tailgate parties will be held.

There has not been an increase in IFC membership. They are working on different activities to increase the current membership number. 484 students will receive bids.

**Update on the University's Planning & Construction Initiatives, Alicia Corral**

The Beaux Arts Festival was successful this year. The property at 6500 Red Road has been purchased by the University and has been rezoned. There are no decisions made on which programs or offices will be located in the building.

Student Housing is under construction. It will contain over 1,000 student beds and will be a 6-story building. Completion is expected in the Summer of 2020.

Future projects include: an Intramural Field, Student Housing Phase II, a Student Services Center, a Science Building, a Music Building, an Indoor Batting Practice Facility, and a Greenhouse.

The University has implemented evening and weekend parking fees on Campus. Motorists can use the pay-by-phone or use pay stations located throughout the Campus.

**Update by the University's Police Department, Chief David A. Rivero**

Chief David Rivero was Excused from meeting due to a conflict in his schedule.

**Update by the University's President of Student Affairs, Dr. Patricia A. Whitely**

The University has been busy with numerous student events. Commencement ceremonies will cause traffic congestion in the surrounding areas for a couple of days.

The Department of Conference Services is now available for public to schedule conferences. The Department is located by Lakeside Village.

The Stanford Residential Commons will be demolished and rebuilt. The new housing will contain 960 beds. The Hecht Residential Commons will also be demolished and rebuilt. New housing will be geared toward sophomores. Most students will be housed in Mahoney-Pearson Commons. It is projected that 5,400 students will be living on Campus by the year 2025.

Mobility throughout the Campus has been reduced due to students using Uber and Lyft.

**Update by the University's Student Government President**

Evan De Joya, Student Government President, was Excused from meeting due to a conflict in his schedule. He provided the following information and the Update was read by the Board Liaison.

On February 4th, the Asian American Students Association held the Annual Lunar New Year Festival on Campus. The event featured traditional foods, clothing, artfully decorated booths, martial arts presentations and various dances and performances.

On February 7th, Student Government hosted the Inaugural "What Matters to U" Event in the Shalala Student Center. The event aims to bring high-profile speakers to the Campus in order to engage with students on relevant issues. The event featured Bill Nye, Science Communicator, who led a conversation on climate changes and sea level rise in Miami.

PhilADthropy, a program through the School of Communications, celebrated its ten-year anniversary. This program is a 25-hour marathon where students, assisted by faculty and alumni, pour their classroom knowledge and talents into creative ads and marketing campaigns for non-profit organizations that may need assistance. For 25-continuous hours, Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting survivors gathered and shared emotional testimonies as faculty and staff designed campaigns for the March for Our Lives organization.

Election results for the 2019-20 President, Vice President and Treasurer were announced. The winning ticket, Empower U, received more than 53% of the 3,587 votes cast. It was the highest voter turnout in recent University history.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson, Sarah Artecona.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2019.