

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SCRC)
Meeting Agenda
Friday, October 18, 2019

Coral Gables Planning Dept., 2nd Floor Conference Room
427 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	APPOINTED BY
Ariel Fernandez	A	-	P	P	P								Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Samuel Joseph	P	-	P	P	P								Vice Mayor Lago
Mary Snow	P	-	P	P	E								Commissioner Fors
Erin Anding	P	-	P	P	P								Commissioner Keon
Carmen Manrara-Cartaya	P	-	P	P	P								Commissioner Mena
Sandy Dimitris	P	-	P	P	P								City Manager Iglesias
Pending Appointment													Commission-as-a-whole

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
- = No meeting

STAFF: Solanch Lopez – Acting Staff Liaison, Matthew Anderson, Jessica Keller

GUESTS: Sharon Watson, Nancy Lawther, Patrick Mesa, Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Brittnee Robinson, Alejandro Perez, Angela Rendon, Mark A. Trowbridge, Beatriz Rangel, and Estelillo Lockhart.

The following represents a summary of the items discussed during the Committee meeting.

-MEETING AGENDA -

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM.

II. ROLL CALL/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ariel made a motion to excuse Mary Snow from the meeting, Carmen seconded. Ariel made a motion to approve September Meeting Minutes, Erin seconded.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. SCRC Business: Committee Leadership Election

-Erin nominated Sam Joseph as chair- no second.

- Carmen nominated Ariel as chair, Sandy seconded.
- Vice Chair nomination begins.
- Ariel Fernandez nominated Sam Joseph as Vice chair, Carmen seconded.

B. 2019 SCRC Annual Report Approval

- Ariel moves to approve, Sandy seconds.

C. CG Commission Request: SIP List Additions

- 2019-21 SCRC Priorities will be included in the request for membership expansion that will be presented to commission at the November 12th meeting.

D. Stakeholder Spotlight: Green Ribbon Schools Initiative

- Matthew Anderson excuses Michele Drucker's absence.
- Michele Drucker was recognized by Mari-Tere Rojas and the school board for their green initiatives.
- Awarded over 400 schools around the nation as Green Ribbon Schools.
- City started journey on sustainability in 2013. Per goals for energy, water, and fossil fuel reduction.
- He has gathered with department heads to identify and create goals for sustainability.
- The City has 295 Acres of parks, 38,000 trees on our right of way, and we want to add electric vehicles.
- We are PACE program participants.
- Any building built in our City needs to be up to Silver Standards and use sustainable and green methods.
- Green Business Certification Program-we have moved on ban of plastic bags, straws etc.
- Working on water quality- can see website.
- 4.3 Million dollars sitting in fund for project.
- UM has just submitted their application to be a Green Business Certified by the City.
- Guest brings up issue with Coral Gables High School not having a recycling program.

D. Bus Transportation for Public School Students- Jessica Keller

- Bus Pass System- Space Available Program
- If there is space available, a parent can apply and have their student placed on the bus.
- Member says that they do not want to promote a program that there is not much availability for.
- Impacts of school drop off in the neighborhood.
- State Statute; Asks if the board can look into the hazardous walking conditions. Applies to students at Carver that live north of US1.

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

A. Teachers Awards

- Process that takes place on an annual basis
- Requirements: full time, 5 years' experience, nominated and faculty voted.
- The Coral gables Chamber of Commerce will carve out a few minutes from their program to incorporate awards during their Educational Breakfast on November 21 at the Biltmore.
- Any school can attend meetings whether they are a member or not.
- Start small pilot program and open it up to all schools next year.
- Chamber will offer gift cards as prizes for the award recipients and we will focus on the Teacher of the year for 11 schools during this pilot program.

B. Principal Today

- Event on October 24th at Jungle Island and October 30th is the actual day where the representatives will go and shadow their principals.
- Committee Members encouraged to participate.

C. School/Bell Hours Change

- Launched "Time to Shine" initiative in August.
- If there is a change on bell time in high school, there would be a change for other grades as well.
- In order to be able to maximize the use of bus fleet, the bell times need to be change
- Looks into student health and transportation needs.
- High-School and Middle School start time pushed back to 8:30 possibly.
- Special Needs Parents have also been met with in the focus group outreach.
- Meetings with parents through the office of Community engagement (focus groups that will lead to larger feedback from all) next couple months.
- Research being done on children's development.

D. General Updates

- New meeting location starting in November at the War Memorial Youth Center. All attendees must bring ID for check-in.
- Clarification on Committees name was provided.
- Minorca Avenue pothole and crosswalk updates requested by CG Prep. during September's PTA Updates.
- Update on open appointment on committee.
- Update on request to the Commission for member expansion.

E. PTSA Updates

- Motion for letter of support for the IS Spanish partnership at George Washington Carver Elementary School. Ariel moves, Carmen seconds.
- As newly elected chair, Ariel will draft the letter and it will be circulated to the other committee members for approval.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM. Next meeting is November 15, 2019.