

City of Coral Gables

*405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 5, 2020

5:00 PM

Public Participation via Zoom

Adult Activity Center, 2 Andalusia Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

at 4:13pm

ROLL CALL

Celia Suarez

Edward English

Jim Berlin

Julian Sevillano

Jane Mass -Virtually

Joan Valdes- Virtually

Richard Thurer- Virtually

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve the September Minutes was made by Julian Sevillano and second by Celia Suarez. Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Adult Activity Center Supervisor Katherine Anderson began the meeting with updates on current programming.

The Center will start a trail run of what will be known as Friday Fitness in the Park with Maria Fleites. They will do a trial run with pilates on Friday mornings with no more than 15 participants in Rotary Park. Participants will need to register online at Playgables.com for \$10. This is going to be a in person class and will not be aired via Zoom. Her Wednesday classes online will be a video recording to allow for Maria to rest for Friday in-person classes.

Wednesday, November 18th the AAC has partnered with the IT department to lead a Scam Prevention Webinar for anyone interested in joining. The webinar will be from 2:00pm-3:00pm and she will send the link to the board if anyone is interested in participating.

Friday December 4th at 10am, the AAC will be hosting a Staying Healthy for the Holidays webinar with multiple guest speakers. This will only be via Zoom.

Department Director Fred Couceyro spoke to the board on COVID related updates. Included with those updates was the current situation on how Boards and Committees are now required to meet in person in order to reach quorum and vote on any items. The Commission Chambers and the AAC will be used for all boards & committees for meetings due to space and technology needs. The Senior Board, Parks Advisory Board and the Youth board will only meet at the AAC.

We will gradually open the AAC and something that is in mind will be fitness classes one hour a day using the great room. Administration will continue to meet with the City Manager for how to proceed.

Holiday Events are set to take place including the annual Holiday Tree Lighting. However, it will be extremely modified without the carnival and traditional rides that take place. The logistics to the event is still in the planning phase. They expect limited admission and family pod seating.

Other holiday events that will take place will be Holiday Park with monitors and limited capacity. Social distancing and masks will be required. Much like the Easter event, we will be doing home visits from Santa where children will get a souvenir stocking and will give their wish list letters to Santa. Virtual

Zoom calls with Santa and Hot Chocolate with Santa will also take place on multiple days. Movies Under the Gables Moonlight will also take place once a month for the next four months. Each family will purchase a family pod of 4 and be given a blanket to mark their designated seating spaces. All scheduled events will be for residents only.

Julian asked if programming will be brought back to the Center with the necessary social distancing. Fred said yes once the decision to reopen center is approved by the City Manager's office. At this time, we are working on returning all necessary staff back to the Center that have been utilized at other facilities for other functions. Fred gave the board an update of full time staffing requirements and how we are running shifts to make sure all facilities are covered but still maintaining safe distancing.

Jim Berlin asked about the attendance numbers for online programming and fitness classes at this point in the pandemic. Katherine Anderson told the board the numbers in some programs have increased from in person and how other programs have decreased but users of the center are still taking advantage of the free classes. The bigger social events have not taken place, so Katherine and Fred feel that's why we have lost some user participation.

Fred quickly went over plans for the approaching storm that were discussed with the Emergency Management Team. The City will be taking a cautious approach with any preparations however they do not anticipate a very strong storm.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Katherine and Fred asked for feedback and ideas from the board that can help to engage our senior population during the holiday season. Celia suggested a Happy Hour type Zoom meeting for our members to socialize after months of not seeing one another. She suggested this leading into Thanksgiving. Katherine talked about some of the logistics about how we can achieve a Happy Hour event and is really loved the idea.

The continuing of virtual exercise classes after the center reopens is going to continue but as a hybrid format where a set number of participants will be able to attend in person and the remaining of participants will join via Zoom. Katherine discussed possible scenarios of how the classes would be setup and which classes might remain virtual only.

Jim Berlin asked about the annual report. Jane will submit the draft of the report to the board for approval in the upcoming week for review.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Board Secretary, Sarah Espino reviewed with the Board the board appointments dates and number of terms remaining. Jane Mass and Joan Valdes are currently in their last term with this Senior Advisory board. Sarah also confirmed with the Board that Jim Berlin is the Vice Chair.

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 3rd, 2020 at 4:00 pm as a hybrid format.

ADJOURNMENT