

City of Coral Gables

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



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

7:00 PM

The board meets the first Wednesday of the very month.
Coral Gables Youth Center, 405 University Drive, Coral Gables, FL
Parks and Recreation Youth Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

This is an unofficial meeting. The meeting began at 7:08pm.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Alec Schneider
Kirk Menendez, Jr.
Samantha Simpson
Natalie Gonzalez
Mihir Pabby
Jorge Hernandez

Absent:

Gabriella Toyos

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Administrative Assistant Sarah Espino quickly went over what it means to have an unofficial meeting and explained that the Board will not be able to vote on any items.

Carlos Pichardo went over some of the special events that occurred over the holiday season. Events included Zoom calls with Santa, Visits from Santa and the Holiday Tree Lighting. The Youth Center has had volleyball, U-8 soccer, flag football and are gearing up for the basketball season for ages 7-14. Registration is already open.

Upcoming events and programs include the Daddy Daughter Dance on February 6th and Spring Break camps.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Administrative Supervisor Mitch Zuriarrain spoke to the board about current capital projects that are currently in the planning phase. Community meetings have already occurred for the Granada Pro-Shop renovation project and the Pierce Park renovation. The final design phase and permitting is taking place for the Salvador ADA Playground expansion and the replacement of the current Salvador playground should take place in June or July of 2021. Jaycee Park will begin construction at the end of February.

We are currently gearing up for the community presentation of the new designs for the Granada Rain shelters that will be completely replaced.

Along with Capital renovations, administration has also rolled out a new Park Permit program that will allow for park rentals for outside programming to occur. Programs we hope to draw will be art type classes, yoga, and small group classes.

Mitch notified the board that we are in a new fiscal year and are getting ready for budgeting so if the Board has any ideas or wish list items they wish to see funded next fiscal year, to please share them with staff.

Samantha Simpson asked what the City's plans for the Easter event are. Mitch explained there is nothing concrete yet, but we hope to do Visits from the Easter Bunny like the previous year and to maybe offer small resident only Egg Hunts at some of our parks. Mitch also let the board know of other City events which include Coral Gables Farmer's Market and Movies Under the Gables Moonlight. The next movie scheduled is Frozen. All event tickets must be purchased online at PlayGables.com and are resident only events.

Mitch and Sarah let the Board know that we are looking for volunteers for the Farmer's Market Event and the Easter egg hunt events if they take place.

Natalie Gonzalez asked for more details on the Daddy Daughter Dinner. Carlos Pichardo let the board know that the event will not include a dance but a dinner and table activities. The event will take place at the Venetian Pool and will have limited amount of tickets. At this time, tickets are available online and are for residents only. The Youth Center is also open for limited registration hours Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8am to 12pm.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

Mitch spoke to the board at the end of the meeting to help encourage participation and for the Board to bring forth items to discuss at these meetings. He asked that they always bring at least one item to discuss when we meet. And if the board thinks the meeting dates or times need to be adjusted to make sure full participation, to please let us know.

The next scheduled meeting is set for February 3rd, 2021. Gabriella Toyos has requested via email that the next meeting be moved to 7:30pm. The Board has agreed to 7:30pm. If quorum can be met, our meeting will take place at the Adult Activity Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting came to a close at 7:26pm.

NOTE