



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, November 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Billy Bain
- Vice Mayor Dan Espino
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ator
- Councilman Bob Best (arrived at 7:01 p.m.)
- Councilman George V. Lob

Also Present:

- City Manager James R. Borgmann
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police Peter G. Baan
- Finance Director William Alonso
- City Planner Richard E. Ventura
- Sports Supervisor Noel Acosta
- Deputy City Clerk Suzanne S. Hitaffer

2. Invocation: Councilwoman Ator offered the invocation.

Salute to the Flag: The audience participated.

3. Awards & Presentations:

3A) Update from the Architectural Review Board

Architectural Review Board Chairman Mark Trowbridge of 260 Hibiscus Drive thanked Council for allowing the Board to present a status report regarding the Board's directive to create signage in the downtown district. He introduced Architectural Review Board member Roger Plasencia.

Mr. Trowbridge explained that the Architectural Review Board has been reviewing the current conditions in Miami Springs and researching ways to take corrective action in addressing the signage issues around the City.

Roger Plasencia of 700 Morningside Drive explained that the presentation contained examples from several communities: Miami Springs, Miami Beach, Delray Beach and Rosemary Beach. His review of Miami Springs suggests that the City already has too many signs, creating “sign pollution” and a maintenance issue. While the City is interested in creating new signage, there are many signs that should be removed first, giving more meaning to the signs that remain. The intent is to make every sign count; every sign post should be important and have more than one function.

Mr. Plasencia further explained that there is no uniformity throughout the signage or lighting in the City. It is obvious that Curtiss Parkway and Westward Drive were separate projects in different eras, as they have no relation to each other.

Mr. Trowbridge and Mr. Plasencia narrated the first six slides of the presentation, which were examples of the current conditions in Miami Springs. The slides depicted clusters of signs, signs that were leaning, damaged or generally not well maintained.

The next group of slides depicted the small park area on Canal Street between the incoming and outgoing bridges, highlighting the cohesive design and uniform scale of all the components. The comparison between the east and west sides of the first block of Curtiss Parkway was pointed out; a unified paint and sign scheme on one side and a collection of colors, styles and sizes on the other. The light poles are also out of scale, more appropriate for a highway than a downtown area.

Examples from Miami Beach, both good and bad, contained pedestrian scale way-finding signs, highway banners, and signs designed to be seen from automobiles.

Mr. Plasencia noted that since Miami Springs was such a small community, much of the signage would be scaled towards pedestrian or slower vehicular traffic; other than N. W. 36th Street, there was no need for highly visible large signs. He asked the audience to pay attention to the light fixtures and poles shown in many of the examples, as he felt they could easily be adapted for use with signage.

Mr. Trowbridge stated that the trip to Delray Beach generated much discussion, since two of the Architectural Review Board members participated and brought back several pictures. He was aware that some Council members had referred to Delray Beach during the downtown revitalization discussions.

Several examples of street banners, way-finding and parking signs from Delray Beach were shown to the audience.

Mr. Plasencia pointed out the scale and uniformity of light posts and signs found in the Delray Beach downtown area.

The next group of slides came from the City of Rosemary Beach in the panhandle of Florida; examples from the downtown area, a small city park and a residential area.

Mr. Plasencia felt the signs in Rosemary Beach were well thought out; the city was not cluttered with signs and presented a clean look. The Architectural Review Board's intention was to create a plan that eliminated as many signs and clutter on the streets of Miami Springs' as possible.

The last slide of the presentation was a rendering of a design for Miami Springs that the Board felt contained the best elements of lighting and signage.

Mr. Trowbridge explained that the Board also reviewed signage from Coconut Grove and Coral Gables. Nearly every city faces the challenge of incorporating new signage with the old, which has been clearly demonstrated in many of these slides. The Board's initial directive was to focus on parking signs, but a comprehensive plan should be developed for the entire City.

Mr. Trowbridge concluded that the purpose of the presentation is to update Council on what the Board has been researching and designing, and to receive feedback. The Board meets again on December 2, 2009, and they need to know if they are heading in the right direction.

Mayor Bain asked if the Board had determined where entry signs into the City should be located and the spacing or frequency of general signs. He was specifically referring to Curtiss Parkway leading into the Circle, and down Westward Drive.

Mr. Trowbridge replied that determining the number of signs and their placement would be the next phase of discussion; the Board wanted confirmation that Council approved of the general concepts first. The Board has discussed implementing signage on N. W. 36th Street, though the scale would obviously be different.

Mayor Bain suggested that public parking signs and the curbs in the corresponding lots could be color-coordinated to make them easier for residents and visitors to identify. He asked if Council was ready to make a decision regarding the design, so the Board could proceed.

Vice Mayor Espino approved of consolidating multiple signs on a single post, and noted that the slide showing the cluster of signs on Curtiss Parkway was a good example of clutter and confusion. He also liked the lighting and design in the park on Canal Street, and hoped to have discussions in the future regarding the continuation of that design.

Vice Mayor Espino said that the combination of light poles and signs was not a personal favorite, and he expressed concern that the prototype sign did not reflect the character of Miami Springs. He would like to see elements of the City like the Pueblo Revival style incorporated into the signs if possible.

In response to Vice Mayor Espino's concern, Mr. Plasencia replied that colors had not yet been chosen for either the posts or the signs. He explained that the prototype design was neutral on

purpose; the intent was to create a classic and timeless design that will last for years. As examples, he pointed out that the light fixtures for the walking path on Curtiss Parkway are already dated looking, and the light poles on Westward Drive, Curtiss Parkway and the residential areas are out of scale and have no relation to each other.

Mayor Bain agreed that the lights were different; at the time the administration could very well have considered price over aesthetics. He noted that changing all the lights would be an expensive undertaking and a discussion for the future; the focus right now should be on the signage issues.

Mr. Trowbridge said that the Architectural Review Board would review the design and color of the prototype per Vice Mayor Espino's request. He reiterated that the Board's objective now was to get feedback that Council agreed with the concept of a single post with multiple directives before they continue.

To answer Vice Mayor Espino's question, Mr. Trowbridge explained that the Board has discussed the use of banners along N. W. 36th Street on an interim basis to draw attention to the existence of the City. The decision was made to not use any resources at this time and focus on the downtown area first.

Councilman Lob asked if it would be difficult to add or remove components of the multiple-use sign. He liked the concept because it was easier to convey several pieces of information in a single area. He also expressed his approval for a light pole and sign combination; the signs were much easier to see when lit.

Vice Mayor Espino clarified that he was not against the combination, he just did not want it to be the only option.

Mr. Plasencia noted that there is no "one size fits all" plan; for functional reasons there will have to be combinations of light posts and signs depending on the locations and functions, but all would have a cohesive timeless design.

Mr. Trowbridge verified that the idea is to create a sign that would be easy to modify, very much like the prototype.

In response to Vice Mayor Espino's question, Mr. Plasencia replied that no decision has been made regarding the materials or composition, though many options have been discussed. He explained that the signs from Rosemary Beach were created from 6" x 6" pressure treated posts, which were very simple but probably not suitable for Miami Springs because of the maintenance requirements.

Councilman Best thanked the Architectural Review Board members for their efforts. He asked that the Board continue discussing the entrance signs into the City, which he felt were very important. He thought the prototype sign was concise, and suggested that the Board might look into florescent

material.

City Manager Borgmann reported that some cities are considering l.e.d. lighting, which consumes much less power. He explained that the light poles on Curtiss Parkway and Westward Drive are owned by Florida Power and Light, and the City is charged a monthly fee. Any changes to those poles would have to be approved by FP&L.

Mr. Trowbridge stated that the Board has also discussed the feasibility of more energy friendly lighting.

Councilman Best wondered if banners would be more suitable for special events. His concern was that they would promote a cluttered look.

Mr. Trowbridge said that issue had also been discussed, and the suggestion had been made that banners could be changed seasonally or used to promote special events.

Mr. Plasencia thought that a small town like Miami Springs should have enough reasons to hang banners all through the year and the integrated poles would be the perfect place to display them.

In response to Councilwoman Ator's question, Mr. Trowbridge replied that the logo could be used on a banner or as a permanent image. It is shown as a part of the sign on the prototype, but the issue was still open to discussion.

Councilwoman Ator noted that she had not really been aware of the "sign pollution" until she saw the presentation. She pointed out that some of the signs belong to the schools, bus stops, etc. and suggested that the City encourage all other entities to incorporate their signs in a similar manner to eliminate some of that clutter.

City Manager Borgmann advised that several of the older downtown revitalization studies recommended standardizing the store fronts, signs, etc. for a more unified look, and the issue is still relevant today.

Mr. Trowbridge agreed, and said that the group has had discussions in that same vein regarding awnings and façades in the Central Business District. He felt that a comprehensive signage plan would lead to more economic development and more reasons for businesses to come into the City.

Mr. Plasencia voiced his opinion that the City should clean itself up a little before inviting the outside world in to see it.

Councilman Lob felt that the prototype sign would lend itself to reducing the number of signs and the cluttered look within the City, which was a step in the right direction. Signage was one of the areas that Council wanted to focus on because it has been pointed out countless times that many people are not aware of downtown Miami Springs or how to get to the City, even when they are

staying in the local hotels. Signage was also a relatively inexpensive way to make some positive changes.

Vice Mayor Espino thanked the group for focusing on a uniform concept, which is not only more visually appealing but a much easier way for residents and visitors to locate the information they need.

Vice Mayor Espino also agreed that the entrance signs into the City were very important, and hoped that they would be included in the overall design concept. Way-finding or location maps were also suggested at one of the workshop meetings, and he thought they could be included in the total package. He thanked the Board for their efforts.

Mr. Trowbridge recognized Mr. Bob Calvert from the audience as a member of the Architectural Review Board, and thanked Councilwoman Ator for her support as the Board liaison.

City Manager Borgmann congratulated Mr. Trowbridge as the incoming President of the National Alumni Association of the University of Florida, one of the largest alumni associations in the country.

3B) Focusing Academics on Civic Education – A Miami Springs Education Initiative – Report by Vice Mayor Espino

Vice Mayor Espino reported that this proposal grew out of several issues he felt should be a part of Miami Springs after discussions with members of the Education Advisory Board and the efforts of the Florida League of Cities.

Vice Mayor Espino felt there is a “disconnect” between the community and the government that serves it that is directly related to the lack of civics and government related classes now taught in schools. The result is that citizens are unfamiliar with the layers of government that represent them, and are unwilling to participate in the policies that affect their freedom and quality of life.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that this initiative is aimed at promoting civic competency among all residents of Miami Springs, especially students, while fostering increased community pride, and a thorough understanding of what government, especially municipal government, offers its residents.

The initiative consists of six components or programs as follows:

1. Miami Springs Week

This would be a City-endorsed week in which Miami Springs’ history, civic involvement and government is studied, promoted by the social studies departments of the local schools. Lesson plans

have been created, and may also include the creation of mock cities, charters and councils. It is hoped that the Curtiss Mansion will be available for a historical retrospect of the City. Tentative dates are April 19-23 if Council approves the item.

2. Speakers Bureau

Students will be offered the opportunity to hear testimonials from elected officials and other educators, government officials and civic minded members of the community. The local schools have expressed their intention to communicate with the City in scheduling the testimonials.

3. Youth Advisory Council

The goal is to get students from the private and public schools directly involved with advising Council on any issues that would affect students. This would offer the students real-world experiences, teach them about the roles of councils, and provide them with an opportunity to develop leadership skills.

4. Public Service Internship Program

An internship program is the nucleus of the initiative as a way to get students involved with creating policies. There will be an application and selection process; the program would only be available to high school junior and senior students and will allow them to work with Council and the senior members of the Administration.

5. Citizens Academy

This program focuses on educating the citizenry as to what the City does; city services, capital improvements, budget and finance, etc. A class of 30 – 40 participants would be open to any citizen over the age of 18 for a ten week course. This is the most expensive segment of the initiative, but there are ways to hold costs to a minimum.

6. Involvement of the Business Community

This segment focuses on using some of the existing programs such as Dade Partners or the Executive Pass Program used by Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami. The Education Advisory Board has advised that that they would be able to use both programs.

Vice Mayor Espino noted that there will be minimal costs associated with each facet of the program, directed towards public relations, passes and reference materials. The students will be working with the Administration and should prove to be assets. Initially the internship program will provide the students with experience regarding community service, but will not count towards high school credits. The ultimate goal would be to allow students to accumulate college credits.

Vice Mayor Espino reiterated that focusing academic attention on civic education benefits the students and the community over time. The program is the first step in developing a more involved citizenry and resulting in an enhanced quality of life by their active participation in the decisions and events that affect it.

Councilwoman Ator expressed her support of the education compact that was presented by the Education Advisory Board and approved by Council although she felt that many of the segments needed to be refined. As an educator by profession, she believes citizen education is very important. She also sits on several boards that promote civics and history.

Councilwoman Ator disagreed that costs would be minimal, and expressed concern for placing additional burdens on the City Administration and employees who are already operating with reduced staff due to budget constraints. She was also uncomfortable with Council mandating that all of the local schools endorse and support a curriculum for the Miami Springs Week.

Vice Mayor Espino replied that he had spoken with the Education Advisory Board on two occasions as well as all of the schools; each one of the principals supported the program in its entirety. The “Miami Springs Week” would be similar to the “Florida City Government Week” which encourages the schools to participate.

Councilwoman Ator suggested that wording in the initiative be modified so that there is no doubt that the State of Florida mandates the curriculum. She felt the Speakers Bureau was an excellent idea but expressed concern that a lot of man-hours would be needed to review content, gather material and coordinate speakers with specific requests.

Vice Mayor Espino pointed out that the City has a Public Information Specialist.

Mayor Bain noted that in addition to the hard costs, each of these programs will require time and man-hours. He also expressed concern over placing additional burdens on City staff and personnel.

Councilwoman Ator reiterated that she felt civic education was very important; this was her only opportunity to provide feedback and she was taking advantage of it. She was concerned about costs and how many adults would need to be involved with the Youth Advisory Council. Someone will have to be appointed to serve as a contact point, and to identify items that the Board could address. A list of potential positions and job descriptions would have to be compiled before she would consider approving the Internship Program, and she was also concerned about safety measures. She has been involved with programs similar to The Citizens Academy segment and while she felt it was a good idea, she was concerned that the costs would be more than the estimated \$3,000.

Councilwoman Ator suggested that some of the other municipalities that ran similar programs could be contacted to help develop more specific budget estimates.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that his estimates were scaled down versions from the budgets from other cities, and he had addressed many of these other issues with the City Manager before proceeding with the initiative.

Councilwoman Ator felt that the language concerning the Community Business Involvement was rather vague though she agreed with the concept. She thought that Miami Lakes runs an internship program in the summer through the recreation department in conjunction with local businesses. While this program was not civics education related, it was an idea that this administration might want to consider in the future.

Councilwoman Ator reiterated that she would prefer to see some of the issues regarding implementation, personnel requirements and costs clarified before she would be ready to approve this initiative.

Councilman Best commended Vice Mayor Espino's presentation as very well written. He considered this a very important issue for the City but was not completely satisfied with the content. He pointed out that all of the Council members have taken the opportunity to speak about government at the local schools, and agreed that the lack of civics courses in the current curriculum contributes to citizen complacency.

Councilman Best questioned the proposed dates for the "Miami Springs Week" segment, wondering if they would conflict with other school schedules. The individual schools would have to help with the implementation. He stated that he would continue to speak at the local schools at no cost to the City. He also thought that the Speakers Bureau had merit, but it needed to be integrated into each of the schools' syllabus. He suggested that participants of the Youth Advisory Council could be allowed to accrue volunteer hours. He also felt that the Internship, Citizen Academy and the Business involvement programs were all feasible as scaled down versions.

In response to Councilman Lob's question, Vice Mayor Espino explained that the Citizen Academy would be a ten week course, lasting approximately two hours each week. Council members and the Administration may participate at their own discretion.

Councilman Lob felt it would be difficult to coordinate a schedule in which everyone who wanted to would be able to participate, and it does create an extra burden for Staff.

Discussion ensued regarding costs. If City personnel were paid or gained compensation time for their participation there would still be costs involved.

Councilman Lob felt that the internship program was feasible, and that it would be beneficial to anyone intending to enter the public sector.

Mayor Bain felt the government style of Miami Springs was relatively simple and would not take long to explain, and the internship program was more suited to a larger municipality. Inviting a group to attend a full Council meeting would serve the same purpose.

Vice Mayor Espino disagreed, pointing out that a Council seat is still a job that requires the holder to review volumes of material before decisions are made on policies that affect every resident in the City.

Councilman Lob thought that a Council meeting was not indicative of what a Council member actually does to prepare for a meeting.

Councilman Best reiterated that the initiative is very complex and he would like to see it presented again on a smaller scale.

Councilwoman Ator moved to table the item. Councilman Best seconded the motion.

Mayor Bain clarified that the intent was to table the item and present it at a later date in a form that further identifies the individual responsibilities and cost factors.

Vice Mayor Espino asked to meet with the City Manager so that they could determine the man hours and costs involved before adding the item to the next agenda.

Mayor Bain asked that they take into consideration all of the time that Council already contributes towards civic education.

Councilwoman Ator was interested in knowing how this initiative would impact the programs already in place throughout the City and the employees involved.

City Manager Borgmann reported that Student Government Days back in the 1970's allowed high school seniors to follow the Mayor, Council members and senior staff around for the day, with a mock Council meeting held that evening. He pointed out that his job function as City Manager might be totally different from that of a larger municipality; government in a small city is expected to be more accessible and personal in general, which applies to all departments.

Councilman Best agreed, while noting that the City can only offer what it has as an educational experience.

Councilwoman Ator said that her intent was to provide constructive criticism. Though she felt the Citizens Academy would cost the most, it was a wonderful opportunity for the residents who are interested to gain an understanding of how their City government works.

On roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

4. Open Forum:

Agenda Item 10A – Basketball Program

Desiree Valdes of 176 Apache spoke in favor of continuing the basketball program.

5. Approval of Council Minutes: (simultaneously approved)

5A) 11/09/2009 – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the November 9, 2009 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

Councilwoman Ator moved to approve. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.

5B) 11/16/2009 – Workshop Meeting

Minutes of the November 16, 2009 Workshop Meeting were approved as written.

Councilwoman Ator moved to approve. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.

6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:

6A) 10/29/2009 – Art in Public Places Ad-Hoc Committee – Minutes

Minutes of the October 29, 2009 Art in Public Places Ad-Hoc Committee meeting were received for information without comment.

6B) 11/04/2009 – Architectural Review Board – Minutes

Minutes of the November 4, 2009 Architectural Review Board meeting were received for information without comment.

6C) 11/10/2009 – Recreation Commission – Minutes

Minutes of the November 10, 2009 Recreation Commission meeting were received for information without comment.

6D) 11/12/2009 – Board of Parks and Parkways – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the November 12, 2009 Board of Parks and Parkways meeting was received for information without comment.

6E) 12/15/2009 – Education Advisory Board – Cancellation Notice

Cancellation Notice of the December 15, 2009 Education Advisory Board meeting was received for

information without comment.

7. Public Hearings:

7A) Second Reading – Ordinance No. 985-2009 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 93-12, Non-Exclusive Waste Removal Franchise for Private Haulers; by Adding the Requirement of Providing Recycling Services to Multi-Family Residential and Commercial Properties in the City; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date (First Reading: 11/9/2009 – Advertised: 11/11/2009)

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden read the ordinance by title.

Attorney Seiden stated that there have been no changes to the Ordinance since the first reading. All of the haulers currently contracted by the City do provide this service.

Mayor Bain opened the public hearing to those persons wishing to speak. There were no speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Best moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 4-1 on roll call vote with Mayor Bain casting the dissenting vote (Ordinance No. 985-2009).

7B) Second Reading – Ordinance No. 986-2009 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 150-041, R-1A District; by Adding Thereto a Provision Permitting the Conditional Construction of Porte-Cochere Structures in the Front Yard Areas of Properties in the District; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date (First Reading: 11/9/2009 – Advertised: 11/11/2009)

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden read the ordinance by title.

Attorney Seiden stated that this Ordinance expands the exceptions currently permitted in the R-1B, R-1C and R-1D districts into the R-1A district.

Mayor Bain opened the public hearing to those persons wishing to speak. There were no speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Lob moved the item. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote (Ordinance No. 986-2009).

7C) Public Hearing – Request that Council Review and Approve for Adoption and

Transmittal to the Florida Department of Community Affairs the Public Education Facilities Element and Corresponding Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the City of Miami Springs Comprehensive Plan in Accordance with Florida Statutes Section 163.31777

First Reading – Ordinance No. 987-2009 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Approving and Adopting the City’s Public Education Facilities Element and Corresponding Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the City of Miami Springs Comprehensive Plan; Authorizing the Amendment of the City Comprehensive Plan in Accordance with the Public Education Facilities Element and Corresponding Comprehensive Plan Amendments; Repealing all Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden read the ordinance by title. He stated that the second reading is scheduled for the December 14, 2009 Council meeting.

City Planner Ventura explained that this item reflects all the changes requested by the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) since its initial approval at the March 23, 2009 Council meeting. At that time the Miami-Dade County School Board had produced a single education element to be used for local municipalities. The Mellgren Group was contacted to make the revisions and corrections requested by the DCA.

Mayor Bain opened the public hearing to those persons wishing to speak. There were no speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

City Planner Ventura explained that he is continuing to work on the Capital Improvements Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The first reading was transmitted to the DCA and he has received the objections/recommendations/comments report. He will be contacting his counterpart with the Mellgren Group to commence revisions of that document, which are minimal. He anticipated that the majority of the elements will be accepted by the end of the year.

8. Consent Agenda:

8A) Recommendation that Council Enter into a Lease with PNCEF, LLC, d/b/a PNC Equipment Finance, for Six John Deere XT Turf Gator Utility Vehicles, Utilizing Hernando School District Bid No. 07-515-06, in the Total Lease Amount of \$36,272.64 (\$755.68 monthly for 48 months), Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (5) of the City Code; Authorizing the Proper Officers and Officials to Execute all Required Lease Documentation to Consummate the Lease Transaction

City Manager Borgmann read the title of the award. He explained that funds were approved in the Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

To answer Councilman Best's question, Finance Director Alonso explained that the equipment is being leased, not purchased, and there is a full warranty for the four-year term. At the end of the term the equipment is returned for six new units.

Councilwoman Ator moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

8B) Recommendation that Council Award a Request for Proposal for Professional Services to Disaster Operations & Training, Inc. (DO&T), Utilizing Town of Jupiter Contract # EPW 2008-25, in the Amount not to Exceed \$20,000.00, on an "As Needed" Basis, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (5) of the City Code

City Manager Borgmann read the title of the recommendation.

To answer the Mayor's question, City Manager Borgmann explained that this is not a mandated service, but it is highly recommended. Disaster Operations & Training provides an invaluable service and has helped the City in the past with the BFI lawsuit and FEMA reporting. They have a software package that ties into the FEMA reporting forms resulting in a very clean application.

Councilwoman Ator moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9. Old Business:

9A) Appointments to Advisory Boards by the Mayor and Council Members

Councilwoman Ator (Group 4) **confirmed the appointment** of Rob Gordon to the Education Advisory Board for a 2-year term ending on May 31, 2011. She thanked Maria Mitchell for her long term service and contributions to the Education Advisory Board.

Councilman Lob (Group 3) **confirmed the re-appointment** of Michael Windrem to the Historic Preservation Board for an unexpired term ending on February 28, 2012.

(Agenda Items 10A and 11A were considered before 9B)

9B) Recommendation that Council Award a Bid for Purchasing Card Services (P-Card) to Sun-Trust Bank, Utilizing City of Venice RFP # R07-2854, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (E) (5) of the City Code; Execute the Corporate Resolution and Certificate of Incumbency Attached (Tabled: 11/9/2009)

City Manager Borgmann read the recommendation, tabled from the November 9, 2009 meeting when Council asked for more information.

In response to Mayor Bain's question, Finance Director William Alonso replied that his report contains a tentative list of personnel who would have access to the card. If the item is approved, the Administration will meet with the department heads and finalize the list. He explained that the cards would be retained in the Finance Department until needed. The user would pay all expenses for an out-of-town trip with the card, and turn it in with an expense report upon return.

City Manager Borgmann noted that most out-of-town travel is paid for by the City credit card, and this would facilitate the process.

Finance Director Alonso stated that the cards would be more efficient and reduce the number of checks issued by the City. In addition, the City would be eligible to receive rebates and increase its credit rating because bills will be paid in a shorter time frame. Many hotels require pre-payment by check, and this card will eliminate that requirement.

Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve the item. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9C) Discussion Regarding Applications for Downtown Event Grants (Discussed: 10/26/2009)

City Manager Borgmann reported that he has reviewed grant applications from several cities and the one from the City of Miami can be revised to suit the requirements discussed at the October meeting. His memo lists all of the activities that the city will or will not fund plus other qualifications. He believed that a staff committee of personnel from Police, Public Works, Finance, Recreation and his office could review the applications and send their recommendations to Council for final approval.

City Manager Borgmann suggested two grant periods; the first would cover the months of October through March with a submittal deadline of August 1st of each year. The second grant cycle would cover April through September, with a submittal deadline of March 1st. This allows Staff time to review the applications and present them to Council for approval in a timely manner. Different arrangements would have to be made for this year only because of the time frame involved.

Discussion ensued regarding the wording in the document and several points were discussed at length. It was determined that there were a few signature events for the City that would fall into a slightly different category.

Councilman Best moved to approve the form. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Mayor Bain approved of the proposed selection process by committee, but asked that Council be notified of the list of events that are presented for review.

City Manager Borgmann said that the intention was to present everything to Council; the committee would rate each proposal on a points scale before doing so.

In response to Councilman Best's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that the application information could be publicized through Channel 77 and other print media.

Councilman Best moved to approve the procedures as provided in the City Manager's memorandum. Councilman Lob seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Ator asked if the grant money would be equally distributed between the two periods; her concern is that the October-March period would generate the most interest because of the weather.

City Manager Borgmann agreed, but said that the intent is to hold some money in reserve. Council also had the ability to request funds from another source if needed.

Vice Mayor Espino suggested Council reserve the right to add additional funding and/or allocate funding from the different periods.

Councilman Best withdrew his motion. Councilman Lob withdrew his second.

Councilman Best moved to approve the procedure for all applications as referred to in the City Manager memorandum, with review by Council. Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9D) Consideration of Request for Funds for Movie Night from Reverend Keedy

City Manager Borgmann reported that All Angels Academy is requesting funding for future Movie Nights. He noted a correction on his memo, saying that Chief Baan had advised him that the event was five hours long instead of four, with a price increase from \$420 to \$525 a night.

In response to Mayor Bain's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that one event was last Friday night and sponsored by the Sunoco service station. The Church is looking for an additional \$2,100 or \$525 for each month from December to March.

Councilwoman Ator asked to recuse herself from voting on the issue. She felt that she had a conflict of interest since she supports the church and actively pursues donations and sponsors for many events the church holds. She reported that over 300 people attended the event last Friday night.

Mayor Bain suggested that the church charge a nominal fee or establish a donation bucket, which

should offset the majority of the costs.

In response to Mayor Bain's question, Councilwoman Ator replied that the church does not have a sponsor for the month of December, and she was not going to pursue one.

Chief Baan reminded Council that it would be much more expensive for the City to pay for the event. It would be considered overtime for the police officers, plus benefits, which works out to approximately \$80 an hour.

City Manager Borgmann agreed that it was far less expensive to pay on an off-duty basis.

Vice Mayor Espino noted that there was \$10,000 in funds allocated for special events, and to fund the entire four months would use one fifth of the budget.

Mayor Bain indicated his support for funding the month of December. He would prefer that All Angels continue to seek sponsorships for at least a portion of the future events.

Councilwoman Ator stated that it was her suggestion to hold the event on the Circle, with the intention of bringing more people into the downtown area to help the local merchants. Attendance has grown steadily over the past year and a half, though there has been talk of bringing it back to All Angels due to the financial difficulties that the Church and so many people are facing. She pointed out that the Church purchased a sound system, rents the screen and provides sodas, etc. The reality is that it is still difficult to obtain sponsorships.

Mayor Bain explained that generations of residents and business owners have been contributing to and sponsoring events and organizations in the City; many of them are just "given out". He understood the difficulties of obtaining contributions for the events, but felt that the local business owners who benefited from the large number of people that attend the event should be able to help.

Mayor Bain reiterated that he was willing to sponsor the month of December, and would wait to see if funds were donated for January and beyond.

Councilwoman Ator reiterated that she felt she should not vote on the issue but wanted to make it clear that she was not responsible for running the Movie Night. If funding is approved for December, the conditions should be made abundantly clear.

City Attorney Seiden advised Councilwoman Ator that he did not see a conflict of interest.

Councilman Best moved to approve a donation of \$525.00 to the Church for off-duty police services for the December event. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

9E) Report on Rumble Strips and Striping for Curtiss Parkway "In Bridge" Area

City Manager Borgmann reported that the City could install two sets of rumble strips and pedestrian crossing marks on both southbound lanes of the first block of Curtiss Parkway coming over the bridge for a cost of \$2,700. He believed that CITT funds could be applied to the project.

City Manager Borgmann explained that the City had previously discussed implementing this project, along with additional changes that brought the price tag to over \$10,000. At that time the City applied for a grant which was not approved and the project has sat on the shelf since.

In response to Councilwoman Ator's question, City Manager Borgmann reiterated that he felt both projects could be paid for with CITT funds, but he would need Council approval because of the \$10,000 limit.

Vice Mayor Espino asked if the City would have to remove everything in the event the City reached an agreement with the County to change the Circle.

City Manager Borgmann replied that there was a possibility that might happen. He noted that the initial project was mostly paint for striping plus the rumble strips. He explained that the larger project was more of a re-design, involving the removal of the bollards, replacing the pedestrian safety zone with curbing and poured concrete on both sides of the crosswalk, and adding a sloped handicapped accessible ramp to the sidewalk. The remaining raised area can be transformed into a landscaped bed for aesthetic purposes, while creating a visible speed reduction barrier that forces motorists to stay in their lanes while negotiating the entrance into the Circle. This proposal also includes the installation of another graded handicapped accessible ramp on the east side of the crosswalk in front of Stadnick's. The raised curbing will be painted and marked for visibility purposes. Diagrams of both projects were included for review.

Councilwoman Ator expressed concern about having to remove handicapped parking spaces if the County and City agree on modifications for the Circle.

Mayor Bain felt that the City should proceed with the rumble strips and striping, and additional striping around the Circle since it is becoming a safety issue.

City Attorney Seiden suggested that a decision regarding the striping around the Circle be postponed; the item is not on the agenda and the City Manager needs to get a price quote.

After a brief discussion it was determined that the item should have been on the agenda but will be deferred to a future date for the above mentioned reasons.

Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve funds for the installation of two sets of rumble strips and pedestrian crossing markings for both southbound lanes of the 10 block of Curtiss Parkway, and waive the competitive bidding process. Councilwoman Ator seconded the motion.

City Manager Borgmann cautioned that he could not guarantee the \$2,700 price tag because that was a quote from February 2008, but that he would contact the company.

The motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

10. New Business:

10A) Recreation Department Basketball Season Decision

City Manager Borgmann reported that he was filling in for the Assistant City Manager and Athletic Supervisor Noel Acosta was also available to answer any additional questions.

City Manager Borgmann explained that approximately 117 kids have signed up for the basketball program, which normally hosts close to 250. The 6-7 age group did not have enough registrants, but a full schedule of four teams can be held for the 8-10, 11-12 and 13-15 age groups. The net cost of the normal basketball program is a break-even proposition with each registrant paying approximately \$55 each; about 65% of the participants are Miami Springs' residents.

City Manager Borgmann further explained that the decline in participants is due mainly to the fact that the program will be held outside and on asphalt courts. As a result, the basketball season will cost the City approximately \$12,000, primarily because the City will have to provide additional outdoor court lighting. Preliminary cost estimates have been provided but are not complete.

City Manager Borgmann said it was the City's intention to expand and improve the product in the new Community Center with two full-court basketball courts. These additional costs apply to this season only, and were not budgeted for.

Juan Carlos Paz of 660 Plover Avenue stated that he had coached basketball and baseball for many years. He expressed his disappointment at the lack of an indoor facility. While he was concerned that \$12,000 was a lot of money, the parents and coaches were there for the kids and did not want to see the program cancelled.

Athletic Supervisor Acosta advised that the plan is to combine the 8-10 year olds with the 11-12 group to hold down costs and increase the size of the group.

Mr. Paz asked if the Town of Medley had been approached for the use of their court that already has outdoor lighting. He would rather run continual back to back practices and games than cancel the season due to a financial shortfall.

City Manager Borgmann said that he understood that there were multiple courts available at the middle school, which would be an advantage over the single court in Medley.

Vice Mayor Espino noted that there was adequate dollars in the contingency fund to cover the expense. The issue is whether Council wants to approve the additional expenditure to save the program. He expressed concern over what the loss of the program would mean to the kids.

Councilwoman Ator considered the additional expense as part of the costs of building the new Community Center.

Councilman Lob agreed, saying he could not see himself telling these 150 kids that they cannot play basketball because the City is building a new recreation center. He felt the cost should be associated with the Community Center.

Mayor Bain expressed his support for funding the program, while saying that he believed that the new Community Center would be available as of the first of February.

City Manager Borgmann reported that Construction Manager Sprague has advised him that the project is still on schedule for substantial completion by February 15, 2010. At that point the City may be able to obtain a temporary Certificate of Occupancy and use the courts.

Mayor Bain pointed out that this might be an opportunity for the participants to become part of history as the first groups to play for championships in the new facility.

City Manager Borgmann advised that the Finance Director just reminded him that the City is getting \$40,000 in December from the Florida League of Cities for an insurance rebate.

Councilman Best moved to continue the basketball program. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Councilman Best thanked the two residents that spoke in favor of the program.

Mayor Bain thanked Mr. Paz for his coaching contribution.

City Attorney Seiden clarified that the motion was to approve the expenditure to continue the basketball program.

City Manager Borgmann advised he would be preparing reports regarding the budget to present at a later date.

10B) Resolution – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Supporting the Restoration, Revitalization and Reopening of Hialeah Park, Recommending Residents to Visit Hialeah Park; Urging State of Florida, Miami-Dade County and Other South Florida Municipalities to Support Hialeah Park; Effective Date

Vice Mayor Espino read the resolution in its entirety. He explained that Hialeah Park reopens on November 28, 2009. The Brunetti family and the City of Hialeah have made many improvements and he feels that Miami Springs will benefit from the economic stimulus in the area.

Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve the resolution to support Hialeah Park. Councilman

Best seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Ator stated that the resolution was well written but felt that a proclamation would be a more appropriate vehicle in which to recognize the historic significance of Hialeah Park. The City does not honor businesses within its own community with resolutions and this would not set a good precedent. She recommended that the resolution be redrafted into a proclamation format to be signed by the Mayor as is ordinarily done.

Councilman Best agreed that a proclamation would be the typical protocol.

Vice Mayor Espino explained that other municipalities have issued resolutions; the City is simply making a recommendation and it has no binding effect by law other than supporting Hialeah in its efforts to support a community icon.

Councilman Best noted that there was sufficient time to redraft the statements as a proclamation that would be signed by the Mayor and presented by those Council members that will attend the grand opening on November 28th.

Discussion ensued ending with a consensus that a proclamation would be more appropriate.

City Attorney Seiden advised that Council could vote to approve the language of the resolution as a proclamation.

Vice Mayor Espino moved to convert the resolution to proclamation format for the Mayor's signature. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

11. Other Business:

11A) Parking Considerations for Downtown Miami Springs (The Circle District)

City Manager Borgmann summarized the parking options that Council directed him to research at the recent Workshop meeting:

1. Reduce traffic to one lane on each side of the median on Westward Drive and create angle parking against the median.
2. Reduce traffic to one lane and create angle parking against the existing sidewalk.
3. Include into options one and two the widening of the sidewalks and the creation of a bike path.

City Manager Borgmann explained that a review of the Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan study of 2001 regarding Westward Drive determined that the street is approximately 28 feet wide. 17.3 feet of depth is required for angle parking, leaving a driving lane of about 10.7 feet wide. That leaves no room to widen the sidewalks or add a bike path, effectively eliminating option #3. He further explained that the angle parking was computed at 30 degrees; any more requires greater depth and the need for more back-up room.

In response to Mayor Bain's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that this scenario entails leaving the median in its existing state.

City Manager Borgmann reported the existing dimensions of the street from the Circle to the Baptist Church accommodate approximately 114 parallel parking spaces. Reconfiguring the street for angle parking into the median would yield a total of 115 spaces, a net increase of one space. He explained that the left-hand turn lanes on each block will have to be maintained, reducing the number of possible angle parking spaces due to space requirements.

City Manager Borgmann stated that both he and Chief Bann had serious reservations regarding angle parking heading into the median; the concern was that anyone trying to avoid someone backing out from the median would swerve towards the sidewalk, with potentially disastrous results.

Discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of back-in angle parking.

City Manager Borgmann continued to say that he reviewed another PBS&J report from March of 2002 which Aldo Bartolone referenced at the recent workshop. The proposal was to widen the sidewalks to 12 feet and reduce traffic to one lane, with an increase of 65 parking spaces. This option created angle parking into a median reduced by six feet on each side, effectively removing every large tree in the existing median.

City Manager Borgmann noted that the Dover Kohl report recommended keeping the existing median, as it was pedestrian friendly and the residents identified with it. Their recommendation was to retain the existing parallel parking between moving traffic and wider sidewalks. If there is a severe parking shortage in the future, the City should consider removing the center median and moving the travel lanes to the center, using the additional space for diagonal parking.

City Manager Borgmann advised Council that when the median was established back in the 1980's the cost was approximately \$100,000 per block. He understood the complaint from prospective tenants that there was no parking, but this report also points out that there are close to 900 parking spaces in the downtown area. The parking lots closest to the center of downtown are usually full during peak hours, but there are other options available. He also acknowledged that an event such as the Springs River Festival or a car show on the Circle results in people parking 3- 4 blocks away and walking to the event, but that is not practical for someone grocery shopping, etc.

City Manager Borgmann reported that a phone survey of the 33166 area code in 2002 resulted in the following statistics regarding why people avoided the downtown area: 22% felt there was a lack of store and merchandise variety, 19% cited various traffic issues, and 10% cited lack of parking. While he was not sure that all of the people who participated in the survey actually patronized the downtown area, the results were interesting.

Councilman Lob asked if it was possible to create parallel parking on both sides of the street.

City Manager Borgmann replied that Staff asked that very question. Adding additional parallel parking against the median would leave a 12-foot wide driving lane that would add approximately 90 more spaces, but effectively turn Westward Drive into a parking lot. This option would also not allow wider sidewalks or the addition of a bicycle lane and would probably not meet with approval from the residents, in addition to the fact that there may be some legal issues.

Vice Mayor Espino agreed that people will walk when there is an event they want to attend downtown. He pointed out that with the exception of Papa John's and Harvest Moon there is a municipal lot in every block of Westward Drive. He felt that the "parking problem" was more of a perception than a reality. He acknowledged that shop owners do not have on-site parking as required by Code; a completely separate issue from the availability of parking in general. In his opinion, off-site parking should be counted towards new development.

Vice Mayor Espino was not enthusiastic about any of the options presented. He felt there was value in having people walk a minimal distance; it creates a pedestrian environment and exposes more businesses to foot traffic. He noted that expanding the sidewalks has been a priority in many revitalized municipalities, while reducing the median would destroy the character of Miami Springs.

Vice Mayor Espino suggested leaving the median as is, adding a four foot wide bike lane and reducing vehicular traffic to a single 11 foot wide lane. This would leave 9 feet for parallel parking if the sidewalks were expanded an additional five feet.

Vice Mayor Espino pointed out that while not increasing the number of parking spaces, this option encourages other modes of transportation (bikes, rollerblades, etc.) and calms traffic by reducing a lane. If the City were to add pavers and stamped concrete crosswalks in the future, this would further calm traffic without adding rumble strips or speed bumps. The intent is to work with and enhance what is already there if there is no practical way to add parking spaces. He proceeded to the dry board to sketch out his proposal.

In response to Mayor Bain's question, City Manager Borgmann reiterated that Westward Drive would literally become a parking lot if parking was added to both sides of the street; cars pulling in and out of the parking spaces would effectively block through traffic.

Mayor Bain said he was still receiving phone calls from business owners stating that there was a shortage of available parking during peak business hours in the downtown area.

City Manager Borgmann noted that one of the problems is that the business owners and employees are parking in front of their own establishments; if they all agreed to park off-site it would help the situation.

Councilwoman Ator pointed out they could all be ticketed, since most of the parking is posted with a two hour limit.

While reviewing Vice Mayor Espino's sketch, City Manager Borgmann pointed out that the new

standard for parking spaces is 9 feet. He also advised that the current exemptions for buildings located within the central business district with a floor area ratio (FAR) of 1.25 or less are not required to provide off-street parking for any uses except residential units. If a structure is improved by over 50%, the owner would have to provide parking. These requirements create quite a challenge for anyone trying to update a building, and make it impossible for anyone to add a new building because there is no space available to add parking.

Vice Mayor Espino explained the elements in his sketch, composed of a 4-foot bike lane, a 10 or 11 foot traffic lane, expanded sidewalks and maintaining the existing median and parallel parking. He reiterated that this will not increase the available parking, but neither do any of the previous proposals. He felt it was more important to gain another mode of transportation and encourage pedestrian traffic, and thought expanding the walking path down Westward Drive would be a great way to tie the areas together. His vision of the downtown area is one in which people can come downtown and “hang out”.

Councilman Lob noted that whether there was enough parking or not, if the question affects a prospective tenant’s willingness to rent, it becomes an issue and the City needs to provide an answer for the property owners.

Vice Mayor Espino reiterated that the issue only concerns one or two blocks; there is municipal parking within one block of nearly every establishment on Westward Drive or the Circle. The only places that experience chronic parking problems are the Harvest Moon and the bistros across the street, and those require a walk of a block and a half.

Councilwoman Ator noted that people also have to cross a busy intersection with no cross walks and speeding traffic.

Mayor Bain agreed that the majority of the parking problems occur during the lunch period, when people want to get in and out quickly. He pointed out that many of the local restaurants already provide outside dining, citing Holleman’s, Starbucks and Harvest Moon, and felt it was up to the business owners to best utilize the sidewalk space. He did not understand how a bike bath would increase business downtown; his goal is to increase parking at minimal cost, and none of these options seem viable.

City Manager Borgmann again clarified that parallel parking on both sides of the street would slow traffic so much it would be similar to a parking lot situation.

In response to Vice Mayor Espino’s question, Chief Baan replied that he sees safety issues in most of the designs presented. The bike path next to the median is a concern; there would be potential conflicts with left turns, and backing out from the median would also create a safety issue. He suggested that the City Attorney could further address the liability issues. If the designs do work, it will be bringing more traffic into the area, and consequently, more safety issues with the mix of

pedestrian, vehicular and bike traffic.

To answer Councilwoman Ator's question, Chief Baan replied that there had been discussions to link the existing bike paths to Canal Street and down Poinciana Blvd. He was not aware of any municipality that had a bike path next to the median side of the street and parking on the other side.

Vice Mayor Espino stated that the bike path was not his greatest concern. He asked what the differences were between locating a bike path on either side of the street.

Chief Baan explained that vehicles in left hand turn lanes had to wait for oncoming traffic, which can create a stack up of vehicles, whereas in a right turn lane, traffic usually keeps moving.

Laz Martinez of 1021 Meadowlark Avenue and 151-161 Westward Drive stated he has never had a tenant refuse to rent because of a parking problem, though that might have happened at other locations. He noted that Lincoln Road does not have any parking, and people are used to walking several blocks to get to the stores. He expressed opposition to eliminating the sidewalks to create additional parking. What he hears is that the public parking areas are not well identified; many residents and business owners are not aware they exist. He felt that expanding the sidewalks and a general clean up in the downtown area were more of a concern than parking.

In response to Vice Mayor Espino's question, Mr. Martinez stated that the ability to count off-street parking when developing his property was more important to him than having space for patrons to park directly outside the building. He also voiced his concern that the amount of public parking behind his building is diminishing because it is being used for City employees and fire rescue personnel.

City Manager Borgmann advised that the Administration has had preliminary discussions with the Lutheran Church, in which the City would rent space for employee parking, and is looking at other options. The police vehicles are parked in a designated area that was purchased with law enforcement trust funds, and the City converted their previous lot into public parking.

Mark Pruitt of 141 Westward Drive expressed support for widening the sidewalks and adding a bike path, but felt the core issue was how to help the downtown businesses prosper. He stated that he has approximately 3,000 square feet of retail space that is not rented because of the lack of long term parking.

Mr. Pruitt said that while talking to local business owners, he found that many expressed an interest in contributing their input, but were unaware that these meetings were taking place. He felt a functioning Chamber of Commerce would help gather information for Council to consider.

Mayor Bain suggested that another well publicized Special Meeting be held, and asked Mr. Martinez to facilitate advising the local business owners.

Vice Mayor Espino noted that the business owners that have attended the previous forums and

special meetings have all asked for more parking. He did not believe there was a single solution, but steps could be made in several directions, and one of those would be to focus more attention to the parking that is available.

Mr. Pruitt suggested creating temporary angle parking into the sidewalk to test the concept, noting that angle parking was much easier for most people to negotiate than parallel parking.

Discussion ensued regarding the benefits of angle versus parallel parking, and the reasons why creating angle parking will create enough new spaces to address the problem. Several different scenarios were presented on the dry erase board as the members reviewed the material provided by the City Manager.

Council will consider scheduling a Special or Workshop meeting during the December 14, 2009 City Council meeting for a date in January 2010 to discuss parking.

Councilman Lob suggested each of the Council members try to engage as many business owners as possible to attend this meeting.

12A) City Attorney

Annexation

City Attorney Seiden reported that he was asked to prepare a joint resolution regarding annexation that was not ready in time to present at this meeting. He explained that the city attorneys working on annexation will have to review and approve the document before their next meeting. There is the possibility that this Council will have to call a short special meeting, possibly before the Board of Adjustment meeting on December 7th to review and vote on this resolution prior to the next attorneys' meeting on December 8th.

Happy Thanksgiving

City Attorney Seiden wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

12B) City Manager

Community Center

City Manager Borgmann presented a memo from Construction Manager Bill Sprague that outlines the schedule of the Community Center construction project for the next two weeks.

Garbage Collection

City Manager Borgmann reported that there will be garbage pick-up on Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th even though they are City holidays.

Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) - Basin 35

City Manager Borgmann reported that he and the City Attorney would be attending a meeting the next day with representatives from DERM, PBS&J, SFWMD at Mr. Jose Fuentes' office. The purpose of the meeting is to advise SFWMD the status of the Basin 35 project. The City hopes to resolve the remaining issues with DERM and convince SFWMD that the City can keep the funding and get the project moving again.

Engagement

City Manager Borgmann was pleased to announce the engagement of his daughter Storie Anne.

Happy Thanksgiving

City Manager Borgmann wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

12C) City Council

Happy Thanksgiving

Councilman Best wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Curtiss Mansion

Vice Mayor Espino thanked the Mayor, Councilwoman Ator and Councilman Lob for attending the Curtiss Mansion function on Saturday, as well as Hialeah Mayor Robania. The project is progressing well and should be done in about two months.

Happy Thanksgiving

Vice Mayor Espino wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Happy Thanksgiving

Councilman Lob wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Hialeah Race Track

Councilwoman Ator stated that she and her husband were looking forward to attending the grand reopening of Hialeah Park on Saturday, November 28th.

Recreation Survey

Councilwoman Ator requested a follow-up on the recreation survey.

City Manager Borgmann advised that the Administration has not been able to get any further responses from Dr. Mitra despite numerous attempts by phone and e-mail. The Administration still needs a working copy of the program and the data so that they can compile their own statistics.

In response to Councilwoman Ator's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that Dr. Mitra has been paid; the City has received all of the information with the exception of the final statistical data report that included the youth survey.

Circle Traffic Calming

Councilwoman Ator asked City Manager Borgmann to follow up with the County regarding their plan for traffic calming around the Circle.

Community Center

Councilwoman Ator reported that she was given a thorough tour of the Community Center by Rick Perrin. She thought that the project was very impressive.

Relay for Life

Councilwoman Ator noted that she and Susanne Conlon Wolar spoke with Commissioner Rebecca Sosa regarding the Relay for Life events. Commissioner Sosa pledged her commitment and will provide the large show-mobile and is working towards obtaining sponsors. Commissioner Sosa will also be the honorary survivor Chair and is planning to attend the luncheon.

Councilwoman Ator expressed appreciation for Commissioner Sosa's support, and advised that the Commissioner was also assisting Ms. Wolar with setting up a west Miami Relay for Life.

Thanksgiving

Councilwoman Ator wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Report Card

Councilwoman Ator congratulated her son Avery for getting straight A's on his report card.

Turkey Donations

Mayor Bain thanked the Miami-Dade County League of Cities for the twenty turkeys that will be delivered to the Senior Center the next day.

Happy Thanksgiving

Mayor Bain wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

13. Adjourn.

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

Billy Bain
Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne S. Hitaffer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

Approved as written during meeting of: 12-14-2009

