



**AGENDA INFORMATION  
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS  
CITY COUNCIL**

**Regular Meeting**

**Monday, April 9, 2012**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers – City Hall**

**201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs**

**Mayor Xavier Garcia**

**Vice Mayor George V. Lob**

**Councilman Bob Best**

**Councilman Dan Espino**

**Councilwoman Jennifer Ator**

**City Manager Ronald K. Gorland**

**City Attorney Jan K. Seiden**

**City Clerk Magalí Valls**



**CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA**

**Mayor Xavier M. Garcia**

**Vice Mayor George V. Lob**  
**Councilman Dan Espino**

**Councilman Bob Best**  
**Councilwoman Jennifer Ator**

**Decorum:** "Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing the City Council, shall be barred from further audience before the City Council by the Mayor, unless permission to continue or again address the City Council is granted by the majority vote of the City Council members present. In accordance with the foregoing, the City Council has determined that racial or ethnic slurs, personal attacks and comments unrelated to City matters or issues constitute prohibited comments from the podium".

**AGENDA**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, April 9, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers – City Hall**  
**201 Westward Drive – Miami Springs**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

**2. Invocation:** Mayor Garcia

**Salute to the Flag:** Students from the Academy for International Education Charter School will lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

**3. Awards & Presentations:**

A) Certificate of Sincere Appreciation to Margaret Watson for Thirty-Six Years of Dedicated Service to the City

4. **Open Forum:** Persons wishing to speak on items of general city business, please sign the register located on the speaker's stand before the meeting begins
5. **Approval of Council Minutes:**
  - A) 03-26-2012 – Regular Meeting
6. **Reports from Boards & Commissions:**
  - A) 03-19-2012 – Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee – Minutes
  - B) 03-20-2012 – Education Advisory Board – Minutes
  - C) 03-27-2012 – Ecology Board – Minutes
  - D) 04-02-2012 – Zoning and Planning Board – Cancellation Notice
  - E) 04-02-2012 – Board of Adjustment – Cancellation Notice
  - F) 04-03-2012 – Code Enforcement Board - Minutes
  - G) 04-04-2012 – Architectural Review Board – Cancellation Notice
7. **Public Hearings:**
  - A) Second Reading – Ordinance No. 1033-2012 – An Ordinance of The City Council of The City Of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 150-025, Awnings and Canopies in All Zoning Districts, To Provide Clarifying Language to Better Differentiate and Describe Portable and Permanent Self-Supporting and Free-Standing Canopies; Establishing Rules and Regulations for the Location, Placement, and Installation of Self-Supporting and Free-Standing Canopies on Properties In the Single-Family Residential Zoning Districts of the City; Repealing All Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date (First Reading: 03-26-2012 – Advertised: 03-29-2012)
8. **Consent Agenda:**
  - A) Approval of the City Attorney's Invoice for March 2012 in the Amount of \$12,885.75
  - B) Recommendation that Council Approves the Renewal of the Contract with Severn Trent Services for an Additional One Year Ending on April 24, 2013
  - C) Recommendation that Council Approve a Change Order to Wrangler Construction, Inc., in an Amount not to Exceed \$4,400.00 for Lime Rock and Top Soil for Road Base, Pursuant to Section 31.11 (F) (11) (b) of the City Code

**9. Old Business:**

- A) Appointments to Advisory Boards by the Mayor and Council Members
- B) Resolution No. 2012-3541 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Calling for the Holding of a Special Election for the City on Tuesday, August 14, 2012; Delineating the City Charter Questions for the Election Ballot; Providing Authorizations and Directions to the City Clerk; Effective Date (Rescinding Prior Resolution No. 2012-3539)
- C) Consideration of Proposed Term Sheets Received from FTL Capital, LLC and FOSS Historic Preservation Funding, LLC; Discussion Led by Erik Wishneff and Robert Chaves

**10. New Business:**

- A) Recommendation from the Education Advisory Board Regarding the Youth Advisory Council
- B) Recommendation that Council Amend Code Section 150-011 – Utility Sheds
- C) Discussion Regarding City Administration Entering Into Revenue Producing Sponsorships

**11. Other Business:**

- A) Consideration of Rescheduling the May 28, 2012 City Council Regular Meeting due to the Memorial Day Holiday

**12. Reports & Recommendations:**

- A) City Attorney
- B) City Manager
- C) City Council

**13. Adjourn**

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If any person decides to appeal any decision of this Board with respect to any matter considered, s/he will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made (F. S. 286.0105), all of which the City does not provide.

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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk, 201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, Florida 33166. Telephone: (305) 805-5006, no later than (7) days prior to the proceeding.

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Pursuant to Sec. 2-11.1 (S) of the Miami-Dade County Code and Miami Springs Code of Ordinances Chapter 33 - §33-20, all persons, firms or corporations employed or retained by a principal who seeks to encourage the passage, defeat, or modifications of (1) ordinance, resolution, action or decision of the City Council; (2) any action, decision, recommendation of any City Board or Committee; or (3) any action, decision or recommendation of City personnel during the time period of the entire decision-making process on such action, decision or recommendation which will be heard or reviewed by the City Council, or a City Board or Committee shall register with the City before engaging in any lobbying activities on forms prepared for this purpose and shall state under oath his or her name, business address, the name and business address of each person or entity which has employed said registrant to lobby, and the specific issue on which he or she has been employed to lobby. A copy of the lobbyist registration form is available from the Office of the City Clerk.

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## ***City of Miami Springs, Florida***

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, March 26, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The following were present:

- Mayor Xavier M. Garcia
- Vice Mayor Dan Espino
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ator
- Councilman Bob Best
- Councilman George V. Lob

Also Present:

- City Manager Ronald K. Gorland
- Asst. City Mgr./Finance Director William Alonso
- City Attorney Jan K. Seiden
- Chief of Police Peter G. Baan
- City Clerk Magali Valls

### **2. Invocation:** Vice Mayor Espino offered the invocation.

**Salute to the Flag:** Students from All Angels' Academy led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Garcia presented baseball caps to the students who participated. He asked Ms. Alexander to explain the trip that some of the students went on recently.

Ms. Alexander stated that some students went on a three-state, three-city, and nine-day adventure to Boston, New York and to Washington, D.C.

Mayor Garcia stated that Ms. Alexander planned the trip with some help from the school and she is responsible for the fundraising to take the kids on what some would say is a vacation, but it is really a learning experience.

### **3. Awards & Presentations:**

#### **3A) Pioneer Resident Award – Sandra Dahlmann**

Mayor Garcia presented the Pioneer Resident Award to Sandra Dahlmann in recognition of her many valuable contributions to the community and for having the vision to recognize the beauty and potential of the City of Miami Springs.

Ms. Dahlmann stated that she had lived in the City since 1945, and would not live anywhere else. She was a past President and has been a member of the Miami Springs Historical Society for many years and her husband Tom Snook is the current President. She recognized the presence of Mary Ann Goodlett-Taylor, the curator of the Museum, and Jo Ellen Morgan Phillips, President of Curtiss Mansion, Inc.

Ms. Dahlmann announced that the Curtiss Mansion would be opening on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and she invited everyone to attend from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Garcia commented that the Pioneer Resident Award is very precious to him because many folks have lived in the City for many years that he is honored and blessed to know. He thanked Ms. Dahlmann for being a Pioneer Resident.

#### **3B) Presentation by Leadership Miami Regarding a Community-Wide Effort for Veterans Link-Up**

Ben Wilson and René Acosta, members of the Leadership Miami Program with the Miami Chamber of Commerce presented an overview of the program that exposes members to all areas of Miami and teaches how the County and cities work together.

Mr. Wilson explained that as part of the program, they are required to conduct a volunteer project to benefit different charities and they selected a project called "Veteran Link-Up" that is a local charity that provides numerous services to veterans. There are many veterans who currently live here and more that will be coming soon.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the different services that the charity has to offer to veterans through a video and PowerPoint presentation. He said that out of the millions of veterans in the United States, Florida ranks second in the nation in the number of veterans per capita, third in the nation for the number of female veterans and second in the nation with the highest number of homeless veterans. He noted that there are many military installations throughout the State of Florida.

Mr. Wilson explained that there are 1.6MM armed forces members that have served in Iraq and Afghanistan who will be coming home and they will have to re-adjust to civilian lifestyle, including the securing of jobs and continuing to be fathers and mothers, which is not an easy adjustment for many. Mental health is the second largest illness of the 870,000 people returning and 40% have sought treatment for some type of depression, while 60% have received minimal care or no care at all.

Mr. Acosta stated that Veterans Link-Up is a 501-C-3 corporation that was established in 2009, and currently serves veterans primarily in the Miami-Dade County community. The main reason for making the public service announcement at various municipal meetings is because they want to spread the word about the organization through City websites and different media outlets. The mission of the organization is to build a partnership of military and civilian service providers in southeast Florida by providing comprehensive services. The organization works as a referral network program, offering innovative programs, direct services, communication and awareness training.

Mr. Acosta introduced Sabrina Figuerora from the Veterans Link-up program.

Mr. Wilson announced that a Veterans Picnic would be held at Tropical Park on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. with food and events.

Vice Mayor Espino thanked the volunteers for their presentation and advised them that the recording of the meeting would be on the City website and on cable Channel 77.

Councilman Lob suggested that there could be a link to the City's website to help spread the word.

Mr. Wilson explained that the presentation is on the laptop computer and it could be placed on the City's website.

Councilman Best mentioned that he is a veteran and he is thankful for the efforts of Veteran Link-Up.

#### **4. Open Forum:**

##### **Advertisements**

Former Councilwoman Helen Gannon of 219 Miami Springs Avenue distributed ads that were published for St. Patrick's Day.

##### **Former City Manager**

Ms. Gannon said that she misses former City Manager James R. Borgmann.

### **Elevator Mirror**

Ms. Gannon commented that the mirror was not replaced in the City Hall elevator and she hopes that it can be fixed.

### **Debra Ferrero**

Ms. Gannon introduced her daughter Debra Ferrero who is 53 years old and she became a registered voter when she was 33 years old, with the assistance of City Clerk Magali Valls.

### **Woody's Tavern**

Ms. Gannon spoke about the Woody's Tavern article in the River Cities Gazette for a 16-hour block party for St. Patrick's Day. She said that Woody's Tavern is a bar in a residential section of the City and it has recently changed. She displayed photographs of the establishment and explained that a school is one-half block away and now Woody's has a liquor license. She noted that the bar is also close to an apartment house and the bands played until 3:00 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day, disturbing the neighbors who could not sleep. She alleged that emergency access was blocked to the residential homes during the event. She asked if the noise ordinance had changed.

Mayor Garcia referred Ms. Gannon to the City Manager who would respond to her questions.

Ms. Gannon expressed her concern about declining property values due to nuisances in residential neighborhoods. She added that the City has many restaurants and it is not fair to bring in food trucks and people should rent the Circle for special events.

### **Curtiss Mansion**

Ms. Gannon distributed historical information regarding Glenn Curtiss and the Curtiss Mansion, in light of the grand opening event on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Loeb & Son Foundation**

Grace Loeb of 250 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Hialeah, thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to speak to them about her son who has a very unique syndrome. She explained that she created the Loeb & Son Foundation for the purpose of fighting rare diseases that affect 30MM Americans. She asked everyone to unite and become involved since it cannot be done alone and awareness is the biggest issue. She urged the City to bring awareness to the entire State of Florida and the world in order to fight rare diseases.

Ms. Loeb discussed future community impact events and celebrations.

## **Woody's Tavern**

Carl Malek of 333 Corydon Drive, Apartment 5, mentioned that he is an employee at Woody's and the St. Patrick's Day music shut down at approximately 12:30 a.m.; it did not last until 3:00 a.m.

## **Springs River Festival**

Carl Malek stated that he is planning a street clean-up at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> before the Springs River Festival.

### **5. Approval of Council Minutes:**

#### **5A) 03-12-2012 – Regular Meeting**

Minutes of the March 12, 2012 Regular Meeting were approved as amended.

**Councilman Best moved the item. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

### **6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:**

#### **6A) 03-08-2012 – Board of Parks and Parkways – Minutes**

Minutes of the March 8, 2012 Board of Parks and Parkways meeting were received for information.

City Attorney Seiden requested, and received permission, to write an explanatory memorandum to the Board of Parks and Parkways in regard to issues raised in their discussions that he feels should be addressed.

#### **6B) 03-15-2012 – Historic Preservation Board – Minutes**

Minutes of the March 15, 2012 Historic Preservation Board meeting were received for information without comment.

#### **6C) 03-22-2012 – Code Review Board – Cancellation Notice**

Cancellation Notice of the March 22, 2012 Code Review Board meeting was received for information without comment.

7. **Public Hearings:**

None.

8. **Consent Agenda:**

None.

9. **Old Business:**

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

Councilman Best (Group I) **re-appointed** Charles Hill to the Historic Preservation Board for a full 3-year term ending on February 28, 2015.

Councilman Lob (Group III) **re-appointed** Michael Windrem to the Historic Preservation Board for a full 3-year term ending on February 28, 2015.

Councilwoman Ator (Group IV) **appointed** Rosie Buckner to the Disability Advisory Board for a term ending on December 31, 2013.

*(Agenda Item 10H was considered before 9B)*

**9B) Presentation from Bill Busutil for Adoption of the Strategic Plan**

Bill Busutil explained that he would discuss what the City should do to make the Strategic Plan work as a blueprint going forward. Through a PowerPoint Presentation he explained how the plan was developed and said that there were several community forums for business owners and residents and a special forum for seniors. There were several work sessions with staff both in framing the way the strategic plan was going to move forward and eventually framing the content of the plan itself.

Mr. Busutil commented that the Draft Strategic Plan was placed on the City's website and there were not many responses and they were generally supportive. He said that one of the elements in the plan is a set of core values which represent what the City stands for. He suggested that it may be useful in the near future to consider having a workshop with Council and Staff to articulate a mutual understanding of what the core values really mean.

Mr. Busutil stated that the City has different areas in the strategic plan where there are objectives and key performance indicators. Some of those objectives would be useful to develop detailed business plans to support some of the objectives. He suggested that Council should consider establishing a baseline data for selected objectives.

Mr. Busutil said that it would be important for Staff and Council to identify the high priority strategies that the City wants to move forward with and to launch them right away. He noted that developing a progress reporting schedule from staff would be beneficial. He would like Council to consider linking strategic personnel performance evaluations.

Mr. Busutil said that he is excited for the City and it is very important that the City succeeds.

Mayor Garcia commented that the Strategic Plan was wonderful and thanked him.

**Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve the Strategic Plan as presented and to give the City Administration authority to begin the work on the implementation steps that were provided in the general parameters provided in the guidelines. Councilman Best seconded the motion.**

Vice Mayor Espino thanked Mr. Busutil. He said that the City is laying down a serious foundation for continuity on some of the larger issues that are going on in Miami Springs, including recreational needs, as well making sure that there is an ongoing movement on economic development in a number of areas.

Councilwoman Ator stated that she is also pleased with the results, but she noticed some spelling errors and would like to make sure that the document is proof read so that all the grammar is correct before it is submitted to the public.

Councilman Best thanked Mr. Busutil for his time and dedication on this project. He also noted the grammatical errors and hopes that they are corrected.

Vice Mayor Espino clarified for Councilwoman Ator that the recreation plan is an example with some general guidance using the various bullet points with regards to the implementation. The Recreation Master Plan has not been brought up for conversation and that is part of the process going forward.

Councilman Lob thanked Mr. Busutil and stated that it was an important step to begin the strategic planning process and he would like to continue it.

Mayor Garcia recognized Vice Mayor Espino and Councilman Lob for their time and effort to host workshops and seminars a couple of years ago to get the public involved.

**The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

*Agenda Item 9c discussed after Agenda Item 10F.*

**9C) Education Advisory Board Recommendation Regarding Letters to Students Recognizing Exemplary Citizenship (Tabled: 3-12-2012)**

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland read the memorandum from Mayor Garcia to the Education Advisory Board members dated March 20, 2012, in regard to letters to students recognizing exemplary citizenship. Since the recognition would be for good deeds and nice gestures towards others that students may have done, the Mayor suggested that the school submit the names of the students to the Education Advisory Board while they present the school reports during the monthly meetings. This way Council will learn about the student and he would issue a special certificate award or proclamation that he feels is appropriate.

Mayor Garcia advised Council that the Board approved his recommendation and it is a good idea to recognize the kids for good citizenship.

**10. New Business:**

*Agenda Item 10A discussed after Agenda Item 10E.*

**10A) Recommendation to Have Disaster Operations & Training Update the City's Disaster Management Plan for the Upcoming 2012 Hurricane Season at a Cost Not to Exceed \$7,162.50**

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland read the memorandum recommending that Council approve an expenditure of \$7,162.50 to Disaster Operations and Training (DO&T) for the update of the City's Disaster Operations Plan for the upcoming 2012 hurricane season.

City Manager Gorland stated that DO&T was contracted a few years ago to provide a variety of professional services associated with disaster management, debris monitoring, debris recovery and similar services. They will assist the City with the cleanup, as well as the communications with FEMA in order to get the City's reimbursements paid on a timely basis. The last update of the plan was performed in FY 2010, and another update is required at this time since the City has acquired new property, including the Curtiss Mansion and other facility improvements and equipment.

City Manager Gorland recommended approval of the plan update in the amount of \$7,162.50, with funding to be derived from the available fund balance, as it is not a budgeted expense.

Councilman Best commented that several years ago, Council and the City Administration were required to take several FEMA disaster courses as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. He asked what had changed since that time.

Gabrielle Benigni, President, Disaster Operations & Training, Inc., responded that Councilman Best was referring to the Incident Command Structure (ICS) NIMS classes. She explained that the difference is that FEMA has guidelines for reimbursement of certain categories and then they track recovery. The guidelines for reimbursement are so stringent on the documentation that exists on all assets, including buildings and equipment, parks and recreation, streets, roads and bridges that when a disaster occurs the City Staff is inundated handling the disaster and the documentation needs to be there on pre-disaster status and condition of the financial assets of the City. The debris removal is separate, ongoing and they all tie together.

Ms. Benigni further explained the process after a disaster that it is critical to the City receiving a federal declaration for reimbursement from FEMA. She added that the Debris Management Plan is a requirement of FEMA guidelines and debris removal contractors and debris monitoring contractors must be in place before a disaster.

Councilman Best felt that in the time of a disaster, all the contracts and plans will exist, the same as they existed during Hurricanes Wilma, Katrina and Andrew. He added that the City performed well in how they responded to those emergencies, in addition to the reimbursements that were requested from FEMA. He questions why the City needs to spend \$7,000 for something that might already be in place.

Ms. Benigni explained that there are two items that total \$7,000; one is the Debris Management Plan update and the second is the Assets and Resources Infrastructure update. The Debris Management Plan update is a requirement, since the City contracted with a new debris removal contractor and a debris management training session must be held prior to the hurricane season. Even though the City performed very well back in 2004 and 2005, there were some problems and that is why she was hired as a consultant to assist in some of the legal issues with the performance of the debris removal contractor.

Ms. Benigni stated that during the meeting with the contractor they discussed the mobilization of the emergency road clearing and the available equipment. She explained that there must be coordination of the efforts because the City receives 100% reimbursement for the first 72-hours after the storm passes for the use of City equipment and crews. The Chief of Police must also coordinate traffic control with the debris removal efforts and this must be in place in the debris plan, including a contract with the off-duty officers. She emphasized that updating the Disaster Operations Plan could save hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Ms. Benigni added that FEMA requires road maintenance records to be in place and on hand for damage assessments in order to approve reimbursements. The rules have changed since 2005, and the Debris Management Plan is more critical to FEMA, especially at the EOC level.

To address Councilman Best's concern, Ms. Benigni said that post-disaster damage assessments must be coordinated and communicated to the EOC properly. The debris estimates are very critical and if the debris is not fully estimated the City could miss a federal declaration on Category A and not be paid for it. It is also critical to mobilize the proper equipment and the number of crews. The road clearing priority maps also must be updated and approved by the Chief of Police.

Councilman Best asked what is being done in addition to what the City already has in place.

Ms. Benigni replied that the Debris Management Plan is a requirement of FEMA; the plan ties in the policies, procedures and operations for the monitoring contractors to gather the information from the City, verify all the force labor and force equipment being used, including the Police Department. They also verify the daily emergency road clearing tasks by the contractors, including a monitor for every emergency road clearing crew and verification of the daily load tickets.

The debris storage reduction site has changed and should be updated in the plan as well, according to Ms. Benigni. If the Golf Course is used they must look at the permitting guidelines and the condition of the Golf Course before the disaster. They also handle the close out procedures for the debris removal and the contractor training.

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that there was a significant problem in the past with FEMA that was related to failure to report properly. FEMA actually denied City claims totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars and one of the reasons is because there were no standards in place at the time in regard to the reconciliation of weights as opposed to truckloads of debris. There were three potential lawsuits and two were avoided through settlements. The City was saved from having to spend monies from its own pocket because FEMA denied the claims due to the inaccuracies of the weight.

Councilman Lob asked if spending \$7,000 could potentially save \$100,000 in case of a storm.

City Attorney Seiden explained that the disaster operation business is very specialized and Council must consider that the City spent a significant amount of money to prepare the disaster manuals. He asked to consider why Council would not want to approve a small amount of money to maintain and update the manuals. In addition, FEMA requires certain certifications when disasters happen, which does not leave much to be discussed.

Ms. Benigni stated that the City paid her very well for her consulting services to go back and review records and if the City had paid \$7,000 they would have avoided paying her \$30,000.

Vice Mayor Espino commented that if this plan had been in place years ago the City would have received FEMA monies a lot sooner.

City Attorney Seiden added that the litigation ended well, but there were preparations for the litigation in case it had moved forward and that is why the consultant was hired. He agreed with Vice Mayor Espino that if all the procedures had been in place at that time, FEMA would have paid the City for everything without any dispute about the amount of debris.

Mayor Garcia asked how frequently it is recommended to update the Disaster Operations Plan or if it is only required when changes are made.

Ms. Benigni responded that the update is required every couple of years; the City just went through a change in the Administration and the contractors changed for the debris removal. She explained that the plan should be sufficient until future changes are made.

Mayor Garcia said that during the budget process, the Administration should keep in mind that it costs approximately \$7,000 for an update, when needed. He reiterated that the update is important and it should be planned as part of the budget process, because right now the funds are not in the budget.

Mayor Garcia asked if the City does not meet the requirements in the next two months if they would stand to lose funding in case of a hurricane.

Ms. Benigni stated that it is not the requirements as much as it is having the procedures in place and the City Department Staff and contractors involved hold a meeting and agree on what will take place when a disaster happens. She can work with the City on the Debris Management Plan update, wait for the asset and resources and if a storm is coming they will take photographs, which could be a reimbursable item under Category B.

Mayor Garcia asked how long it would take to prepare the update if Council gives their approval.

Ms. Benigni responded that the update would take several weeks and it would involve several meetings with the original planner, obtaining maps and working with the Chief of Police. After the updates are complete, she will establish a meeting with the contractors to go over the Debris Management Plan rules and responsibilities.

Mayor Garcia asked if the City's existing plan could be implemented if a storm was coming anytime after today and September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Benigni responded that the existing plan could not be implemented. She is the monitoring contractor and she would update the plan as soon as a hurricane is hitting because she knows that FEMA will immediately ask for it and it must include the correct data or there will be a problem. The plan sets the guidelines for the training session with all parties involved.

Mayor Garcia explained that his concern was addressed because the recommendation is to update the plan now and not to wait until the budget process.

City Manager Gorland stated that the right way to proceed is to update the plan now, even though there might not be a hurricane.

Councilman Lob asked the Administration to make a note to set aside funding during the budget process each year so that the funds are available when the need comes up again.

City Manager Gorland pointed out that there is \$500,000 available in the Hurricane contingency fund.

**Councilwoman Ator moved the item. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 4-1 on roll call vote with Councilman Best casting the dissenting vote.**

City Attorney Seiden added that when the Request for Proposals for debris removal was considered it involved five or six companies, and there are three companies under contract. He said that the contracts may extend beyond this year, with options for renewal.

City Attorney Seiden explained that the second and third companies under contract would be called in only if the first company could not perform or they needed assistance in performing. The first company is primary and the second company's contract states that they acknowledge that they have no contractual relationship with the City unless called upon, based upon additional services needed. The third contract has the same type of provision that is based upon the first two companies not being able to provide the service.

Mayor Garcia asked the Administration to let Council know the length of the contracts.

*Agenda Item 10B discussed after Agenda Item 9C.*

**10B) First Reading – Ordinance No. 1033-2012 – An Ordinance of The City Council of The City Of Miami Springs Amending Code of Ordinance Section 150-025, Awnings and Canopies in All Zoning Districts, To Provide Clarifying Language to Better Differentiate and Describe Portable and Permanent Self-Supporting and Free-Standing Canopies; Establishing Rules and Regulations for the Location, Placement, and Installation of Self-Supporting and Free-Standing Canopies on Properties In the Single-Family Residential Zoning Districts of the City; Repealing All Ordinances or Parts of Ordinances in Conflict; Effective Date**

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

Attorney Seiden stated that he and Building and Zoning Office Director Ziadie held a discussion about the Code and there is a copy of his e-mail in the back-up documentation. The Director had suggested a change to the provision in Section (N) (2) (c) that deals with temporary or self-supporting and free standing canopies that do not require permanent anchoring to the ground or an approved cement slab, and shall be capable of being completely disassembled and stored within a period of three hours. In addition, such canopies shall not require permitting prior to placement and no canopies shall be permitted to be located in the front yard area.

City Attorney Seiden added language that such canopies may not be placed or located within the required side or rear yard setback areas of any single residential property. While this is appropriate for permanent structures, Director Ziadie suggested a provision stating that such canopies may not be placed except within 5-feet of any property line, either rear or side. Mr. Ziadie said that using the term "required side and rear setback" would effectively outlaw approximately half or more of the existing canopies, most of which are in the 25-foot required setback or the 10% side yard setback.

Vice Mayor Espino agreed with the proposed changes outlined by the City Attorney.

City Attorney Seiden commented that this would avoid having to legislate against people and having them remove the canopies and the suggested wording would deal with the issue in a less aggressive manner that is more appropriate, especially in a portable situation.

Mayor Garcia stated that he likes the Building and Zoning Office Director's recommendation.

City Attorney Seiden added that the proposed language would cut down the need for enforcement, because the original language that he proposed would have made all those canopies within the side-yard setback in violation. He has no objection in light of the canopies being portable, self-supporting and they can be taken down before a storm.

**Councilman Lob moved to approve Ordinance 1033-2012, as amended, on first reading. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

**10C) Resolution No. 2012-3539 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Calling for the Holding of a Special Election for the City on Tuesday, August 14, 2012; Delineating the City Charter Questions for the Election Ballot; Providing Authorizations and Directions to the City Clerk; Effective Date**

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

Attorney Seiden called attention to Section 3 with the two proposed ballot questions that were previously approved and by submitting the resolution to Miami-Dade County Elections Department now the questions can be placed on the ballot for the County Primary Election on August 14, 2012.

In regard to Vice Mayor Espino's seat and the potential of another election, City Attorney Seiden explained that the Miami-Dade County Elections Department would prefer a separate resolution that can be resolved at a later date.

City Attorney Seiden noted that he made the change suggested by Councilwoman Ator in both sections, which was adding "April" 2013.

Councilwoman Ator stated that she had spoken to the City Manager about the importance of having the ballot question for Council Group II and the Charter Amendment questions on the same ballot for the August Special Election in order to avoid having to pay for two separate elections. She asked the City Attorney if he believed that based on the timing for Vice Mayor Espino's resignation from his seat and the requirements of the Charter if all issues could be addressed in August.

City Attorney Seiden responded that he had preliminary conversations with the Vice Mayor who assured him that he will be making his decision in ample time for the City to have everything on the same ballot for the August Primary election.

**Councilwoman Ator moved to adopt Resolution 2012-3539. Vice Mayor Espino seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

**10D) Resolution No. 2012-3540 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Providing for the Third Amendment to FY 2011-2012 Budget; by Authorizing Certain Interfund Departmental Transfers and Appropriating Undesignated Reserves into General Fund Revenues to Cover Authorized and Approved General Fund Expenditures; Providing Intent; Specifying Compliance with Budgetary Processes and Procedures; Effective Date**

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

Attorney Seiden referred to Whereas Clauses No. 2 and 3 that justify the funding and the legend on Exhibit "A".

**Councilman Best moved to adopt the resolution. Councilman Lob seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

*Agenda Item 10E discussed after Agenda Item 9B.*

**10E) Curtiss Mansion (CMI) Soft Opening Event on April 1<sup>st</sup> – Request for Funding for MSPD and PW Costs and Approval for Partial Deer Run Street Closing**

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland read the recommendation memorandum requesting approval of funding from CMI for Miami Springs Police Department costs of \$350.00, Public Works costs of \$300.00 and partial Deer Run street closing.

City Manager Gorland explained that while the event is not being held directly on the Circle, it is anticipated to have both an immediate and long term benefit to the Westward Drive/Circle businesses due to the 2,000 people that the event is expected to draw. Longer term benefits to all commercial areas are also expected as the Curtiss Mansion receives local, state, national and international recognition.

CMI is requesting closure of Deer Run from noon to 6:00 p.m. to all but local traffic in order to facilitate the success of the event, according to Mr. Gorland. They are proposing Curtiss Parkway median parking with shuttle services, as planned. The total funding request of \$650.00 is recommended to come from the Circle events fund which has approximately \$5,000 remaining for this fiscal year.

Councilwoman Ator said that she does not have an issue with the \$650 but she does not think that it should be taken out of the Circle fund because it sets a precedent for other events.

Councilman Best agreed with Councilwoman Ator about the funding because this is an activity outside of what is typically done on the Circle and he believes that the funding should come from elsewhere.

City Manager Ronald K. Gorland commented that he agrees that the event is not going to be on the Circle, however, the vast majority of the parking is going to be on Curtiss Parkway and the people will see the Circle and be exposed to it. The intent is to expose the Circle businesses. He understands that the event is not directly on the Circle and that was the criteria for the fund.

Mayor Garcia noted that if Council does not approve the expense from the Circle fund, the funds will have to come from somewhere else. He prefers to use the Circle funds and in the future maybe there could be a separate budget for events. He noted that the fund still has \$5,000 remaining.

City Manager Gorland agreed with the Mayor that the Administration could create another fund in the future during the budget process.

Vice Mayor Espino commented that there had been discussions and a recommendation to put a process in place to approve funding during particular windows of time. If Council were to start setting conditions now, it would be arbitrary at this point. He feels that the event will have an impact on Downtown and going forward parameters can be set for how the funds are used, or a separate fund could be created.

Councilman Best was satisfied with the City Manager's explanation relative to the creation of a separate fund, but he still feels that the event is not part of the Circle.

**Vice Mayor Espino moved to approve the request as recommended. Councilman Lob seconded the motion.**

Councilwoman Ator asked Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Alonso if there was \$650 in another account that could be put towards this event.

Mr. Alonso responded that aside from the Circle fund, there are funds in the General Fund balance.

Councilwoman Ator said that when she spoke with the City Manager he explained that he was asking for Council approval since the funds were to be taken from the Circle fund.

City Manager Gorland stated that there are ample funds in the General Fund to cover the \$650.00.

Councilman Best understood that the City Manager was requesting approval to use the Circle funds and obviously \$650.00 would have been within his discretion to approve out of the General Fund.

Councilwoman Ator reiterated that using Circle funds would be setting a precedent and it would open the door to anyone who wants to hold an event for any reason.

Mayor Garcia said that this is the first time the City has had a Circle budget and next year there will be other events that will not affect the Circle and a budget for those events can evolve. He noted that he is okay with special event funds coming from the Circle funds at this point because they will be creating a new budget in a couple of months.

Councilman Lob agreed with Mayor Garcia. He explained that Council was going to create a form so that people could apply for funding on a quarterly basis and it still has not been done. At some point, he would like to look into that idea because it would help to better allocate the funds, and people who are planning events would ask for approval in advance.

City Manager Gorland feels that most of the small funding requests are going to come at the last minute, like the Anchor event because they were not aware of the need for Police on the Circle. The Curtiss Mansion event is similar because CMI has not held an event of this magnitude and they were not aware of how the process works. He suggested continuing to advertise in order to advise people that there is funding available and to request funding ahead of time for annual events.

Vice Mayor Espino agreed that events will always come up at the last minute and part of the process should involve an outreach to all the clubs and organizations to let them know the appropriate time to request funding.

**The motion was carried 4-1 on roll call vote, with Councilwoman Ator casting the dissenting vote.**

Jo Ellen Phillips of 372 De Leon Drive stated that this is not an opening and is a sneak preview of the Curtiss Mansion. She is very pleased to let everyone know what is coming up in the near future. Captain Barrington Irving is setting up for the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy that will take place this summer.

Ms. Phillips said that Captain Irving will also be speaking at the event about his journey for knowledge that he will take next year. It is a four month tour around the world and he will be beaming down from 41,000 feet classroom instructions to classrooms around the world. His primary sponsors include The University of Miami, NASA and National Geographic. She noted that the soft opening will be quite a media event.

Ms. Phillips noted that the event will take place on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Vice Mayor Espino asked if transportation was handled.

Ms. Phillips thanked Chief of Police Baan and the Police Department and said that they have stepped forward and have done a great job at simplifying the process. She also noted that Public Works has been working amazing shifts to get things done at the Curtiss Mansion and she thanked them for their help.

City Manager Gorland said that the Recreation Department has also been involved through Event Planner Patti Bradley.

Ms. Phillips stated that Patti Bradley has helped a lot with the Curtiss Mansion. She also pointed out that Lily Saborit and Maria Ruiz have also been great in cleaning up some of the details and have had many good ideas. She looks forward to seeing everyone on Sunday.

*Agenda Item 10F discussed after Agenda Item 10A.*

**10F) Approval of License Agreement with Springs on the Green, LLC. – To Utilize a Small Parking Area Owned by the City which Adjoins the Parking Lot of a Property Recently Purchased by Manuel Pérez-Vichot of Springs on the Green at 627 Eldron Drive**

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that Council had requested this agreement and since Mr. Pérez-Vichot had some comments he asked that his e-mail correspondence be provided as part of the discussion.

City Attorney Seiden explained that the issues that were raised were in regard to the renewal of the license since property on the Golf Course is restricted by the Charter amendment; the license could not last for more than five years and it cannot be automatically renewed. The license agreement remains at four years, as discussed. He has never allowed Council to have self-perpetuating documentation because it is unfair to future Councils and their ability to govern.

The termination provision was changed from 30-days to 90-days, according to Attorney Seiden. Since Mr. Pérez-Vichot will be investing money in the property, he has no problem with adding another sentence stating that the termination of the license provision would not be effective during the first year or eighteen months.

City Attorney Seiden added that Mr. Pérez-Vichot went through Coastal Insurance and they are providing a B+ carrier instead of an A+ carrier that has been done in other city contracts, and the language will be amended to reflect this on page four of the agreement.

**Vice Mayor Espino moved to adopt the License Agreement, as amended, with the change to the insurance provision on page four and the addition of the non-termination provision within the first eighteen months. Councilman Best seconded the motion.**

Councilwoman Ator asked for confirmation about the change on page three.

City Attorney Seiden will add the following paragraph: Notwithstanding the foregoing, the terms and conditions of this provision shall not be effective until after the initial eighteen months of this Agreement.

City Attorney Seiden added that he would also make a correction as noted by Nery Owens which is that the City of Miami Springs is a Florida Municipal Corporation.

To answer Councilwoman Ator's question, Mr. Pérez-Vichot clarified that he is satisfied with the agreement and he appreciates the opportunity of working with the City to improve Eldron Drive. He was disappointed in the original terms because he would be making a significant investment and could have had the entire agreement cancelled within 90-days.

Mr. Pérez-Vichot commented that he is excited about the project and was able to secure the building permit within three weeks. The area has significant exposure to residents who use the bike path and visitors to the hotels.

**The motion was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

*Agenda Item 10G after Agenda Item 10D.*

**10G) Approval of Facility Agreement with Ricardo Rodriguez, d/b/a Miami Dade Aquatic Club, LLC to Utilize the Swimming Pool**

City Attorney Jan K. Seiden stated that the title of the item has been changed since Councilwoman Ator called attention to certain conflicts. The real name of the club is the Miami-Dade County Aquatic Club, Inc. and a revised facility agreement was provided for Council's review that includes the changes.

City Attorney Seiden noted that there were also a couple of typographical errors that will be corrected and the agreement is now between the City and the Miami-Dade County Aquatic Club, Inc. He provided a copy of the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations "Sunbiz" showing the current status of the entity for Council's information.

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

*Agenda Item 10H discussed after Agenda Item 9A.*

**10H) MSSH Anchor Club Requests \$300 from the Circle Fund to pay MSPD Costs While they Host the WWF Earth Hour City Challenge on Saturday Night, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M. at the Circle**

Brianna Gagne, Vice President of the Miami Springs Senior High School Anchor Club, introduced club members Rebecca Shultz and Vic Anchipolosky. She explained that Earth Hour is a global effort to raise awareness about protecting the earth from climate changes that began in 2007, and was founded by the World Wildlife Fund. More than 130 countries and 1BB people in over 5,000 cities participate all over the world and have joined the effort.

Ms. Gagne explained that the Anchor Club had distributed signs within the community for the last five years inviting individuals to participate in Earth Hour. This year the event will take place on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. and they are asking the City to turn off all non-essential lighting at the Circle and other areas within the City. In addition, they are requesting permission to hold a candlelight celebration on the Circle for one hour.

The Anchor Club is requesting that the City fund the cost of the Police security for the Circle event from the Circle event fund, according to Ms. Gagne. She thanked the City Council and City Manager for their quick response to their request.

Mayor Garcia commented that this is one of those types of events that Council had discussed when they developed the Circle event fund.

**Councilman Lob moved the item. Councilman Best seconded the motion which was carried 5-0 on roll call vote.**

**11. Other Business:**

None.

**12. Reports & Recommendations:**

**12A) City Attorney**

**Calvin Giordano & Associates**

City Attorney Seiden reported on the staff meeting with Calvin Giordano. He stated that he will be working on providing certain tweaking and provisions such as administrative variances to opt out of provisions under circumstances that do not call into question the nature and intent of the ordinance.

City Attorney Seiden noted that Airbus has contacted the City to install two simulators in the back of their building. The City has asked Airbus to wait until the ordinance amendment has been done so that the City can provide for a provision that will allow the administration to opt out.

City Attorney Seiden clarified for Councilman Best that they want to install the simulators on the same lot that they are currently on and they want to install it where the parking is.

## **12B) City Manager**

### **Thank You**

City Manager Gorland thanked Public Works for doing such a good job repainting the interior of City Hall.

### **Earth Hour**

City Manager Gorland advised everyone of the Earth Hour event on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:30-9:30 p.m. at the Circle.

### **Curtiss Mansion**

City Manager Gorland invited everyone to spend the afternoon at the newly restored Curtiss Mansion on April 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

### **Art Students**

City Manager Gorland reported that on April 2<sup>nd</sup> Miami Springs Senior High art students will be displaying artwork in the City Hall Lobby and everyone is invited to attend.

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

City Manager Gorland stated that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> through the Parks and Recreation Department and to contact the Recreation Department for admission.

### **Tax Preparation Assistance**

City Manager Gorland advised everyone that the Senior Center is still offering free tax preparation assistance by AARP.

### **Springs River Festival**

City Manager Gorland reported that the Springs River Festival will be held from Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, April 15, 2012.

## **12C) City Council**

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Councilwoman Ator stated that the admission for the Egg Hunt at the Recreation Center is \$2.00 and All Angels will be having an Easter Egg Hunt for free on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Spring Break**

Councilwoman Ator wished everyone a pleasant Spring Break.

### **Happy Holidays**

Councilman Lob wished everyone a happy holiday season.

### **Pelican Playhouse – Friends of the Theater**

Councilman Best stated that the Pelican Playhouse has a new production called *Wizards of Wonderlands* and he unfortunately will not be in that production. He invited everyone to attend Friends of the Theatre to watch the production on Thursday, April 19, 2012.

### **Happy Holidays**

Councilman Best wished everyone a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter.

### **Airport Golf District**

Vice Mayor Espino suggested holding a staff meeting with Calvin Giordano regarding the Golf District now that the Strategic Plan has been adopted.

### **Golf Tournament**

Vice Mayor Espino reported that Monsignor Pace High School is having a golf tournament at the Country Club of Miami on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon but that they will bring the tournament to Miami Springs next year.

### **Curtiss Mansion**

Vice Mayor Espino mentioned that the soft opening of the Curtiss Mansion should be great. The project has come a long way and he is looking forward to seeing the final pieces so that it can be called a grand opening.

### **League of Cities Dinner**

Vice Mayor Espino stated that the Miami-Dade County League of Cities monthly board meeting will be held at the Hialeah Race Track on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Relay for Life**

Vice Mayor Espino reminded everyone that the Relay for Life is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Happy Holidays**

Vice Mayor Espino wished everyone a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover.

### **Condolences**

Mayor Garcia offered, on behalf of the City and his family, condolences to Virginia Gardens Mayor Spencer Deno for the passing of his grandfather Fred Spencer Deno. The City is keeping them and their family in their prayers.

### **Story Time**

Mayor Garcia reported that the Recreation Center had their first Story Time and that it is not only for mothers. They read the story "Ouch". It was a great idea and he encourages the Recreation Center Staff to come up with more great ideas.

### **Curtiss Mansion**

Mayor Garcia encouraged everyone to attend the Curtiss Mansion walk through Soft Opening on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Florida Marlins**

Mayor Garcia advised everyone that Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> is the opening day for the Florida Marlins.

**THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

**13. Adjourn.**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

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Zavier M. Garcia  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Magali Valls, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved as \_\_\_\_\_ during meeting of: 4-9-2012.

Transcription assistance provided by Suzanne S. Hitaffer and Elora Sakal.

Words ~~-stricken through-~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.





**REVITALIZATION AND REDEVELOPMENT AD- HOC COMMITTEE**

The meeting of the Miami Springs Revitalization and Redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee was held on Monday, March 19, 2012 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present were: Chairman Laz Martinez  
Vice Chairman Todd Stiff  
Arturo Rabade  
Juan Saborido

Also Present: City Planner Jim H. Holland  
Acting Board Secretary Elora R. Sakal

**2. Approval of Minutes: February 20, 2012 Meeting**

**Vice Chairman Stiff moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2012 meeting as written. Committee member Rabade seconded the motion, which carried 3-0 on voice vote.**

**3. Update from the City Planner on the Variances Issued for the McDonalds and Pilot House Remodeling Projects**

City Planner Holland apologized for not being present at the previous meeting.

Chairman Martinez stated that Vice Chair Stiff thought it would be a good idea to have City Planner Holland give the committee a summary of what the City is doing. He noted that the committee is disappointed that there was not a lot of substance in the strategic planning. The committee wanted some feedback regarding City Planner Holland's opinions of the 36<sup>th</sup> Street zoning.

City Planner Holland distributed some handouts for the committee. He said that one of the handouts was an excerpt of the zoning code from the 36<sup>th</sup> Street district. He explained that there have been three projects on 36<sup>th</sup> Street. The first project was Office Depot and in the City's opinion it was basically a paint job with some trimming and the code does not give the Building Official and himself the approval to do that. It was the City Attorney's advice that he should proceed that way.

City Planner Holland noted that the project for Office Depot was completed and the City required the company to use the color palette which they would have had to use at some point anyway. The second project was McDonalds. McDonalds Corporation was contributing funds towards the renovation of the store on behalf of the franchise and may have been a split. He stated that the McDonalds building has been on 36<sup>th</sup> Street since 1974.

City Planner Holland commented that the last project was the Pilot House which had been in a state of disrepair and closed down for approximately six years. There is a tenant who wants to reopen the Pilot House Bar and Grill and an adjunct facility called Mad Man Jack's Barbeque. Initially he and the tenant were on the same approach with the variances until City Attorney Seiden advised him that the Pilot House was a different situation.

City Planner Holland stated that free standing restaurants are not permitted uses in the NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street district which was part of the issue. The code also states that when a use is abandoned for a period of 90 days, it loses its status as a non-conforming use. The ordinance was passed in late May and the building is still vacant so therefore, it lost its status for non-conforming use for a bar and restaurant.

City Planner Holland noted that City Attorney Seiden looked at the project from a procedural point of view and the filing of the procedures in the code required the tenant to have an optional meeting with staff and redevelopment specialists and a mandatory meeting with the Rehabilitation Specialist. He said that it would then go to the Architectural Review Board, the Board of Adjustment, the Zoning and Planning Board and finally the City Council. It went through all of the steps needed and took a couple of months, but it was expedited as much as possible.

City Planner Holland explained that in the midst of the project, all but one member of the Architectural Review Board resigned. A waiver needed to be requested from Council for that step of the process. The project has been approved and is proceeding with working drawings and should be going through the permitting process within the next six months.

Chairman Martinez asked what other variances were needed aside from the 90 day window and City Planner Holland replied that there were twelve variances on the McDonalds project.

City Planner Holland stated that there is a principle in zoning that an ordinance should not be passed to create a non-conforming use and rather make as many uses conforming. He noted that there were approximately 16 to 18 restaurants in the 36<sup>th</sup> Street district that were rendered as non-conforming uses.

Vice Chair Stiff asked if according to Item H on the list of permitted uses, if the tenants have to go through the process to get the approval of the City Council and City Planner Holland responded that they have to get the approval of City Council or request a variance.

City Planner Holland commented that existing free standing restaurants and existing free standing retail uses should be incorporated as permitted uses. He said that this topic would be one of the discussions during his meeting with Calvin Giordano. At the last meeting with Calvin Giordano, minor changes to the code were discussed and they also discussed developing an administrative variance concept or exception.

Discussion ensued regarding Airbus and their request to install two simulators.

City Planner Holland stated that in Item E the maximum capacity could not exceed 1,000 people and is something minor but was not addressed when the code was revised.

Vice Chair Stiff said that it not being addressed when the code was revised is a failure of Calvin Giordano. He asked City Planner Holland if Calvin Giordano and Council had been made aware of that and City Planner Holland replied that Calvin Giordano has been made aware, but Council has not been made aware of that issue.

Chairman Martinez asked if Calvin Giordano is going to solve the problem via the old work order or are they going to come back and ask for a new work order in order to incorporate these changes and City Planner Holland replied that the City will end up doing the modifications in-house.

Vice Chair Stiff explained that the City hired Calvin Giordano to assist the City of Miami Springs because Calvin Giordano does not write City codes; the City writes its codes. He noted that in his opinion, the first failure was Calvin Giordano, but the second and ultimate responsible party was the City of Miami Springs who also did not catch it.

Vice Chair Stiff clarified for City Planner Holland that the code was approved before the death of the previous City Planner in late March and early April.

Chairman Martinez commented that Calvin Giordano made a presentation to the committee and the committee was critical about the fact of what could be done because of the airport, issues with the height of the building and noise from the airplanes. He recalled the previous City Planner submitting something to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for their approval.

City Planner Holland clarified that the previous City Planner submitted something to the Miami Dade Aviation Department and not the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Discussion ensued regarding the issues with the Abraham District.

To answer Committee member Saborido's question, City Planner Holland stated that the airport has jurisdiction over the air space and lateral air space.

Discussion ensued regarding the approved expenditure for the preparation of the adult use regulations by the experts.

City Planner Holland said that in the 36<sup>th</sup> Street zoning code Item 4 (b) - direct entrance from 36<sup>th</sup> Street is prohibited and a variance would be required. He said that it is being proposed to change the code to add the word "new" for new accessory parking and vehicular access to new on site parking facilities. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will not grant driveway permits. They cannot remove old driveway permits, but will not grant any additional permits.

Vice Chair Stiff clarified that the Pilot House property currently has a curb cut.

City Planner Holland said that in the case of the Pilot House there were minimally ten foot setbacks and two sides of the building are on the property line. There is a build-to-line which is 15 feet. He explained that a build-to-line is something that is used to permit cantilevering and the light versus the setback. In this case, the build-to-line is more than the set back.

To answer Vice Chair Stiff's question, City Planner Holland replied that the tenant's intention is to use all of the existing structure.

City Planner Holland discussed the Floor Area Ratio (F.A.R.) in the code and said that the Pilot House and McDonalds did not have an F.A.R. of 1.0 as a minimum. He suggested that the language should be changed to a maximum base F.A.R. of 1.0.

Vice Chair Stiff agrees with City Planner Holland that it was not written properly.

City Planner Holland said that on some of these specific uses in the bonus program, the hotels are permitted 0.1 per hotel room and that actually works out to an F.A.R. bonus of 1.0 for a 100 room hotel. He does not know if that is too low or not, depending on what the City is trying to accomplish. He noted that the maximum floor area of any size hotel for meeting rooms is 12,500 square feet and believes that the cap should be removed.

City Planner Holland suggested removing the provision regarding decorative gates and fences because it is in direct conflict with another provision of the code and is not much of a bonus anyway.

Discussion ensued regarding the parking space provisions that are in the code. He noted that the sum of the mixed uses should be 75% versus 80% and at the same time, increasing the minimum number of the spaces per multifamily unit to 2.0 versus 1.5 spaces per unit. The office uses should be four per 1,000 square feet versus three per 1,000 square feet.

City Planner Holland discussed the issues with the code for accessory parking lots and that screening shall consist of a minimum six-foot block fence and hedge.

Vice Chair Stiff felt that the code was rushed and not that it was a mistake, because it was done with good intentions, but it is not anything that cannot be fixed at this point.

City Planner Holland opined that architects should not be writing zoning ordinances and it should be left to planners and lawyers.

To answer Committee member Saborido's question, City Planner Holland replied that Calvin Giordano wrote this code and if the process was the same then as it is now, then there was no input from the City Administration.

Committee member Saborido asked what the remedy is for all of the issues they are seeing now and City Planner Holland responded that there needs to be some direction from Council.

Committee member Rabade asked City Planner Holland what would occur if McDonalds would have gone in and razed the existing building and City Planner Holland replied that they would be a non-conforming use and could not rebuild.

Chairman Martinez stated that the bigger picture is that this is a City that has very little commercial tax revenue and in order for the taxes to remain as they are or decrease, the City has to provide for bigger projects that they can tax more. The intent is to find out how to get higher revenues from the commercial areas in order to help the City offset the residential tax base.

City Planner Holland commented that the ordinance needs to encourage development and in his opinion, this ordinance discourages development.

Discussion ensued regarding the Pilot House and why it is not a use variance.

Committee member Rabade said that precedents are being made.

City Planner Holland discussed the off street loading code and said that it specifies the size but not the number of loading zones. It is assumed that there needs to be at least one loading zone in every development and it was certainly not possible with either the Pilot House or McDonalds.

City Planner Holland commented that there were issues with the national corporate identity and the utilization of logos. He believes that the City needs to revisit those codes. He also would like to change the code that says that any onsite paving except pedestrian/bike paths must have decorative pavers. He noted that it should be reversed so that pedestrian/bike paths have pavers and general parking lots do not.

Discussion ensued regarding how to revise the code for landscaping and maintaining a six foot hedge along the side of a six-foot high block fence. City Planner Holland said that he would do more research on this code.

City Planner Holland explained that the code for architectural standards is that all buildings, whether they are existing or new, must follow the Pueblo/Mission Revival or Streamline Moderne design standards. Any kind of remodeling can be either style of design and any new construction had to be Streamline Moderne.

Discussion ensued regarding the 36<sup>th</sup> Street corridor being Pueblo/Mission or Streamline Moderne.

Vice Chair Stiff believes that everyone on the committee would want Pueblo Mission.

Chairman Martinez agreed with Vice Chair Stiff. He commented that since the City already has so much Pueblo Mission, Calvin Giordano was trying to take the City from Pueblo Mission to Streamline Moderne without offending anyone who wanted Pueblo Mission to be the prevailing design.

Committee member Rabade noted that the 36<sup>th</sup> Street corridor is quite separate from the rest of the town.

City Planner Holland said that Calvin Giordano was proposing that the bases of the Pueblo Mission homes were stone but all Pueblo homes are adobe.

Chairman Martinez commented that the reference to the stone came from the Curtiss Mansion and when you enter the Mansion there is a stone structure that leads you into the Mansion.

Vice Chair Stiff asked City Planner Holland what Calvin Giordano's ongoing status was and City Planner Holland replied that he does not have that answer and that he can only tell the committee where they are at this point, what they have presented to the City, how much they have been compensated and possibly how much more they will need to be compensated.

City Planner Holland explained that the code for shade trees along 36<sup>th</sup> Street requires that they are to be placed at thirty foot intervals with a minimum setback of ten feet. He said that shade trees cannot be placed there because the spread of a shade tree is typically thirty feet in one direction.

Discussion ensued regarding the code provisions for signs. City Planner Holland said that there will be some changes made such as the code pertaining to sign surfaces being limited to thirty square feet per acre. He stated that he was going to do more research on this code.

Vice Chair Stiff commented that in defense of the signs, the idea for the 150 foot pole signs for the gas stations and the restaurants is to attract people who would not go to that exit if they did not see that sign. He does not feel that anyone that is going to those places needs a sign to tell them where they are going or will need a sign to draw business to their development.

City Planner Holland said that the sign could be no more than one-third of the height of the building so if there is a single story building which may be 15-feet from base to parapet; the sign would be five-feet high which is not visible. He would be more in favor of having wall signs of a certain size and do away with pole signs all together.

City Planner Holland stated that there would be a small change to include some wording to one of the lighting provisions. He noted that McDonalds had requested and was granted a variance from the procedural requirements which skipped the mandatory review with the Revitalization Specialist and the Architectural Review Board. Given the situation with the non-existing and non-conforming use of the Pilot House, City Attorney Seiden felt that the City should follow the procedures with the exception of the Architectural Review Board review.

Chairman Martinez felt that there is a danger in setting a precedent for skipping or not following certain procedures.

City Planner Holland explained that some of the changes he mentioned for the code will be minor and other changes will possibly require an exception. Calvin Giordano is supposed to be developing some kind of procedure for the administrative exceptions.

To answer Chairman Martinez's question, City Planner Holland stated that the next step for changing and revising parts of the zoning code is that the City is going to be working jointly with Calvin Giordano and then it will be submitted to Council for their consideration.

Chairman Martinez would like to make sure that the committee stays informed with the zoning code revisions.

Committee member Saborido asked City Planner Holland if the committee will get a chance to review the Downtown package and look at all the issues that are red flags and City Planner Holland responded that all he has are pictures and there is no text.

**4. Status Report from the City Planner on all Pending Work Orders and Meetings of Calvin Giordano & Associates, Inc. (requested at the meeting of February 20, 2012)**

City Planner Holland distributed a spreadsheet of the existing work orders. (Attached for the record). He noted that the first work order was for the development of the NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street Regulations and it was completed in March of 2011. The percentages of completion are based on the billings.

Chairman Martinez asked if the NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street regulations were going to grow with the changes that City Planner Holland is proposing to the 36<sup>th</sup> Street zoning and City Planner Holland replied that it depends on if Council wants Calvin Giordano to make the revisions to the code or if they want the City to make the changes.

City Planner Holland stated that the next work order is for aesthetics and theme packages and is 70% complete.

Chairman Martinez asked if City Planner Holland could explain what the aesthetics were and City Planner Holland replied that the aesthetics are things such as the signage, lighting and the street furniture.

Chairman Martinez clarified that the signs, gateway ideas and monuments are under the work order for aesthetics and theme packages.

City Planner Holland commented that the County was not consulted and the County regulates traffic control devices which include all street signs.

Discussion ensued regarding a sign warning the public that there was an autistic child in the area that was erected and then removed because it was not in conformance with the manual of uniform and traffic control devices. Calvin Giordano has the names of the people at the County to find out exactly what needs to be done.

Chairman Martinez asked if City Planner Holland could follow up with Calvin Giordano when he meets with them this week regarding that issue and City Planner Holland agreed that he will follow up on the matter.

Chairman Martinez stated that former City Manager Jim Borgmann had continuously said that there was plenty of parking, but it was not identified well so that people knew exactly where it was. He noted that he is not in agreement that there is enough parking. He is fortunate that he has a parking lot behind his building where he works on Westward Drive. He said that not only do the customers not have parking, but the employees do not have parking either. Parking has gone by the way side.

Discussion ensued regarding the lack of parking in the downtown area for customers and employees who work along Westward Drive.

City Planner Holland commented that the fourth work order is the preparation of a zoning map and it is pending. He has reviewed this work order four times and has sent it back to Calvin Giordano for corrections all four times and he still does not have it. He hopes to get the corrections soon.

City Planner Holland explained that the billed amount on the Abraham Tract regulations is 89.7% and he believes there is a lot more work to do than the 10.3% remaining. At this point there is not an acceptable code draft from Calvin Giordano and he feels that the City is going to end up creating one.

City Planner Holland mentioned that the last work order is for the Airport Golf District Boundary Regulations. Nothing has been done at this time on this work order that is tangible. He stated that Mr. Sala indicated that Calvin Giordano would probably be coming back to Council to ask for another work order to do a master plan of that area before they do the zoning district regulations.

To answer Chairman Martinez's question, City Planner Holland replied that \$22,000 is the total amount for the Airport Golf District Regulations. They have billed \$4,369.20 and \$1,560 leaving approximately \$16,000 left of the \$21,846.

meet the goals and raise a 5% increase in commercial tax revenue as the strategic plans calls for if the City cannot even get the zoning in place.

City Planner Holland noted that the zoning is in place for 36<sup>th</sup> Street. There is nobody pushing to develop anything in the Airport Golf District because clearly it is a redevelopment area.

Chairman Martinez said that the Airport Golf District is the biggest eyesore that the City has.

City Planner Holland explained that there was one proposal that Sergio Pino of Century Builders came in with. The building was too tall and had approximately seven stories and then the market fell out and they dropped the project all together. He mentioned that there would have to be a charter amendment for a project like that because there is the four story height limitation and the density limitation.

Discussion ensued regarding the height and density limitations for buildings.

Vice Chair Stiff said that in the process of approval of a new development, there was a review by the Architectural Review Board and a consultation with a professional consultant. He asked City Planner Holland if the redevelopment specialist was hired and City Planner Holland responded that he has not been hired.

Vice Chair Stiff asked if Council has removed the Architectural Review Board from the process and City Planner Holland replied that Council has not removed the Architectural Review Board.

City Planner Holland distributed notes from the last meeting the City had with Calvin Giordano, the Finance Director and the Grant Writer. (Attached for the record). The meeting purpose was to identify potential sources of funding for the commercial, economic redevelopment efforts for NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street and Westward Drive.

City Planner Holland said that based on the discussions, it was determined that there are no funds available. He noted that Citizens Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) funds were mentioned, but they can only be used for transportation purposes or projects. In some areas they have stretched that to include sidewalks such as connecting residential areas to a bus stop, and drainage.

Chairman Martinez asked if the CITT funds could be used for signage.

City Planner Holland explained that there is a limited amount of CITT funds that the City can receive. It is supposed to be an equal amount on per capita basis to political entities. He said that the City does not see CITT as a funding source and even if the City could use the funds, it would probably be a minimal amount.

City Planner Holland mentioned that Richard Sala of Calvin Giordano suggested that the City establish a designated fund balance amount of \$200,000. He noted that it would be self replenishing and it would be 50%-50% matching funds. There would be ten projects in the central business district at \$10,000 and two projects at \$50,000 on 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

City Planner Holland mentioned that Richard Sala of Calvin Giordano suggested that the City establish a designated fund balance amount of \$200,000. He noted that it would be self replenishing and it would be 50%-50% matching funds. There would be ten projects in the central business district at \$10,000 and two projects at \$50,000 on 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

Chairman Martinez stated that he gave his opinion about this to Richard Sala and at least three Council members. He would like to see a commitment from the City before investing his money because if he spends \$10,000 on renovating the façade of his building, he does not feel that it is going to do anything for his rent because buildings surrounding his are not going to look nice.

Chairman Martinez commented that he does not feel that his business owners would want to contribute funds towards the façade of the building because he does not think that a façade renovation would bring more clients or affect the market or area. He said that he would prefer to see the funds being spent for City improvements like signage and monuments.

Discussion ensued regarding what the designated fund balance of \$200,000 should be used for.

City Planner Holland explained that Calvin Giordano was supposed to be developing a marketing program for Downtown funds and they represented that they could find funds, but the reality is that there are no funds.

Chairman Martinez hopes that the funds that are being spent on the consultants are not funds being spent without anything to show for it. He said that people are frustrated with the fact that the City has spent over \$1MM since 1983 in studies and consulting fees. If that money would have been used towards the streets, the City would have a lot more to show for their investment.

City Planner Holland agreed with Chairman Martinez.

Committee member Rabade said that information has been generated from a lot of data and the City still has not done anything and that is some of the frustration that people are starting to show.

City Planner Holland stated that the study that was done ten years ago by Dover Kohl is very valid today and it makes more sense to utilize that study.

Chairman Martinez wonders at what point Council is going to feel that they have enough information to begin an implementation program.

City Planner Holland replied that Calvin Giordano's work was supposed to be an implementation.

Chairman Martinez said that his theory is that 36<sup>th</sup> Street is very much economic driven and there is not a very good economic climate right now for development. The City has to provide some incentives so that it can bring traffic into the area that will solicit those businesses.

Discussion ensued regarding different locations such as Lincoln Road and their prices for properties per square foot.

City Planner Holland stated that an implementation strategy needs to be developed.

Committee member Saborido commented that he went through the strategic plan and participated in one of the workshops with Bill Busutil. The strategic plan was a great quick read but it did not include anything that is an actual step. He said that one of his litanies about Miami Springs' predicament is marketing and communications. There was only a 1-¼ page that discussed communications and it regarded talking to the residents and there was nothing about marketing the City.

Committee member Saborido explained that there is not a person on the staff in the City that is actually marketing the City where someone can go to networking luncheons and meet with other business people to ask them to visit Miami Springs and meet with the City Planner. He sees many ideas but no plan.

City Planner Holland said that as a result of the Dover Kohl Study and their recommendations, a Downtown Administrator was hired and he did a pretty good job. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds were going to be used to promote the façade program and because someone was not happy with that it was removed.

City Planner Holland said that the City cannot work with the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) because there needs to be blighted areas and Miami Springs has no blighted areas.

Committee member Saborido feels that there are blighted areas in Miami Springs.

To answer Committee member Saborido's question, Chairman Martinez explained that the only thing that the committee can do is put their opinions into the minutes for the elected officials to read and talk to whoever appointed each committee member and encourage them to take steps in order to make things happen.

Vice Chair Stiff asked if the committee will be meeting next month and if there is an agenda.

Chairman Martinez replied that he does not have an agenda set up for the next meeting and was waiting to hear what City Planner Holland had to say tonight.

Chairman Martinez said that he would like to see the code put back on the agenda due to the fact that the City has hired additional Code Enforcement Staff.

City Planner Holland noted that Code Enforcement lost an employee because she was promoted to another position in the Building Department and now Code Enforcement is looking to recruit another officer.

Discussion ensued regarding Code Enforcement and some of the regulations that need to be enforced in the City. Chairman Martinez feels that there are a lot of buildings in Miami Springs that look bad and it is an embarrassment.

Chairman Martinez does not have an agenda item at this moment, but said that there are plenty to pick from.

City Planner Holland suggested having Building and Zoning Office Director Tex Ziadie come to explain the Code Enforcement situation to the committee.

Chairman Martinez stated that he would like to get information on the Airport Golf District but he is hesitant on continuing to spend funds to have the consultants come before the committee to speak on something that is not moving through the Council.

Chairman Martinez asked City Planner Holland if he could copy the committee on the meeting notes with Calvin Giordano so they can be aware of what is going on and possibly find something that they could put on the agenda for the next meeting and City Planner Holland said that he will copy the committee.

City Planner Holland said that with the Abraham Tract and the Airport Golf coming up, the City does not want to see a poorly written ordinance like 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

Chairman Martinez commented that he had been asking to have the 36<sup>th</sup> Street code “debugged” by having it taken to a school of architecture and City Planner Holland replied that Florida International University and the University of Miami were asked to do that and they could do not schedule it for another year.

Discussion ensued regarding Florida International University and the University of Miami not being interested in working on the 36<sup>th</sup> Street code.

**THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

5. **Adjourn**

The meeting was duly adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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Elora R. Sakal  
Clerk of the Board

Approved as \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
*“The comments, discussions, recommendations and proposed actions of City Citizen Advisory Boards do not constitute the policy, position, or prospective action of the City, which may only be established and authorized by an appropriate vote or other action of the City Council”.*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Work Order #	Description	Approved Amount	Date Approved	PO #	Date	Invoice #	Amount of Invoice	Balance Remaining on WO	Date Paid	Check #
1	Professional Planning Services- NW 36th Street Zoning Code Revisions Completed in March 2011	\$ 43,380.00	10/25/2010	110292	1/31/2011	39382	\$ 28,028.00	\$ 15,352.00	2/11/2011	75997
					2/28/2011	39726	\$ 8,807.00	\$ 6,545.00	3/25/2011	76342
					3/28/2011	39880	\$ 5,068.00	\$ 1,477.00	4/8/2011	76433
					5/31/2011	40454	\$ 1,477.00	\$ -	6/17/2011	76948
2	Aesthetics and Theme Packages	\$ 56,515.00	10/25/2010	110294	1/31/2011	39383	\$ 13,219.00	\$ 43,296.00	2/11/2011	75997
					2/28/2011	39727	\$ 2,477.00	\$ 40,819.00	3/25/2011	76342
					3/28/2011	39881	\$ 800.00	\$ 40,019.00	4/8/2011	76433
					5/5/2011	40223	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 38,939.00	5/20/2011	76747
					5/31/2011	40455	\$ 875.00	\$ 38,064.00	6/17/2011	76948
					8/4/2011	40952	\$ 2,045.00	\$ 36,019.00	8/26/2011	77464
					9/14/2011	41150	\$ 225.00	\$ 35,794.00	9/30/2011	77761
					12/12/2011	41929	\$ 7,627.00	\$ 28,167.00	12/30/2011	499
					12/31/2011	42198	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 21,567.00	1/27/2012	685
					1/31/2012	42393	\$ 4,590.00	\$ 16,977.00	2/10/2012	769
3	Professional Traffic Engineering Services Completed in September 2011	\$ 19,920.00	10/25/2010	110295	12/31/2010	39202	\$ 11,860.00	\$ 8,060.00	1/14/2011	75760
					1/31/2011	39384	\$ 6,351.50	\$ 1,708.50	2/11/2011	75997
					5/31/2011	40456	\$ 370.00	\$ 1,338.50	6/17/2011	76948
4	Zoning Map (PENDING) Professional data technologies & development services to update the City's Official zoning map	\$ 9,860.00	5/9/2011	111005	9/30/2011	41370	\$ 1,338.50	\$ -	10/21/2011	77871
					7/11/2011	40693	\$ 4,312.50	\$ 5,547.50	7/29/2011	77265
					8/4/2011	40907	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 2,422.50	8/26/2011	77464
					9/14/2011	41151	\$ 580.00	\$ 1,842.50	9/30/2011	77761
					9/30/2011	41371	\$ 1,151.00	\$ 691.50	10/21/2011	77871
					11/8/2011	41679	\$ 237.50	\$ 454.00	11/18/2011	215
					12/12/2011	41930	\$ 290.00	\$ 164.00	12/30/2011	499
5	Abraham Tract Regulations	\$ 14,170.00	3/9/2011	110643	3/28/2011	39879	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 11,320.00	4/8/2011	76433
					5/5/2011	40224	\$ 2,015.00	\$ 12,155.00	5/20/2011	76747
					5/5/2011	40457	\$ 1,527.00	\$ 10,628.00	6/17/2011	76948
					7/11/2011	40694	\$ 1,134.10	\$ 9,493.90	7/29/2011	77265
					8/4/2011	40953	\$ 650.00	\$ 8,843.90	8/26/2011	77464
7	Airport Golf District Boundary Regulations	\$ 21,846.00	4/25/2011	110837	9/14/2011	41152	\$ 1,758.90	\$ 7,085.00	9/30/2011	77761
					9/30/2011	41372	\$ 3,542.00	\$ 3,543.00	10/21/2011	77871
					12/31/2011	42199	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 1,974.00	2/24/2012	870
					1/31/2012	42394	\$ 520.00	\$ 1,454.00	2/24/2012	870
TOTAL APPROVED WORK ORDERS		\$ 165,691.00				\$ 134,029.20	\$ 31,661.80			

# MEETING NOTES

Date: Monday, March 5, 2012; 1:30 PM

Location: Miami Springs City Hall

Attendees: Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, William Alonso, Grant Writer/Public Information Specialist Carol Foster, City Planner, Jim Holland, Richard Sala and Jeff ? of Calvin Giordano & Associates

Meeting Purpose: To identify potential sources of funding for the commercial, economic redevelopment efforts for NW 36 Street and Westward Drive.

After considerable discussions, it was determined that there are no sources of County, State, or Federal funding for which the City may qualify. A CITT fund was mentioned, but, such funds may be used solely for "transportation purposes." Certain sidewalks and drainage projects may be considered as "transportation purposes."

Richard proposed that a Designated Fund Balance be used for "seed money." The total amount of this fund would be \$200,000.00. The proposal is for 50%-50% matching funds. In the CBD, there would be 10 projects at \$10,000.00 and within the NW 36 Street District, two projects at \$50,000.00 each. Although the project cost may exceed \$20,000.00, the maximum match by the City would be \$10,000.00.

Other details, such as qualifying projects for the façade program, were discussed. A property owner would be required to engage professionals to prepare plans and cost estimates for façade improvement, which would then be eventually approved by the redevelopment specialist.





***CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA***

The **Miami Springs Education Advisory Board** met at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 in the City Hall Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

**1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

The following were present: Chair Robert J. Gordon  
Vice Chair Dr. John Salomon  
Libby Manning  
Golnaz Sami  
Dr. Mara Zapata\*

\*Arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Also Present: Deputy City Clerk Suzanne Hitaffer

**2) Approval of Minutes: February 21, 2012 Regular Meeting**

Minutes of the February 21, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

**Vice Chair Salomon moved to approve the minutes. Board member Sami seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 on voice vote.**

**3) Special Reports and Presentations**

Chairman Gordon announced that Mindy McNichols is a special guest who was one of the founding members and the Chair of the Education Advisory Board for ten years. She will be reporting on her new responsibilities with the Glenn Curtiss Mansion. He thanked Ms. McNichols for her accomplishments and said that the Board is working hard to continue the tradition.

Former Education Advisory Board Chair Mindy McNichols of 1471 Hammond Drive reported that she has been on the Board of Directors for Curtiss Mansion, Inc. (CMI) since June 2011. The “soft” opening of the Curtiss Mansion is on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and she encouraged everyone to take the opportunity to come and see the amazing work that has transpired. She said that some of the Senior High School students will be participating by dressing up in clothing from the Glenn Curtiss era and they will be providing musical entertainment.

Ms. McNichols explained that she was asked to serve on the CMI Board because of her education background and connections. They are planning a Teacher Professional Development program at the Mansion in November that consists of a four hour program to learn the history of Glenn Curtiss and the Mansion, including architecture and science elements in order for the teachers to put together lesson plans. CMI is hoping to have the participation of teachers from Miami Springs since there is a common interest and they would like to spread the word about Glenn Curtiss throughout the community.

Ms. McNichols added that school projects are planned for next year and one is called “The Unsung Heroes” where students will be invited to develop a project about an unsung hero. She explained that Glenn Curtiss was an unsung hero because he was not recognized for many of his accomplishments and inventions. The exhibits would be displayed in the museum and they would change from time to time featuring different unsung heroes.

Ms. Nichols explained that a Community Garden is planned at the Curtiss Mansion that will have vegetables and herbs that were grown in the 1920’s. She said that everyone is welcome to participate in the planting and harvesting of the garden. In addition, there will be a lecture series for adults in the evening and many other activities are planned after the grand opening. The Mansion will also be available for weddings and events.

Chairman Gordon commented that he toured the Mansion and it is one of the best facilities in Miami-Dade for holding events and seminars. He said that it is beautiful and that CMI did an incredible job.

To answer Chairman Gordon’s question, Ms. McNichols explained that she would be the CMI contact person for the schools. She said that once the Mansion is open to the public it would be available for student field trips, although it will not be a museum with standing exhibits.

Ms. McNichols explained that the President of CMI is Jo Ellen Phillips and the Board consists of many members, including Captain Barrington Irving who will have a simulator lab and summer camp at the Mansion.

Discussion ensued regarding the Learning Garden at Springview and the Victory Garden at All Angels Academy.

Ms. McNichols reported that the legislative proposal to divert the School District's capital construction funds and revenues to charter schools was defeated. She explained that during the legislative discussions the District put together a report on facilities needs for every school. She suggested that the Board should request a copy of the report in order to make sure that the Miami Springs' schools are included.

Chairman Gordon offered to reach out to School District representative Lubby Navarro to request a copy of the facilities report or the updated five-year plan.

Ms. McNichols said that she hopes to come back often to report on the Curtiss Mansion as the programs develop.

#### 4) **School Reports**

Principal Sally Hutchings from Miami Springs Elementary reported on the following curricular activities and events:

- Students were recognized for their artwork that is on display in the school auditorium in celebration of women's history and Black History month. The work will be displayed at Starbucks and the City Hall.
- A mock FCAT/SAT test was conducted during the week of March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Book Fair will be held on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Book Fair Night is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Enrollment remains at 645 students.
- Second grade will take the Cultural Passport field trip to the Cleveland Orchestra on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Papa Johns night is March 28<sup>th</sup>, and Chuck E. Cheese is March 29<sup>th</sup> from 3-9p.m.
- The P.T.A. is hosting a recognition ceremony for the Teacher and Rookie Teacher of the Year.
- The Student Council is sponsoring Women of the Week ("WOW") and will share bios on famous females who made an impact.
- On Earth Day in April students will hold a clean-up day; their motto is "We Stay Green by Being Clean".
- ELL tutoring is going well and should continue for three more weeks based on the budget.

Discussion ensued regarding converting white boards to smart boards and the parent's garden.

Chairman Gordon referred to a recent article in the River Cities Gazette regarding an incident at the school. He asked Principal Hutchings to share her comments about it, if possible.

Principal Hutchings responded that she could not comment on the incident due to the confidentiality since it involves a minor. She told the Board not to believe everything they read because there were many inaccuracies in the article.

Springview Elementary Principal Mayte Dovale explained that there had been many inquiries about the incident and she agreed with Principal Hutchings that the Gazette reported inaccurate information. The student involved in the incident is not in the school and she does not foresee that happening. She pointed out that the information was not given out by a Staff member.

Chairman Gordon felt that the River Cities Gazette should be advised to seek better sources of information or to at least verify the information before it is published. He said that it is very important to set the right image for the schools and the principals work hard to make that happen.

Principal Dovale said that she and Principal Hutchings are very open to the community and any time there is a question, they would be happy to provide the information.

Board member Manning suggested that the Gazette could publish an article to clear up the matter and to report on how these types of situations are handled in order to give some reassurance to the parents.

Principal Dovale explained that the situations are handled through the Code of Student Conduct.

Principal Mayte Dovale reported on the following activities and events at Springview Elementary:

- Black History Month was concluded with a “Flash Mob Unity Dance” on the hard court prior to picking up the students for classes; there was a performance from the new choir and the Staff luncheon was held on February 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Spring Break was kicked off with an opera based on “Little Red Riding Hood”.
- Teachers are organizing several field trips through the District Cultural Passport opportunities, including a trip to the Adrienne Arsht Center to participate in the Cleveland Orchestra.
- Kindergarten will go to Disney on Ice and first grade will be going to the movies to see the “The Lorax”.
- Tutoring is ongoing for students in grades 3-5 in the areas of reading, math and science. Science is only for fifth grade at this time.
- Incentives will be awarded for students completing Reading Plus, FCAT Explorer and the FCAT Camp.
- A mock FCAT test is being conducted this week to prepare students for the testing in April.
- Fifth graders participated in the articulation with the Middle School.
- The General P.T.A. meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to discuss accountability, budget, and school-wide improvement. The student choir and after school dancers will perform for the parents.

Principal Dovale commented that in regard to the five-year plan, the school needs to have the smart board projectors mounted in kindergarten, first and second grades. The school will be going through some construction to make the school ADA compliant.

To answer Chairman Gordon's question, Ms. Dovale explained that the P.T.A. purchased a math program that is used throughout the District to give students a glimpse of the different benchmarks that will be seen on the test. The students receive a daily math journal entry on the smart boards with five math problems that are completed and reviewed. There are math interventions for those students with deficiencies.

Miami Springs Middle School Assistant Principal Vicky Rodriguez reported on the following school highlights:

- Articulation was recently completed with the High School and the Elementary Schools.
- In-house articulation will be held for 6-7 grade students in the coming week and subject section forms are available on the school website.
- Saturday School tutoring has four sessions remaining and a drawing will be held for three Kindles as an incentive for students that have been attending.
- FCAT incentives are planned for the beginning of the school year.
- Self Harm Awareness Day was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, with students and staff wearing orange to support the cause.
- The Principal's honor roll students and members of Club 55 will be going to the Youth Fair; the eighth grade awards ceremony will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the High School and Staff Olympics will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Student Josh Perez was selected to attend the World Mountain Bike Race.
- The school painting project has begun and is scheduled for completion in the summer.

To answer Chairman Gordon's question, Ms. Rodriguez said that magnet program invitations were sent out to 135 students from outside the boundaries and 35 students within the boundaries. The school is waiting for acceptance letters and to expand the program.

Discussion ensued regarding the magnet program and student orientation.

AIE Charter School teacher Nevenka Huertas reported the following on behalf of Principal Hirsh:

- FCAT/SAT tutoring is covering every bench mark and the mock testing is being conducted this week; Comprehensive English Language Learning Assessment (CELLA) testing will conclude next week for all campuses.
- Teachers are attending Rosetta Stone conferences this summer.
- A school Walk-A-Thon raised \$2,000 last month.
- The P.T.A. will be meeting on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

- Enrollment is up and there is a waiting list for next year's kindergarten and first grade; 142 students are enrolled in all campuses and school tours are on Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

North Central Regional Center Director Nereida Smith explained that she is one of three Directors for the Region and they share a number of feeder patterns and different duties. She explained that Miami Springs is not in her feeder pattern, but it is a pleasure to be here and listen to all the wonderful things happening in the schools. She said that each school works very hard and people have no idea how much they do everyday for the children. Ms. Smith invited everyone to visit the schools to see all the wonderful activities.

**5) PTA/PTSA Reports: None**

**6) Business/Reports:**

**a. Youth Advisory Council**

Board member Golnaz Sami reported that she presented a Youth Advisory Council application to AIE Charter School Principal Vera Hirsh and she is working on the other three private schools.

Chairman Gordon asked Ms. Sami to provide an update on the progress that has been made on establishing the Youth Advisory Council.

Board member Sami explained that she prepared an application and information based on the Resolution that was adopted by the City Council. Seven schools are involved, including Miami Springs Senior High, Miami Springs Middle School, Miami Springs Elementary, Springview Elementary, All Angels Academy, Blessed Trinity and Seventh Day Adventist School. The instructions specify that the Youth Council will consist of one student from each school.

Ms. Sami stated that since the current school year is more than half over, it would be best to start the next school year. The Youth Council will be comprised of students in the fifth grade and above, and she hopes to include the AIE Charter School since they will have a fifth grade next year. She questioned whether or not there could be eight members on the board and if the resolution would need to be amended.

Chairman Gordon stated that the Education Advisory Board would have to petition the City Council to amend the Resolution to include additional schools.

Board member Salomon suggested that the language in the Resolution could be generalized to include Miami Springs' schools, as the number of schools could vary in the future.

Board member Manning noted that Blessed Trinity School is not in Miami Springs.

Board member Sami commented that the Resolution includes Blessed Trinity as one of the seven schools.

Chairman Gordon agreed that the Resolution could be amended to remove Blessed Trinity and include the AIE Charter School.

**Board member Zapata moved to appeal to the City Council to amend the Resolution for the Youth Advisory Council to delete Blessed Trinity Catholic School because it is not part of Miami Springs and to add the AIE Charter School. Board member Sami seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**b. Advanced Academic Committee**

Chairman Gordon stated that on February 27<sup>th</sup> a walk-through was held at the High School by Cambridge and District personnel to inspect the physical needs of the school. He does not know how it went and he will reach out to get information. The purpose of the walk-through is because they are moving forward with the Science/Technology/Engineering/Math (STEM) program and they are hoping to partner with Cambridge to make it happen.

Chairman Gordon reported that he had preliminary conversations with community members about after school programs that are computer program oriented. There are parents who are interested in this type of program and they are going to be contacting the elementary schools.

Board member Manning agreed that there are many good programs for elementary and middle school students to teach computer programming.

Chair Gordon added that learning programming teaches kids to take apart problems and solve problems, which is a good thinking exercise.

Vice Chair Salomon noted that the Board members received a memorandum from Mayor Garcia in reference to the letter to students recognizing exemplary citizenship that was discussed at the last meeting.

Vice Chair Salomon explained that the Mayor suggested that the school principals would submit the names of the students that are being issued the letters so that he could recognize students for their actions by issuing a special certificate or proclamation, as he feels is appropriate.

Board member Manning felt that the Mayor's suggestion is good because he would like to recognize the students further, as it is called for. She said that the information would be forwarded to the principals and she feels that it is a good idea.

Chairman Gordon stated that the award would not take the place of the letter and it would be an addition to the letter.

Board member Zapata commented that it looks like the special certificates or proclamations would be in place of the letter once he has the names.

Board member Manning felt that the suggestion was good because the Board was not trying to create that work for the City Council, but if they are willing, it would be even better than the letters.

Board member Zapata asked the other Board members to consider what it means to a child to accept an award from the Mayor.

Board member Manning reiterated that it would be a good thing if Council is willing. She asked if any of the Board members could see a problem with it.

Vice Chair Salomon mentioned that he liked the letter, but this would be replacing the letter.

Chairman Gordon said that it seems like the letter would go out to more students and the awards would be presented to fewer students.

Vice Chair Salomon agreed that the awards would simplify the process for the principals. He said that ideally it would be nice to empower the principals to issue the letters and they could submit the names of the students at the Education Advisory Board meeting and explain why the letters were presented. For example, maybe a student found and returned a wallet and that information could be given to the Mayor; if he deems the deed to be exemplary then a certificate could also be given to the student.

Vice Chair Salomon would like to empower the community to recognize and move this type of behavior forward. If a student is good to his fellow citizens, this should be celebrated. There are many wonderful things that happen in the schools every single day that no one really hears about and in this day and age people need to hear more about these types of things. At the same time, it sends a message to other kids that are "on the fence" about making the right choice.

Chairman Gordon suggested a motion to accept the Mayor's recommendation, or to continue to move forward with the letters being issued by the Education Advisory Board.

Vice Chair Salomon interjected by informing the Chair that the Education Advisory Board cannot issue letters because they are only an advisory board.

Board member Sami noted that the memorandum from the Mayor is asking the Education Advisory Board members to let him know if they consider his suggestion.

Board member Manning commented that there are two discussions; one is letting the City Council take over the award recognition, or to do the letters in combination with the special recognition.

Vice Chair Salomon questioned whether or not the City Council could empower the Education Advisory Board to do the letter. In other words, the letter would come from the Education Advisory Board, instead of from the City Council. Then if they deem an action to be exemplary they could issue a special certificate or proclamation. He asked if this made sense to the other members.

Chair Gordon responded that the Vice Chair's suggestion made sense to him.

Board member Manning was concerned about how the timeframe and the procedure would be handled by the Board because it would depend on the meeting date, the decision making, issuing the letters and it could take two or three months. She added that the Board does not meet in December and the process could be so bogged down that it might not mean as much because young kids need to be recognized quickly. She explained that she is okay with both suggestions, but she does not want to create a lot of work for the Board if it cannot be done in a timely manner.

Board member Zapata felt that it really says something about the Mayor to make this suggestion, and the Education Advisory Board should not say that they agree, but still want to do the letter. She understands the purpose of the letter, but in her opinion she would agree to leave it the way the Mayor suggested.

**Board member Zapata moved to accept the suggestion from the Mayor. Vice Chair Salomon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

#### 7) Other

Former Chairman Mindy McNichols asked if the Board had held any discussions about the new grading system for schools and the new scores that will affect schools. She knows that the District is trying to get information about the subject out to the communities because some of the schools that have always been "A" schools might not be in the future.

Ms. McNichols suggested that the Education Advisory Board should schedule a presentation in order to be able to understand the system because it is complicated. There are people who are very skilled and can make a PowerPoint presentation to educate the public. She said that Gisela Field or someone from her department could make the presentation.

Board member Manning agreed with Ms. McNichols that it would be a good idea to schedule a presentation.

Ms. McNichols added that it is going to take effect this year because of FCAT 2.0, but it could be worse next year.

Board member Manning mentioned that the Miami Herald on-line provided a simulation grade and if you entered the name of a school it would identify the school grade this year and what it would be under the new system. For example, Springs High is a “C” and it will be a “C”, but certain schools saw a drastic change based on the new factors.

Ms. McNichols explained that according to the law, a “D” or “F” school falls into an intervention category, which none of the Springs’ schools have ever been in, but they could be in the future. In some ways it means the school receives additional services, but in other ways it is a stigma that the schools have never experienced.

Ms. McNichols discussed the new law regarding the end of course exams and the corresponding FCAT subject. If a student takes an end of course exam for algebra or geometry they would not have to take the corresponding FCAT math. This is a good thing, but it must be determined how the end of course score will figure into the grade because they are very difficult exams. She felt that it will take the school system awhile to teach the kids to become proficient on the exams.

Board member Zapata agreed with Ms. McNichols that the teachers must be trained because the questions on the end of course exams are difficult. She felt that the presentation would be good for the Education Advisory Board and the community and she would like to find a way to make the meeting known to the community and the interested parents.

Ms. McNichols felt that the District would help the Education Advisory Board publicize the presentation.

Chairman Gordon announced that on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a City of Miami Springs Education Tour and invitations were sent to business and civic leaders. The tour will begin at City Hall at 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and the bus will visit all the schools. He added that there should be press on this event and the educational forum.

Board member Zapata stated that it is important for the parents to understand what the change in the grading system means.

Board member Manning commented that there was a previous discussion on the P.E.R.T. test and students who do not perform well on this test would have to take another course in their senior year. She said that people should be aware of these new policies.

Chairman Gordon assured Ms. McNichols that the Education Advisory Board would work with her and the School District representatives in order to obtain the information.

Chairman Gordon reviewed highlights of the legislative update that he obtained from the District website. He noted that education Pre-K - 12 funding is provided an increase of approximately \$1.05BB, making up most, but not all of the lost ground from last year. HB 7127 would revise Florida's differentiated accountability system; HB 7059 is related to acceleration options and public education, amending various provisions of the law to establish curriculum to enhance learning options and provide an opportunity for students to graduate earlier from high school.

Chairman Gordon thanked Ms. McNichols for providing a wealth of information.

Board member Manning stated that she would like to discuss the magnet program at the high school, but the High School Principal needs to be present to provide a report

**8) Adjourn**

There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Hitaffer  
Clerk of the Board

Approved as written at meeting of:

\*\*\*\*\*  
**The comments, discussions, recommendations and proposed actions of City Citizen Advisory Boards do not constitute the policy, position, or prospective action of the City, which may only be established and authorized by an appropriate vote or other action of the City Council.**  
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**CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA**

The **Ecology Board** met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

**1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at: 7:15 p.m.

The following were present:

Chairman Martin Crossland  
Vice Chair Wendy Anderson-Booher  
Ann Trina Aguila  
Carl Malek (Arrived at 7:24 p.m.)

Also present:

Assistant Public Works Director Robert Williams  
Board Secretary Elora R. Sakal

**2) Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the February 28, 2012 were approved as written.

**Vice Chair Anderson-Booher moved to approve the minutes. Board member Aguila seconded the motion which was carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**3) Old Business: None.**

**4) New Business:**

a) Discussion Regarding Collected Data on Recycling to Submit to Council

Chairman Crossland distributed copies of his research (attached for the record) and explained that he went to two cities and a recycling company. He noted that he is looking for people who are very passionate about recycling and found Dulce Panteleon from the City of Doral and Scott Davis.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams stated that he knew Scott Davis very well.

Chairman Crossland commented that by the year 2020, the state will require that 75% of the municipal solid wastes should be recycled. The board's next topic would be composting and with recycling and composting, the City would be able to reach the 75% goal.

Chairman Crossland said that K-12 schools will also have to follow the 75% rule by the year 2020. The City of Doral is already going to schools to promote recycling.

Board member Aguila distributed copies of her research (attached for the record) and stated that she made phone calls to Florida International University (FIU) and was given the prices on four different shaped containers for recycling. She especially liked the large bottle shaped receptacle. She explained that it costs \$45 and a logo can be made and placed around the receptacle. Sand bags would go on the bottom of it to secure it from falling over.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams mentioned that the price is great for the large bottle shaped receptacle, it would draw people's attention and there is no mistaking its purpose.

Chairman Crossland said that these bottle shaped receptacles could be placed right next to garbage cans so that there is no confusion and people would know exactly what it is for. He noted that it would be great to have these receptacles at the Golf Course and Recreation Center.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams advised the board members that the City added the clause to the contract that recycling must be provided when a special event is held.

To answer Chairman Crossland's question, Assistant Public Works Director Williams replied that once the application comes in he will go to the site to make sure the bins are set up properly and at the end of the event he will make sure the recycling company has complied with what they are supposed to do.

Chairman Crossland asked if the recycling company has to remove the recycled materials and Assistant Public Works Director Williams responded that they do have to remove the materials.

Board member Malek arrived at this time.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams brought an example of a recycling bin. He noted that he went to look at the recycling bins in the area and realized that they were not noticeable or properly marked. He said that the recycling bin can be placed indoors and will have the city logo on it and will be properly marked so that people know that the bin is for recycling only.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams explained that he will be placing two of the recycling bins at each facility and will educate Public Works on how to use them. At the end of every night or when the bin is full, Public Works will take it to the recycling dumpsters outside and empty it in that bin and then that bin will be taken to the curb.

To answer Board member Aguila's question, Chairman Crossland replied that Waste Management hauls away the recycling from the dumpsters.

Chairman Crossland stated that he was at the Senior Center today and saw that there were three receptacle bins.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams clarified that the bins at the Senior Center are not in the correct place and he is going to relocate them. There needs to be more signage advising of the recycling bins.

Chairman Crossland asked if there was going to be recycling bins at the Golf Course and Assistant Public Works Director Williams replied that they are going to be at every facility.

Board member Malek asked if the recycling bins could be placed in the schools and Vice Chair Anderson-Booher responded that permission would have to come from the County.

Vice Chair Anderson-Booher commented that there are recycling containers at the High School in the Library. It is up to the teachers to enforce recycling. She noted that in individual classrooms teachers take it upon themselves to recycle.

Chairman Crossland stated that every classroom should have a blue recycling bin so at least the paper can be recycled.

Board member Aguila said that there should be a recycling bin by the copy machines.

To answer Chairman Crossland's question, Assistant Public Works Director Williams replied that shredding creates more space and it would be easier.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams explained that all City facilities have a shredder not too far from the copier and employees can shred their paperwork and then the cleaning company takes the shredded material and puts it in the recycling bin.

Vice Chair Anderson-Booher commented that she spoke with someone at the Ft. Lauderdale Airport regarding their recycling bins and is trying to get the price and information on the bins. She also researched two websites and found two types of containers. She spoke with Waste Services Inc. (WSI) and obtained information regarding a 30 cubic yard container that can hold anything from bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams clarified that the City uses WSI.

To answer Board member Aguila's question, Assistant Public Works Director Williams replied that he is going to be placing recycling bins at all of the parks.

Vice Chair Anderson-Booher commented that it will be great once the signage is in place and it will make a big difference.

Board member Malek suggested getting businesses involved and seeing if they would be interested in having recycling bins in front of their buildings.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams thanked City Manager Gorland for his support.

The Ecology Board agreed and also thanked City Manager Gorland for his support and help.

Board member Malek was not able to bring the paperwork regarding the C.U.T.E project.

Chairman Crossland clarified that he was supposed to come up with a collated report of everything that was gathered for the recycling bins and he asked Assistant Public Works Director Williams if it was still necessary.

Board member Aguila suggested that Chairman Crossland should still come up with a collated report.

Vice Chair Anderson-Booher said that she would e-mail Chairman Crossland the information she collected so he can put all of the information together for the report.

Chairman Crossland stated that one of the next projects he would like to implement would be to replace all the newspaper stands with one big newspaper container that can hold all the newspapers and eliminate the multiple newspaper containers.

To answer Chairman Crossland's question, Assistant Public Works Director Williams responded that the Board would have to go to City Council for that project.

Chairman Crossland asked if Assistant Public Works Director Williams had anything to say regarding composting.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams explained that if the board wants to get involved with composting they will need to locate a site to compost. The issue with composting is that everyone thinks it is a wonderful idea as long as it is not near their home. Finding a site for composting is going to be a challenge.

Board member Malek remembered that there was a compost area on Ludlam and Royal Poinciana.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams clarified that a neighbor began to complain that the compost was creating ticks, fleas and rodents.

Board member Aguila remembered that Fairchild Garden had a compost area and it was walled in and she asked if the compost on Ludlam was walled in.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams replied that it was not walled in. He noted that Fairchild Garden's composting was constantly being used on a rapid basis and when the compost sits for a long period of time that is when it begins to attract pests.

Discussion ensued regarding composting and associated issues.

Assistant Public Works Director Williams stated that he will report back to the Board as he progresses along.

Vice Chair Anderson-Booher thanked Assistant Public Works Director Williams for all of his help and for bringing in the recycling bin.

**6) Adjournment**

There was no further business to be discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elora R. Sakal  
Board Secretary

Approved as \_\_\_\_\_ during meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

Words ~~-stricken through-~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.

\*\*\*\*\*  
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## REPORT ON RECYCLING

I investigated Florida State Regulations regarding Recycling:

I contacted and visited:

City of Doral (visit)

City of Miami Shores (phoned)

Town of Miami Lakes (phoned)

Recyclable Planet (visit)

Conversation with Jeanmarie Manza Massa of Miami-Dade Solid Waste Management

### **Florida State Regulations regarding Recycling**

The Legislature finds that the failure or inability to economically recover material and energy resources from solid waste results in the unnecessary waste and depletion of our natural resources. As the state continues to grow, so will the potential amount of discarded material that must be treated and disposed of, necessitating the improvement of solid waste collection and disposal. Therefore, the maximum recycling and reuse of such resources are considered high-priority goals of the state.

By the year 2020, the long-term goal for the recycling efforts of state and local governmental entities, private companies and organizations, and the general public is to recycle at least 75 percent of the municipal solid waste that would otherwise be disposed of in waste management facilities, landfills, or incineration facilities.

Each state agency, K-12 public school, public institution of higher learning, community college, and state university, including all buildings that are occupied by municipal, county, or state employees must, at a minimum, annually report all recycled materials to the county using the department's designated reporting format. Under the program, recyclable materials shall include, but are not limited to, metals, paper, glass, plastic, textile, rubber materials, and mulch.

Components of the program shall include, but are not limited to:

Programs for municipalities and counties to develop and implement efficient recycling efforts to return valuable materials to productive use, conserve energy, and protect natural resources.

Programs by which the department can provide technical assistance to municipalities and counties in support of their recycling efforts.

Programs to educate and train the public in proper recycling efforts.

Evaluation of how **financial assistance** can best be provided to municipalities and counties in support of their recycling efforts.

### **Phone call to the Town of Miami Lakes.**

I was informed by the city clerk that presently all solid waste is still processed by the county, hence the town has no official recycling program as of this moment

## **Visit to City of Doral.**

**Dulce Pantaleon, Public Works Project Coordinator. 305-593-6740 -- ext. 6010**

This city has its recycling in perfect order. All city employees have two waste baskets by their desk, one for recycling paper and one for general waste. There are recycling containers for glass, metal and plastic at all the places where staff congregates (cafeteria). Outside in the streets and at all public parks, recycling containers are placed beside the general waste containers. Both containers are exactly the same, but the recycling one has a green stripe stating "We Recycle" and a restricted top for bottles, cans and plastic.

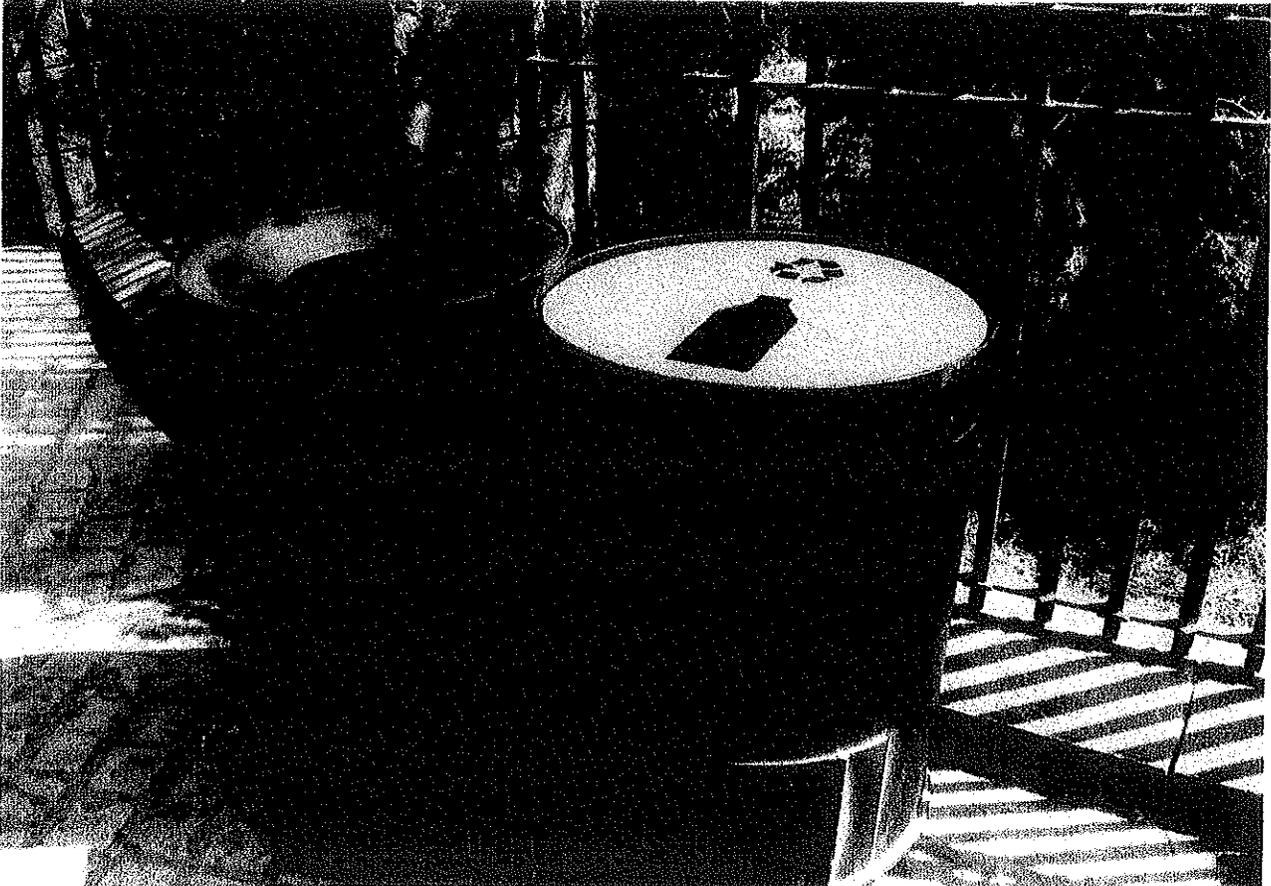
Dulce also collects batteries and used CDs from staff members. This is processed through E-Scrap.  
<http://www.esrapusa.com/>

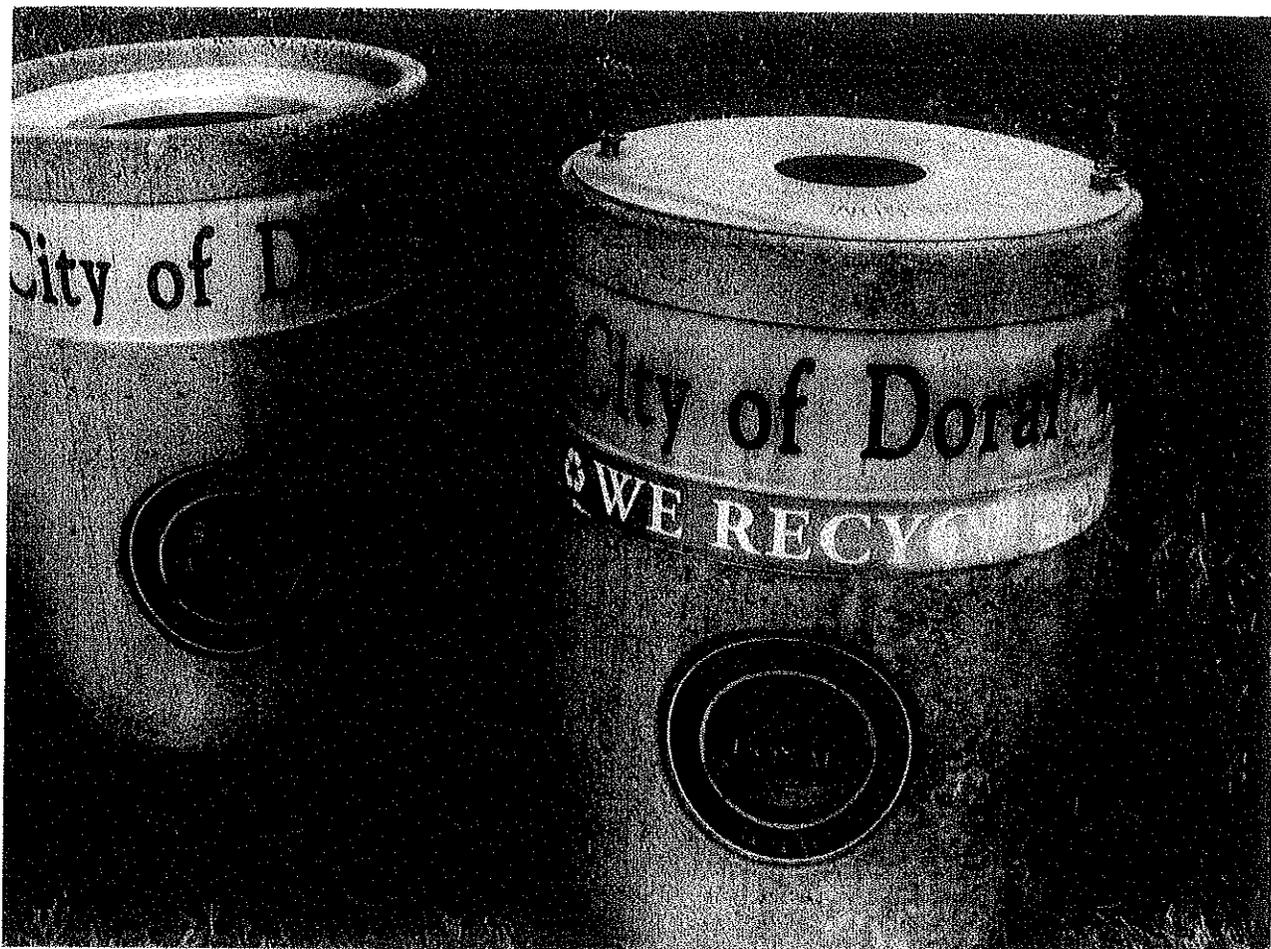
It should be noted that the recycling containers that will be emptied by the waste collection truck are **NOT** left outside of the buildings where less knowledgeable or color-blind people can throw in ordinary trash, but are taken out only on collection days.

Dulce is also working in extending the recycling program to local schools within the City of Doral.

Dulce tells me that the city is holding an Ecology Fair from 10 to 2 on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. April.

The secret to success at Doral is to have a passionate recycler to direct the project.





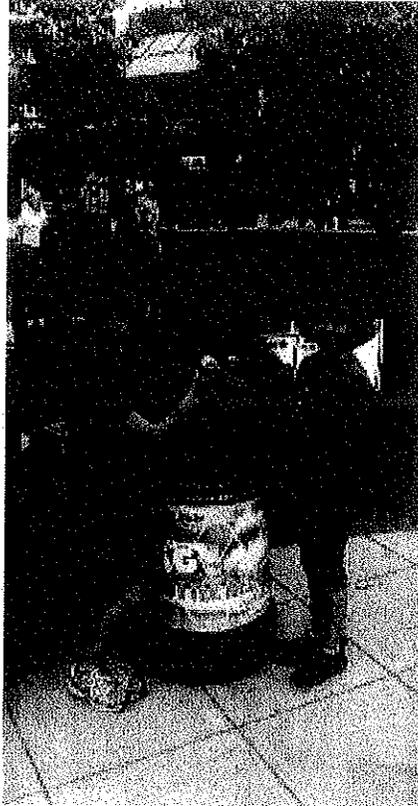
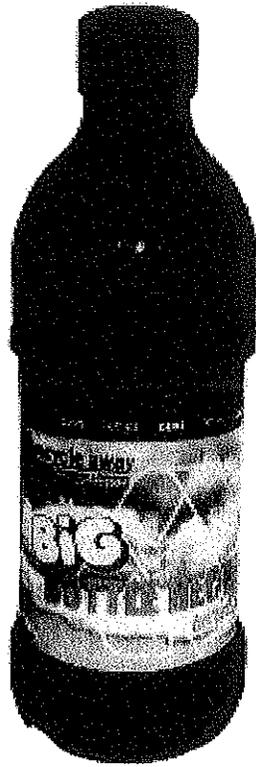
**Phone call to Scott Davis, Public Works Manager at the Village of Miami Shores. 305-795-2210**

One of the first local communities to "Go Green" with curbside recycling.

Similar to Doral, all city offices and facilities practice recycling. Unlike Doral, Miami Shores uses recycling bins purchased from Recycle Away shaped like plastic bottles. As we all know, people have to have instant recognition of recycle containers so they are not used for general garbage, and must be placed side by side with regular garbage containers. The bottles are used for public areas such as the Recreation Center and sports fields. These are especially attractive for children. The contents are then taken to public works where they are transferred to the regular recycling containers that are picked up by Waste Management. Cost per bottle is US\$ 89.00.

Recycle Away has the largest selection of recycling containers I could find, at all prices. They advised me that they would be happy to help advise in setting up a city-wide recycling system.

The secret to success at Miami Shores is to have a passionate recycler to direct the project.



**Visit to offices of Recyclable Planet. Carlos Cuevas, Founder and CEO. 305-328-9533**

Recyclable Planet is an office based in Mid Town Miami which markets unique high quality Reverse Vending Systems.

**The Recyclable Planet recycling program** consists in the installation of their **green machines** in schools, supermarkets, golf courses, recreation and community centers, sport venues, parks, churches and recycling centers, helping to create and maintain a recycling culture in our communities.

Each time someone deposits a plastic bottle and/or aluminum can in the green machine; the machine will give a ticket with a unique code that will give an opportunity to win gift cards, prizes, offers and coupons from their sponsors that can use in all their local and nationwide establishments.

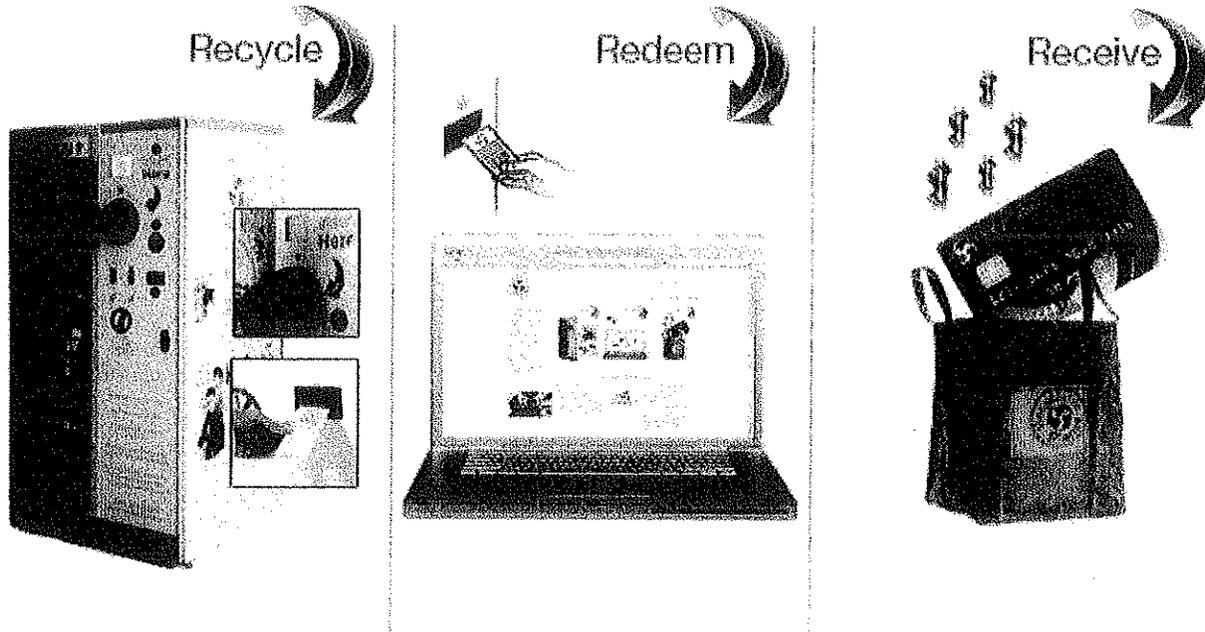
Once the account is registered, recyclers will be able to choose a preferred non-profit organization and Recyclable Planet will donate to them thanks to their recycling efforts.

We live in a Recyclable Planet. Educate, motivate, recycle, donate and be rewarded.

Identified Recyclable Planet's personnel will collect the recyclable pet bottles and aluminum cans and will transport them to our recycling center. They will prepare the recyclable material properly to be sold to different recycling plants.

Sponsors will be able to advertise on the back lighted billboard, through the HD video screen in each Recyclable Planet reverse vending system and online through [recyclableplanet.com](http://recyclableplanet.com).

They also offer a consulting service which will guide the institution into an effective and economic recycling program. This would include motivating recycling behavior in the community by education at municipal offices, schools, churches, recreation and community centers.



**Conversation with Jeanmarie Manza Massa of Miami-Dade Solid Waste Management 305-514-6631**

Jeanmarie is one of the most passionate recyclers I have met. She has given talks on recycling in Miami Springs previously. She has given me a contact of Luis Vargas at Miami-Dade Waste Management who will be able to assist and advice in respect to a recycling program in Miami Springs. I am awaiting his phone call.

**F.I.U.**

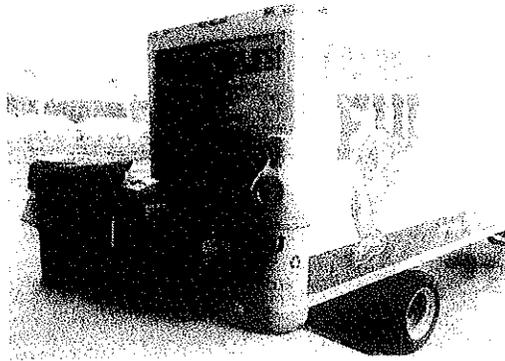
**Contact person in Purchasing: Joe Nuninga  
305 348 4634**

**96 gallon toter  
Price-- \$60  
made by the company—Otto**

**Plastic box  
Price \$100  
made by the company—Recyclingbins.com**

**Metal box  
Price-- \$225  
made by the company—Rubbermaid**

**Large Bottle Shaped  
(secure with sandbags in the bottom; used outside at athletic events)  
Price-- \$45  
made by the company—pfinnovation.com**







## *Zoning and Planning Board*

### *Cancellation Notice*

The Zoning and Planning Board meeting of Monday, April 2, 2012 has been canceled in advance.



Elora R. Sakal  
Board Secretary

cc: City Council  
City Manager  
City Attorney  
City Planner  
City Clerk  
Zoning and Planning Board Members  
Post





DRAFT

## ***CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA***

The regular meeting of the **Miami Springs Code Enforcement Board** was held on **Tuesday, April 3, 2012** at 7:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 201 Westward Drive.

### **1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairman Marlene B. Jimenez.

Present: Chairman Marlene B. Jimenez  
Jacqueline Martinez-Regueira  
John Bankston  
Rhonda Calvert  
Walter Dworak  
Robert Williams

Also Present: Code Compliance Officer Harold (Tex) Ziadie  
Council Liaison-Councilwoman Jennifer Ator (and her handsome son Mason!)

Absent: Vice-Chairman Raul Saenz

### **2) Invocation/Salute to the Flag**

All present participated.

### **3) Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the November 1, 2011 meeting were **approved as written**.

**Member Rhonda Calvert moved to approve the minutes of November 1, 2011. Member John Bankston seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously by acclamation, all members voting "aye".**

Tex Ziadie administered the oath to all who were present to give testimony (only himself). Tex Ziadie advised the Board that Vice-Chairman Raul Saenz would be resigning from the Board due to moving out of town.

4) **OLD BUSINESS- NONE**

5) **NEW BUSINESS-CASES**

1) Case# 12-927  
Address: 125 North Melrose Drive  
Owner: Robert A. Groh  
Violation: Maintenance of Property  
Code Section 93-13

Mister Groh did not appear at the meeting. Code Compliance Officer Tex Ziadie summarized the case as follow:

Based on various complaints, an inspection on 2-2-12 by Tex Ziadie, noted that there was a large amount of excess material stored in the front and rear yards. Based on that, the following memo was sent and delivered by the Police Department to the owner of the property:

To: Robert A. Groh February 2, 2012  
125 N. Melrose Drive  
Miami Springs, FL 33166

Regarding: Notice of Violation for property located at 125 North Melrose Drive.

Mister Groh:

This letter is to notify you that the property owned by you and located at 125 North Melrose Drive, is currently in violation of the City of Miami Springs Code, section 93-13. A copy of that Code is attached for your reference.

The specific nature of the violation is as follows:

Miscellaneous material is scattered around the front and rear yards.  
Most of the material appears to be trash or derelict material, including furniture, bird cages, trash bags, fencing material, folding doors, screening and other matter.

Please remove all of this material from the front and rear yards within thirty (30) days. Failure to comply with this Notice will result in a Summons being issued for you to appear before the Code Enforcement Board. Be advised that the Code Enforcement Board is empowered to levy fines, impose liens on the property and order other actions as they deem fit. Also note that this property is a repeat violator of this Code.

The deadline for compliance is March 5, 2012  
If you have any questions about this matter, feel free to contact me.

On a follow up inspection on March 7, 2012, it was noted that some of the material had been removed, but there was still excessive material in the front and the rear yards. A Summons to appear before the Code Enforcement Board was issued and delivered by the police Department on March 7, 2012. Additional follow up inspections showed no change in the condition of the property. Tex displayed pictures taken in February and pictures taken today.

There was discussion among the Board members about the case. They asked if Tex had spoken to Mister Groh. Tex advised the Board that Mister Groh had asked that we not come onto his property and therefore all current communication with him is done in writing through the Police Department.

**Board member Jacqueline Martinez-Regueira made a motion that Mister Groh be allowed 7 days to comply. If he does not, then a fine of \$50 per day would be levied and placed as a lien against the property. The effective date of the fine would be April 11, 2012. The motion was seconded by member Rhonda Calvert and passed unanimously on roll call vote.**

Member John Bankston stated that he knew Mister Groh and that he would make an attempt to talk to him and see if he could convince him to comply and avoid the fines being placed on his property.

#### **6) Council Liaison Report and Request**

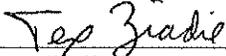
Councilwoman Ator was present. She thanked the Board again for their service. She also gave the Board a summary of actions taken on a previous case involving ficus hedges. She stated that the gentleman had applied for a variance and been denied. Subsequently he had appealed the Board of Adjustment's decision to the Council, but had been denied there also. He had finally removed the ficus hedges.

Tex Ziadie stated that the Building Department had been through some upheaval with two full time employees leaving, Christine Rodriguez resigning to move to Louisiana and Anna Gonzalez retiring. However we had been able to hire two excellent replacements with significant experience in other Building Departments and things were looking very good in the rebuilding of the Department. He stated that as of last Thursday, we had completed a sweep of the entire City for roof cleaning. Over 600 properties had been cited and already more than 300 had complied.

7) **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tex Ziadie  
Code Compliance Officer  
Supervisor-Building Department  
Acting as Clerk of the Board

Approved as written during meeting of:

Words ~~-stricken through-~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.





*City of Miami Springs, Florida*

*Architectural Review Board*

**CANCELLATION NOTICE**

The Architectural Review Board meeting of April 4, 2012 has been canceled in advance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elora R. Sakal", is written over a horizontal line.

Elora R. Sakal  
Board Secretary

cc: City Council  
City Manager  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
City Planner  
Architectural Review Board Members  
Post



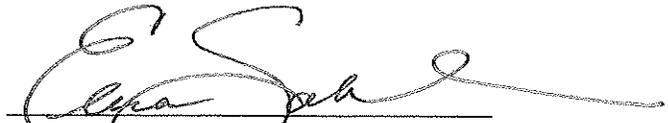


*City of Miami Springs, Florida*

*Recreation Commission*

**CANCELLATION NOTICE**

The Recreation Commission meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2012 has been canceled in advance.

  
Elora R. Sakal  
Clerk of the Board

cc: City Council  
City Manager  
City Clerk  
City Attorney  
Recreation Commission Members  
Post