

**Regular Meeting**  
**January 20, 2017**  
City Hall (Chamber)  
3500 Pan American Drive, Coconut Grove, FL 33133

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to Order by Chair, Kate Callahan at 6:05pm.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**III. Housekeeping**

A. Roll Call: **Present**: Kate Callahan, Javier Gonzalez, Louise Caro, Ruth Ewing, Steve Dloogoff, Seth Sklarey, Thaddeus Scott, Raymond Fort and Linda Williams.  
**Absent**: None.

B. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes for November 18, 2016 and December 16, 2016 were reviewed. A Motion to approve the Minutes was seconded. Vote was unanimous.

C. Additions to Agenda

Impact Fees  
HEP Board

D. Treasury & Budget Update by: Dr. Kate Callahan

- Balance at January 20, 2017 \$764.82

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was seconded. Vote was unanimous.

E. Police/NET Office

- Commander Gonzalez: Annual Recap - 2016 reduction of crime in Coconut Grove is down by 35% overall. There is still some gun violence (2 shootings), two burglaries/arrests, and one gun stolen/arrested. We are off to a good start in January; traffic regarding speeding (South Bayshore Drive, Franklin Avenue, South Grove, Tigertail) addressing at end of January. One additional officer to be hired.

- Kate Callahan: What about construction crime?

- Commander Gonzalez: We have focused patrol and we're visiting construction sites regarding stolen meters, etc.

- Thaddeus Scott: Regarding shootings in Village West, many residents were helpful in providing information to help with arrests. Both shooters have been arrested.

#### IV. Discussion Items

##### A. 2017 Election Resolution

- Javier Gonzalez: Required by the City; must be on our Agenda approximately six months out. Motion to approve Election Resolution was seconded with unanimous vote.
- Javier Gonzalez: Coming soon will be on-line voting system for homeowners and registered voters.

##### B. Frankie Shannon Rolle / Platform 3750

N/A

##### C. Playhouse Garage

- Javier Gonzalez: There are concerns regarding back-up of traffic. Village Council propose Resolution.
- Kate Callahan: Motion to prepare Resolution to decrease spaces on Playhouse property was seconded.
- Javier Gonzalez: No more than three (3) levels would be ideal.
- Kate Callahan: The garage will emit fumes, noise, etc.
- Raymond Fort: Planning & Zoning regulations with traffic studies, etc. in the garage project needed.
- Kate Callahan: We should withhold Resolution until we can review studies.
- Steve Dloogoff: Recommend going forward with Resolution with regards to smaller numbers (parking spaces).
- Seth Sklarey: Is parking for garage only or can others park also?
- Javier Gonzalez: Our position is residents don't want the garage.
- Seth Sklarey: Where do others park?
- Louise Caro: Traffic studies on-line are available.
- Chat Alexander: Garage useful to the theater.
- M. Fernandez: Encourage bus, Uber and other transports to help reduce parking spaces.
- Audience: First to hear parking also to be used by adjacent office building. Why...?
- Andy Parrish: The parking garage is a complicated issue.
- Kate Callahan: Motion regarding the Resolution was seconded previously. Vote was 8 approved and 1 abstained.

##### D. Tree Ordinance

- Steve Dloogoff: We are all concerned about the Tree Ordinance and preserving the "green canopy". I recently sent information and pictures to Village Council members of a violation of a tree being cut down on Franklin Avenue and reported to Code Enforcement. A citation was issued and owner will be fined accordingly. Disappointed that members did not respond to this information.
- Kate Callahan: There are approximately 25 trees taken down along 22nd Avenue and Dixie Highway.
- Linda Williams: I received your information regarding this matter. In that you identified the violation; contacted Code Enforcement and a citation was issued, no further action was needed. What I am concerned about is the "permits" for the "Bib Boxes" that build on the entire properties and no trees are saved - why are those owners not fined? Why are they (owners/developers) permitted to eliminate so many trees and pour concrete over the entire property lines?

- Kate Callahan: During the time when building my home, we had to protect the trees and their roots. Permits were required and often times the tree cutters cut down the trees anyway, especially on Saturdays. Owners/Developers have to be very observant at all times.
- Seth Sklarey: Employ people to be watchful on Saturdays or Ordinances.
- Louise Caro: On Avocado, splitting lots may result in cutting down one tree.
- Steve Dloogoff: We have to do it the right way.

## V. Old Business

### A. CGVC Housing Summit (January 21, 2017)

- Kate Callahan: The Housing Summit is initiated to address issues regarding slum lords; gentrification and allow residents to share information. During February, we will review and prioritize solutions and take action. We will address Code Enforcement and best practices. The event will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 9:00am to 12:00noon. Please plan to participate.
- Javier Gonzalez: In Village West there are 200 vacant lots. Guess how many are active in South Grove - there is only one and no buildings.
- Audience: South and North Grove to rise up and support West Grove; 77% of pavement on a lot is ridiculous!

### B. D&O Insurance

- Javier Gonzalez: Village Council members have stepped up to the plate - donations will allow for our budget for the year.

### C. NCD Review

- Javier Gonzalez: Open letter Grapevine/holding back information regarding NCD. Impact Fees - District 2 - contribute to City of Miami: 1) A portion should go to the Grove, HEP Board; and 2) Add tree specialist(s).
- Kate Callahan: Present a Resolution at our March meeting for review.
- Javier Gonzalez: NCD9 review? The impact fees can help!
- Kathy Parks: List code enforcement in West Grove; Warrants are not being enforced and fines are \$500 per day but owners are not there. This is a serious problem.
- William Armbrister: We know PZAB; Community Development Review Panel; etc...
- M. Fernandez: Construction Company/City BID - need for a gate-keeper for NCD's; eyes and ears and funding established.
- Javier Gonzalez: Advocate to establish BID; NCD's; NID; etc.

## VI. New Business

### Resolution: Creating New Parks in the City of Miami

- Ruth Ewing: Resolution to Create New Parks encourages the City to increase "green spaces" in the Grove. Read aloud the Resolution.
- William Armbrister: Good idea unless it affects residential space. Houses rather than parks are more important.
- Javier Gonzalez: Looking at right-of-way. No residential use. We want to identify "green spaces".
- R. Coats: We already have parks
- Louise Caro: Is it more about planting trees? Greening up spaces?
- Javier Gonzalez: We don't want concrete; public right-of-way is the goal.

- Kathy Parks: There are no Black kids at Armbrister Park. Why create more parks?
- Ruth Ewing: For after school programs.
- Kate Callahan: Please put on March Agenda.
- Seth Sklarey: Another aspect is "Neighborhood Recreational Use" made nicer by passage ways; creative way to utilize spaces.
- Louise Caro: Armbrister Park is contaminated, like Blanche Park. Filing law suit and after cleaned up, kids will pay there.
- Linda Alger: With regards to parks, the Underline will have six blocks of park spaces; basketball, picnic areas and impact fees of \$5 million. Recommend Village Council encourage community attend the Underline meetings regarding parks at the various stations. Also, regarding parking garage, the Trolley goes to the Grove Station. (March Agenda)
- William Armbrister: Include in the law suit, Carver Middle School and the duplexes and residents in that immediate area.
- Kate Callahan: The Motion regarding Resolution to Create Green Space was voted NO. Revision to Resolution recommended.
- Javier Gonzalez: Rewrite Resolution and bring to our next meeting in March 2017.
- Kate Callahan: Please come to the Housing Summit on tomorrow, Saturday, January 21, 2017 to support the West Grove residents. Thank you - everyone and Happy New Year!

**VII. Adjournment**

Next meeting **February 17, 2017**, Frankie Shannon Rolle Center.

Motion to adjourn was seconded with unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Humbly submitted by:

*Linda Williams*

Councilwoman Linda Williams  
Secretary, Coconut Grove Village Council