

Regular Meeting
March 17, 2017
City Hall Chambers
3500 Pan American Drive, Coconut Grove, FL 33133

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to Order by Chair, Kate Callahan at 6:15pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

III. Housekeeping

A. Roll Call: **Present**: Kate Callahan, Javier Gonzalez, Ruth Ewing, Raymond Fort, Steve Dloogoff, Seth Sklarey, and Linda Williams.
Absent: Louise Caro and Thaddeus Scott.

B. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for January 20, 2017 and February 17, 2017 were emailed to Council members. Motion to approve the Minutes was seconded. Vote was unanimous.

C. Additions to Agenda

Kiosk Project.

D. Treasury & Budget Update - Javier Gonzalez

- The D&O Insurance has been paid.
- State Filing is due.
- Account balance is approximately \$600.00.

E. Police/NET Office

- Commander Gonzalez: There was an incident at Cocowalk and detectives are working the case; perpetrators were not from the Grove; and someone was hit in the leg and recovering.
- City, County and State increase in stolen cars. Please lock car doors.
- Crime stats are down 12.5% compared to last year and officers are assisting with homeless individuals.
- Burglaries from US1, Bird Avenue and New York Street; retrieved some fingerprints and there have been some arrests. We are asking the courts to keep perpetrators in jail longer and homeowners are asked to appear (in court) as well.
- Car theft is a crime of "convenience". Again, lock doors and do not leave keys or a running car. Overall, doing very well with statistics.
- Bikes must also be locked. Provide serial numbers and take photos including jewelry.
- Officers on bikes are coming in two weeks.

IV. Discussion Items

- A. Presentation Platform 3750/Frankie Shannon Rolle Site - Melissa Tapanes
Postponed.
- B. NCD Comments / Suggestions to City - David Villano
Substitute Topic with Grove 2030
- Defining Green Space - develop canopy
 - Increase in Green Space needed
 - FAR restrictions
 - Tree Protections
 - Structure older than 50 years should be protected prior to demolition.
 - Awaiting feedback regarding reconsideration for modification.
 - *Raymond Fort*: What type of incentives to achieve goals?
 - *David Villano*: No incentives.
 - *Raymond Fort*: No code enforcement; the best way for community to get what it wants, an incentive may be helpful.
 - *David Villano*: Make suggestions.
 - *Javier Gonzalez*: The goal is community input.
 - *David Villano*: Commissioner's office encourage community feedback. Let's solve the problem, not just ideas but code-ready language.
 - *Raymond Fort*: Can incentives be added to the code?
 - *Javier Gonzalez*: Not final but something to consider.
 - *Kate Callahan*: Suggest that Raymond Fort be involved with Committee.
 - *David Villano*: We have to reach out to Committee Heads.
 - *Audience*: Has anything been done regarding Notices and Waivers?.
 - *Javier Gonzalez*: Doesn't challenge individual permits; listens to complaints; direct to where best served; distribute to those with interest.
 - *Kate Callahan*: We must support efforts to fight this practice. Some Waivers are not dated was brought to Commissioner's meeting.
 - *Linda Williams*: It is important that the community-at-large receive the Notices and we are still experiencing "undated" Waivers. While there has been an improvement, I still receive some that are undated. It is impossible to appeal the Waiver if we have no date indicating the appropriate timeframe in which to do so.
 - *Kate Callahan*: We are trying to address this matter.
- C. MDT Quick Build Program - Tony Garcia
- *Tony Garcia*: Presentation for a \$180,000/low cost transit projects to include crosswalks, bike lane proposals; purchase of materials to build; etc.
 - Ideas; Permanent Project; Community/City support; project scales?; Matching Funds?
 - Example: Crosswalk Project - \$200 - can be completed in a morning.
 - Provide technical support - TacticalUrban.com.
 - Look for a partner; project branding; and site plans.
 - Resources that we (community) can bring;
 - Prepare surveys;
 - Some professional installation may be required; and, testing materials.

- Ideas include bus stop, benches, bike lanes, and shelters are easy.
- *Seth Sklarey*: With \$180,000 to work with - who is being paid?
- *Tony Garcia*: \$100,000 is paid to me to run the project; \$60,000 to implement and \$20,000 to train, etc.
- *Seth Sklarey*: How do we keep control?
- *Tony Garcia*: We do the designs; help the City with protecting biking; pilot test; crosswalks, project will be vetted and must conform to standards, etc.
- *Raymond Fort*: Because it's a test, will projects avoid traffic studies which keeps costs down?
- *Kate Callahan*: Should we delay the Vote? (None) Then we will Vote:
(1) Abstain; and (6) Yes.
- *Mrs. Ron Nelson*: Hoping for crosswalks across US1 and 27th Avenue. We need the Village Council's help.

V. Old Business

A. 2017 Elections / Candidates - Kate/Jav

- *Kate Callahan*: The Coconut Grove Village Council's election is the same day as City officials. A letter will be sent to Commissioner Russell to get on the City Commission Agenda. Will call/email on Monday.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: There has to be a Resolution. Anyone interested in running, please let it be known.
- *Kate Callahan*: There are guidelines for the November election process and we need candidates.

B. Housing Summit - Kate/Jav

- *Kate Callahan*: There has not been much discussion since the Housing Summit in January but met with Carmen Morris and spoke on the phone. Suggest that a Task Force be established to include: Banks, Mike Bittel, Village Council representative, Homeowner, Reuters, Ministerial Alliance, Collaborative Development Corporation, etc.

VI. New Business

A. CRA to Coconut Grove

- *Kate Callahan*: It's hard!
- *Linda Williams*: We have place eight (8) people/families.
- *Audience*: How can we help with calls and intake? Caution regarding the CRA.
- *Mr. G. de la Paz*: What is a CRA?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: It's a Community Redevelopment Area where future tax monies are used to develop.
- *Kate Callahan*: Designed to "fight blight". It's a lengthy process.
- *Mr. G. de la Paz*: How do we change the NCD?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Send suggestions. We are working with Planning & Zoning.
- *Mr. G. de la Paz*: Can we sit and talk to exchange ideas?
- *Kate Callahan*: No - 15 days to appeal...
- *Mr. G. de la Paz*: They have 45 days...
- *Kate Callahan*: No - 15 days...
- *Linda Williams*: When we receive a Waiver (dated or not), we have only 15 days to appeal. Please come by the office and I will show you the undated Waivers and the indication in writing that we can appeal within 15 days from the date the Waiver was issued. You have 45 days to get a response.

B. Coconut Grove Playhouse

- *Javier Gonzalez*: Plans are coming with revisions regarding trash and employees.
- *Mr. G. de la Paz*: When the theater opens there will be lots of traffic. Also, Ransom School will soon be adding/needing more parking for its student increase; and there are two vacant lots near the Playhouse which were sold that could assist with the parking issue.
- *Linda Williams*: The Village West community is very concerned about the traffic resulting from the Playhouse opening and hope that it will not negatively impact the residents. Also, please remember there is a residential "buffer" to guard against this potential impact that must be recognized and enforced.

VII. **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn was seconded with unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.
- Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- Next meeting **April 21, 2017** - City Hall (Chamber), 3500 Pan American Drive, Coconut Grove.

Humbly submitted by:

Linda Williams

Councilwoman Linda Williams
Secretary, Coconut Grove Village Council

Please spell out the word perpetrators and it's Mike Bittel not Catel