

**Regular Meeting**  
**April 21, 2017**  
City Hall Chambers  
3500 Pan American Drive, Coconut Grove, FL 33133

**MINUTES**

(Revised)

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to Order by Chair, Kate Callahan at 6:06pm.

**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, Steve Dloogoff, Seth Sklarey, and Linda Williams.

**Absent:** Louise Caro, Raymond Fort and Thaddeus Scott.

B. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for March 17, 2017 were emailed to Council members. Motion to approve the Minutes deferred to next meeting, May 19, 2017.

C. Additions to Agenda

- FLSun.org - Jodi Finver
- Resolution regarding Park Committee, Doggie Park - Ruth Ewing
- Resolution regarding Gambling - Steve Dloogoff

D. Treasury & Budget Update - Ruth Ewing

- Balance at March 27, 2017       \$620.82
- Deposit                               \$ 88.00
- Debit                                 (150.09)
- Balance at April 21, 2017       \$558.73

Motion to approve Treasury Report was Seconded. Vote was unanimous.

E. Police/NET Office

- *Sergeant Shane Maguff*: Crime has been reduced by 9%; Center Grove has burglaries primarily due to unlocked doors and windows and the same with car burglaries - unlocked doors and/windows. We are working with the State Attorney's Office to keep repeat offenders off the streets by imposing maximum fines and sentencing. In order to accomplish this, we need more victims to come to court. Please lock bikes, sheds and homes. Exterior lighting is very helpful. Take pictures of serial numbers on jewelry, electronics, yard equipment, bikes, etc. Stolen car crimes are up in the Grove, City of Miami and the U.S. Do not leave "key

pockets" unlocked. Internet device intercepts tones of key codes for starting cars. Always be aware of your surroundings. Overall, crime rate is down compared to last year.

#### IV. Discussion Items

##### Additions to Agenda

- *Jodi Finver* (1654 Tigertail Avenue, Miami, FL): Florida Sun assists homeowners opt for solar energy. Six solar co-ops to pool energy with 20% saving. Suggest to fight for "solar rights" on May 21, 2017 at City Hall. Central Miami North, Key Biscayne and Central Miami South are large energy co-ops where two at a time are launch. There is no cost to join; installers bid on project for homeowner and loan information regarding the project is available.
- *Seth Sklarey*: Any combination with solar water heating and charging electric cars.
- *Jodi Finver*: No. The cost to power electric cars is 1 cent per mile or 27 cents a gallon. Advise installers your individual needs.
- *Audience*: Cost of equipment and maintenance?
- *Jodi Finver*: Maintenance is very minimal (no moving parts; panels are cleaned by the rain and have a 25-year warranty. Requesting the Village Council to promote.
- *Kate Callahan*: Post to our website in May.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Any relations with FPL?
- *Jodi Finver*: Completely separate; energy freedom; see FLSun.org.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Add also to Facebook page.
- *Steve Dloogoff*: Quick Build - minimal idea, low cost project; Sanchez safety crosswalks in the Grove; seeking volunteers.
- *Ruth Ewing*: Resolution of March 24, 2017 regarding Doggie Park - requesting Letter of Support at Elizabeth Virrick Park.
- *Kate Callahan*: Why?
- *Ruth Ewing*: At our March meeting, opposition to seek a Doggie Park at Elizabeth Virrick Park; concerns and suggestions regarding other parks.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Residents had a compelling opposition to the concept.
- *Kate Callahan*: Please read Resolution in order that we can vote on the Resolution.
- *Ruth Ewing*: Read the entire Resolution regarding opposition of the Doggie Park concept in Elizabeth Virrick Park.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Motion to support the Resolution as read and Village Council to support. Motion was Seconded. Vote was unanimous.

##### A. NCD Review Update

- *Javier Gonzalez*: Ongoing meeting with City of Miami and Zoning Department regarding Boundaries - intent, effects (general)  
Development - residential and mixed uses;  
Conservation - environmental resources and cultural legacy.  
Design Review - intent, scope of view; procedures and composition  
Planning Areas, Districts, Neighborhoods, Corridors, Civic Spaces - boundaries, intent, effects and guidelines; and  
Special Provisions
- *Mr. Dolton*: More complicated with overlays.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: The City to work with us when discussing.
- *Mr. Dolton*: Caution regarding NCD2 & NCD3 - something not so complicate...
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Allowed to be city-wide; separate overlays.

- *Jody Brown*: The intent (like Swiss cheese) good but within, not so good; pushed through. Planning & Zoning asked to redo properly; take the time needed to get it right. get to the real details, i.e., what's similar, unique, clear, etc.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Main feature are the differences.
- "*Carol*": Concerned regarding NCD3 code; not just the code but he bureaucracy including Miami-Dade County with lack of communication.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: These are issues that we are looking at. Public Review. Tell us before codes are written.
- *Kate Callahan*: Provision for mandatory communications or check lists before going from point A to point B must be included.
- "*Carol*": We can accomplish many issues on the phone if the City and County are willing to work together.
- *Jody Brown*: Within the framework, the community must be in the room always. Also, transparency regarding review for members of the community to follow, technicians needed to be included to be able to follow.
- "*Carol*": This should be under the guidance of Planning & Zoning, not just an Advisory Board who are public servants.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: This is in the works; City and Planning & Zoning are asking for clear intent.
- *Kate Callahan*: We want a fail-safe mechanism that things get done right.
- *Chris Nelson*: Many people are frustrated and I am happy to know we are working on these concerns; appreciate your help.
- *Audience*: It feels like we are not being heard; the City may be under-staffed; no answers; how are changes approved?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: We are aware and it will be easier when we get your emails. Example: Residents came out regarding Virginia Street and one person changed the whole dynamics.
- *Audience*: What is "cone of Silence" when we are asking questions?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: We have the ability to "voice" our concerns and to do what we need to do.

B. Playhouse / Garage Update

- *Javier Gonzalez*: New proposal with trash at Williams Avenue. The latest plans are not showing reference to the trash near neighbors on Williams Avenue and there is a "buffer" in place for residents; no traffic on Williams Avenue - all okay.
- *Seth Sklarey*: Who created the plan?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Arctonica.
- *Audience*: Residential?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Apartments at the rear of the parking garage.
- *Steve Dloogoff*: Village Council already backed the plan, why re-visiting?
- *Javier Gonzalez*: There have been changes. Personally, I'm okay with the current plan.
- *Kate Callahan*: Suggest we not endorse and wait for final plans to support.
- "*Carol*": I understand apartments are for resident actresses and Kevin Spacey to head up 700-seat theater still an option; but 300 seats may not do anything for the Grove. Suggest Village Council wait before supporting the parking garage that perhaps is too large.
- *Kate Callahan*: We will not approve until we have all information from the meeting.
- *Javier Gonzalez*: Invite a sit-down with "Carol" to discuss further.
- *Steve Dloogoff*: Javier Gonzalez has been involved and Mike Spring is very invested.

C. Up-Zoning (Day/Virginia)

N/A.

D. Omni CRA Expansion

- *Javier Gonzalez:* West Grove information sheet; Village Council should be involved; community needs to know more.
- *Kate Callahan:* Propose there be a meeting about the issues with regards to the entire picture; perhaps a 3-hour session for community input.
- *Javier Gonzalez:* The City of Miami did pass a City request of \$25,000 for a study to focus on the needs of the community. There will be a meeting regarding Day Avenue 8 and Virginia Street Up-Zoning on May 1st at the Frankie Shannon Rolle Center, Room 115.
- *Ruth Ewing:* Encourage Commissioner Russell to provide information to Coconut Grove residents about the CRA; the definition of the boundaries, and explanation of TIF.

E. Grove 2030 Major Project Meeting

- *Javier Gonzalez:* On May 24th at 6pm, Grove Sailing Club - the "when" and "where" building/development is taking place that is impacting our lives. Q&A opportunity.

F. Resolution regarding Gambling - Steve Dloogoff

- *Steve Dloogoff:* Resolution regarding Gambling was read. Village Council does not support gambling regarding Genting Casino.
- *Javier Gonzalez:* We must review the Resolution in order to vote. Motion to open discussion regarding Resolution. Motion Seconded.
- *Seth Sklarey:* Complicated, legal issue; jobs for community; simple for a casino license can be obtained.
- *Javier Gonzalez:* Motion to table discussion. Seconded.
- *Ron Nelson:* Suggest Resolution be split: 1) Gambling issue; and 2) Hotel for plan on site.
- *Kate Callahan:* We may decide to oppose both.

V. **Old Business**

A. 2017 Elections / Candidates Forms

- *Javier Gonzalez:* Proper precinct numbers to make sure they are correct especially with reference to Precinct #582. Motion to correct numbers for precinct was Seconded.
- *Seth Sklarey:* Include Gables in the Grove residents to be part of City of Miami..
- *Javier Gonzalez:* Community can speak for us but they can't vote for us, they vote in Coral Gables. Motion was Seconded. Vote was unanimous.

VI. **New Business**

None.

VII. **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn was seconded with unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.
- *Kate Callahan:* Thank you for coming out. Have a great weekend!
- Next meeting **May 19, 2017** - City Hall (Chamber), 3500 Pan American Drive, Coconut Grove.

Humbly submitted by:



Councilwoman Linda Williams  
Secretary, Coconut Grove Village Council