



**Cocoanut Grove Village Council**

Gary Hecht - Chair  
Martin Zilber - Vice Chair  
David Collins  
Liliana Dones  
Felice Dubin  
Michelle Niemeyer  
Lottie Person  
Alyn Pruett  
Susan Weintraub

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**Cocoanut Grove Village Council  
March 06, 2007  
Meeting Minutes**

On March 06, 2007, a quorum of duly elected Directors of Firm met to discuss and decide issues relevant to the business of the corporation. All Council Members were present and voted. The following discussions took place, including the enactment of resolutions as described herein:

1. Lili Dones and Alyn Pruett were sworn in by Martin Zilber.
2. Roll Call
3. Treasurer's report: Bottom Line \$27,703.15. Report attached.
4. Playhouse Committee report: Update given by Martin Zilber. See Attached report. Joel Krieger asked about the \$26 million promised by the state. There is \$20 million and \$5M that is separate. The \$20M is still available, GOB money for redevelopment, the \$5M is no longer being funded. Money under control of county. Going forward they need to know what they are working toward.
5. Waterfront report. April 9 and 10 will be next meetings, unless date is changed. There have been meetings with BIC, hoteliers, sailing club, and sailing regatta people. Also, a meeting was hosted last night by Michelle Niemeyer, along with Waterfront Advisory Board member Lee Smith and Marinas Manager Stephen Bogner, for Dinner Key tenants. Felice Dubin asked if there would be a meeting like that for condo owners. Michelle responded there have been several opportunities for input, and the City has been asked several times by the Waterfront Working Committee to organize such specific meetings. The Dinner Key meeting was not an "official" meeting but was ultimately treated by the City as such because we organized it. Michelle offered to help Felice facilitate that sort of meeting for the condos but pointed out it must be done quickly.
6. 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Metrorail. Standards are being considered by the City Commission tomorrow (Wednesday) at 7:00 PM. Standards do not address residential, do not have maximums, do not have total square footage.
7. Marjory Stoneman Douglas house. Ron Nelson gave report. A ranger will be put on the property. Katherine Boller will be in charge. No plans to move it or make a

8. museum. Vicky Thompson of FL Division of State Lands reported this information to Ron.
9. Tree Watch. Lili Dones reported that trees are being planted (65-80 trees) in the Center Grove. Calls about the health of the trees. Cold weather several days in a row. Public works is aware, will be watering and monitoring. [Yachthabr@aol.com](mailto:Yachthabr@aol.com), e-mail if you see a totally dead tree.
10. Shake-a-Leg presented information about the spoil islands. Harry Horgan and Ashley Sullivan, Director of Shake-A-Leg's Academy, presented a Powerpoint presentation. Mr. Horgan discussed the history of Shake-A-Leg and the restoration of the spoil islands. Resident Michael Butler asked about timing. Pulled out non-native species. When will they be replaced so we are protected when a storm comes? David Collins asked if there will be swimming, which there will be. Shake-A-Leg has adopted two of the islands, they are not in charge of them, the parks department is. Island E is opened up for people who have ideas, money and resources. Shake-A-Leg has an accessible motor catamaran and anyone can come there to access the island. Alyn Pruett asked about phasing. Once natives are planted they will see the pathways for trails and will place picnic tables, a gathering area, hopes for native American coastal village. How about management, safety and security? City's responsibility. Signage on them now. They are open to the public sunrise to sunset. Martin Zilber asked a question about Shake-a-Leg. Do you have a website? [www.shakealegmiami.org](http://www.shakealegmiami.org). Core mission is to help people with special needs. Michelle Niemeyer asked how long it will take for the mangroves to fill out so we have hurricane protection in Dinner Key. Answer is 3 to 5 years. Gary Hecht asked about how to get out to the islands. You can rent a kayak at Shake-a-Leg. As the waterfront plan moves forward the market will drive demand for access.
11. 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Beautification Project. Priscilla Morales of Public Works presented most recent design. On schedule with design, at 30%. Tried to address every location where they could accommodate a parallel parking stall. There are 90 parallel parking stalls. Discussion about roundabouts. They can handle more capacity and calm traffic. New plan has some parking. Peter \_\_, attorney for EZ Kwik: How many spaces are there now? They haven't counted although they have aerial photos. Timeframe? These are 30% plans, don't fully indicate ownership of properties. 60% plans in April. Expect to be done with plans in August and expect to be into right-of-way acquisition process. Ted Stahl: Day is a one way street with two large signs. He says no one pays attention to those signs. He says they went to the City, worked with the engineers for almost four months to put a berm at Mary Street to stop traffic from entering. He says the "berm" on the design does not look sufficient to stop people from entering Day. Engineer responded that the design is conceptual and this will be made to prohibit motorists from making right turn on Day. Robert Douza, So. Bayshore: Owns an apartment building on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Cesar Rosales of City of Miami. Sure that apartment buildings were supposed to show parking inside of the property. Sure the City issued the proper permits for parking on the private property. Otavio Robles, architect, Lincoln Avenue: We have an opportunity here to create a coconut grove by impacting the corridor with coconut trees. Sheila Boyce, lives at corner of Tigertail and 27<sup>th</sup>: How do you handle pedestrian crossings? Roundabout slows traffic. Also, with respect to landscaping, can we recycle trees that will no

longer be used. Dub Evins, Chamber of Commerce President: The island that adjoins South Bayshore Drive. Are they changing that island? Yes, to make it more navigable. With respect to pedestrian safety, could there be a change in texture other than paint such as brick or cobblestone so you get a tactile feel when your car hits it so you know you are going into an area of change? Michelle Niemeyer asked about whether the plan would address runoff pollution into the bay. Ms. Morales said that is part of what they will be doing. Alyn Pruett asked about the unusual shape of the roundabout and whether it will work. The ends are the minimum to make the turn. David Collins asked about the process, is there City input into this? It will go before the Commission. David noticed between 300 and 500 parked cars on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Martin Zilber asked about Slice-n-Ice. The right of way process is nine months to two years for acquisitions. They request they give it. If that's not feasible they ask to purchase it. If that doesn't work, then they use eminent domain. By next month they will have 60% plans and they will start sending letters, etc. Santiago Villegas mentioned that 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue looks like you're entering into a village. By putting 90 parking spaces and taking away identity it has you are robbing a lot of the identity 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue has for people who live in the Grove. When will the City consider the plan?

12. Crimewatch. Robert Loupo and Yvonne McDonald. Everyone invited to their community meeting March 14 at Great Hall of St. Stephens, 7:00 p.m. Refreshments and door prizes. Purpose of meeting is to help reduce and prevent crime by getting as many people involved in block captain system of community watch as possible. Gary Hecht presented check.
13. Gifford Lane Art Stroll March 11 12-5.
14. Lottie Person announced Women's History Month event honoring Lottie. Speaker Dr. M. Tina Dupres.

Dated: 4/3/2007  
Michelle M. Niemeyer, Secretary



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