



**Coconut Grove Village Council**

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

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**Coconut Grove Village Council  
May 15, 2007  
Meeting Minutes**

On May 15, 2007, a quorum of duly elected Directors of Firm met to discuss and decide issues relevant to the business of the corporation. The following discussions took place, including the enactment of resolutions as described herein:

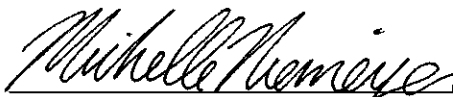
1. Roll Call. Person, Pruett and Collins absent.
2. Minutes from last meeting passed.
3. Zilber Motion to purchase table to Village West Walk of Fame Breakfast, \$270, Felice 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimously approved. Gary needs to e-mail and get RSVPs for attendance.
4. Treasurer's report. See attached.
5. Bob Brennan. Informed us of University of Florida cooperative effort. Alyn Pruett arrived during this discussion. Discussed what Bob plans to include in his presentation at the next televised meetings.
6. David Collins was not here, so we did not discuss the "charette" on the business district.
7. Village Council applications. Harry Gottlieb, Armando Paz, Jr., Matt Ogurick, Charles Gibson, III, Esq., Susan Weintraub, Elizabeth McCain, Walter Perlins, III. Will interview on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Cut to 3 or 4. They will present the 5<sup>th</sup>.
8. Gary had an idea to give the Coconut Grove Golden Palm Award. More prestige comes to the conferring organization than the winner of the award. Lots of fabulous people give themselves to the community and go totally unrecognized. Gary moved and Lili seconded for discussion. Michelle mentioned golden palm tree candlesticks from Hibiscus Hill; Lili knows of nice plexiglass plaques. Martin suggested maybe we have a public and a private award; Michelle mentioned it can honor people in the City who've done the right thing when that is not necessarily awarded in their work environment. Sue McConnell suggested a good award would be an annual parking pass to the Grove.

9. Subcommittee reports. Alyn. Michael Butler and David Ralph attended Code Enforcement committee meeting. Martin asked that we be notified of meetings. Spent time talking about system for disbursing information. Now it's via homeowners associations, who if they request it will receive notices. David Ralph offered to develop a website. Michelle and Martin pointed out David did the last website and we could post notices on our own website. David Ralph, with Nina West, created flowcharts to give guidance on what to do when you get a notice. They will meet with Lourdes and Ana Gelebert to confirm the flowcharts are accurate. Felice suggested we include county information. Third, related to Miami 21. One of the things they want to do is move onto that topic. Felice wants to invite Elizabeth Plater Zyberg to explain Miami 21.
10. Martin asked if the member information is updated on the website. It is not and MMN will update.
11. May 24 the 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Metrorail project is on the Commission agenda. Developer wants the standards approved and wants to proffer a covenant where any of their recommendations will go into the covenant. County Attorney told Felice it can't be enforced but he won't put it in writing. He is only counsel to the Commissioners and the Mayor. Felice e-mailed the Mayor. David Collins arrived.
12. Playhouse. No change since a week ago.
13. MMN Waterfront. There was a meeting at Sarnoff's office to begin process of putting together an implementation committee. Lottie Person arrived.
14. Gary, Village West Committee. Gary, Jihad, Charles Gibson, III and Armando Paz. Gary is looking at the last two as Co-Chairmen. Tried to come up with a mission statement. Will be done in the next week. Looking at mission of mostly advocacy/implementation that would enable Village West to receive funds more readily. Gary suggested establishing a Village West trust managed by outsiders. MMN mentioned she considers that condescending. Cici Halloran suggested the trust; she's done this before. Gary mentioned that money is not going to the Village West because of lack of accountability of some organizations. MMN mentioned that she is concerned that this is not going in the direction of the "One Grove" goal that was expressed as the reason for the committee. Felice mentioned that we need to get the Village West to the level where it can be integrated. David feels very supportive of the Council being involved in the Village West. Thinks its great what we're doing in the Village West. The trust concerns him. It needs an accounting firm, not a legal advisor. Once you create a container to put money in, the assumption that it is disbursed by responsible individuals will create contention further and will create a place to put money, and unless it's legitimate money (not money from developers for lobbying for worthless projects). The decision process by which money is parsed from the pile to the community is a difficult one. We should invite the Knight Foundation to the table and ask for its help. Invite before the mission statement. Martin suggested the full committee should be invited. Alyn suggested the logical sequence is 1. mission statement; 2. goals; 3. implementation mechanisms,

like the trust. He's not sure the trust is the right way to implement this because money generally doesn't go to a trust. David mentioned what Gary is mentioning is a Community Foundation. He suggested the Bread and Roses Foundation as a model.

15. Lili mentioned that last week at the Village West Town Hall Meeting she met the woman that runs the church which is the sister church to Plymouth. The church feeds about 50 kids in summer programs. Mrs. Sparks. Macedonia Church. Lili suggested we make a donation to help. Gary mentioned it's not on the agenda. Go to another meeting.
16. David, BIC. Suggested a charette. Soonest is middle of July at this point. Build it as part of the process whereby residents are to provide input regarding the stores and shops they would like to see in the Grove. David mentioned Code 33 would be a good start. Our website and the Grove Grapevine will be productive.
17. Felice suggested that the library should be historically designated. Kathleen Kaufmann sent Felice a form that could be presented to the HEP Board.
18. Alyn mentioned a good report on the radio, and Sue McConnell mentioned it, too.
19. Alyn just received a notice for a supper club asking for a 5 AM closing variance.
20. Lili - Chamber is having a Gala on June 9. \$140 per person, \$275 per couple. Sue can't attend, she won't spend \$140. Lili mentioned the Chamber doesn't make any money on this.
21. Waldo's is dropping garbage in the street, operating without a certificate of use, operating without paying for the parking trust fund, and have sidewalk seating without paying for it.
22. Sue pointed out that there is a 56 story hotel on the next agenda on SW 15<sup>th</sup> Road.
23. Adjourned.
24. Announcement; Alyn will be in the Bahamas for our next meeting.

Dated: 7/18/2007

  
Michelle M. Niemeyer, Secretary

**COCONUT GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL  
AGENDA FOR MAY 15, 2007  
THE GLASS HOUSE  
6:30PM to 8:30PM**



**Coconut Grove Village  
Council**

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David Collins  
Liliana Dones  
Felice Dubin -Treasurer  
Ron Nelson  
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- I. Call to Order.....Gary Hecht, Chair
- II. Roll Call.....Councilwoman Niemeyer, Sec.
- III. Minutes..... Councilwoman Niemeyer, Sec.
- IV. Treasurer's Report..Councilwoman Dubin, Treas.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- V. Hurricane Preparedness.....Bob Brennan
- VI. BIC Public Input..... Councilman Collins
- VII. Village Council Applications.....Councilman Hecht
- VIII. Coconut Grove Golden Palm Award.....Councilman Hecht

**OLD BUSINESS**

- VIII. **VILLAGE COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Notes:**

Public Comments are held until the noted agenda item unless specifically authorized by the Chairman. Members of the public are requested to sign in at the meeting, noting the agenda item(s) they wish to address. Please limit comments to 2 minutes. Individuals and organizations desiring to make a community announcement, please inform the Chairman prior to the call to order of the meeting.

The agenda closes and becomes official at noon, FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. The general public may request to place items on the agenda by written notice or to the Council Chairman by mail or email at [www.CoconutGroveVillageCouncil.com](http://www.CoconutGroveVillageCouncil.com)