



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
Tue July 17, 2007
Meeting Minutes

On Tue July 17, 2007, a quorum of duly elected Directors of Council met to discuss and decide issues relevant to the business of the organization. Council Members Hecht, Collins, Person, Dones, Dubin, Weintraub, Niemeyer, and Zilber were present and voted. The following discussions took place, including the enactment of resolutions as described herein:

1. Roll call. All members but Alyn Pruett present.
2. Financial report attached.
3. 5AM closing licenses. Vision and Apple Martini given exception. Kathy Comis (sp?) is appealing the license. Lili mentioned there are 5: Flavour, Oxygen, Mr. Moe's, Loggerhead, and Coyote Ugly. Distinction was made referring to places like Moe's and Flannigan's that are open during the day and at night, and are part of the commerce of the Grove, as opposed to places only open from midnight or 11 to 5:00 am. Some residents are looking to get an ordinance in place to move the closing time back to 3:00 AM. They envision a grandfathering with no transfer of the right for the clubs that open to 5:00. Zilber concerned if it is unequal. If you have one club that can stay open ... if it was the will of the community to roll them all back, that would be different. Felice said that was her comment at the other meeting. Felice pointed out Kathy wanted to know what the process is. Ron said the appeal will be slated for an agenda before the Commission. Ron mentioned Commissioner Sarnoff doesn't see how you can take away the 5 am from the clubs who have it, but would like not to see them replaced. Trying to do it through the SD-2. Ron said no one he has talked to knows how Coyote Ugly got the 5:00 a.m. closing. David has asked Love Levy, who said they

got it when they went through their permitting. Sue McConnell mentioned Coyote Ugly does not have food but they are supposed to. Lili mentioned that Officer Braga recommended bringing Code Enforcement in. Martin asked David Collins about the distinction between Moes/Flanigan's and the other businesses. David defers to the will of this body. He mentioned when City Hall has mocked the Village Council it is because it has become a homeowners group. David does not speak for the BIC or the businesses. He spoke to John El Masry. He didn't say he needs money to pay for Christabelle's, but did say he would fight an effort to take away his 5 AM closing. David feels you have to be fair to the club owners. He thinks we should tread carefully here. He thinks George Cozonis made a strong case about the noise of the drunks and the noise coming from Fat Tuesday's and Tu Tu Tango not keeping the noise in their space are different issues. Saturday David went out between 2 and 2:45 a.m. Saw Fat Tuesday and Tu Tu Tango blasting music. Two off duty police officers standing on crosswalk talking to each other, right there. On Main, Commodore, The Tavern crowded, not loud. No defacating, urinating, or fornicating on the street. Sr. Frogs loudest on street. 3484 had glass, open window but not too loud. Could hear across the street. Stench at Moe's bad. 3 or 4 people smoking pot on street. At Waldo's, David saw 4 kids drinking who looked 15 to 18. At end of block, more people smoking pot on the street. No police presence. If the City is going to allow 5 AM closings, we need police presence. David didn't notice Johnny Rockets. Locals don't patronize the daytime Grove much. There's not much for them. David was surprised how important the 3-5AM stream is for John El Masry. David's store always open to 11 or 12 on weekends. A lot of business being done after midnight. Ron Nelson got up Sunday morning at 4:00 and went around. All the places that should be closed were. He was there to watch them close at 5 AM. Flavor emptied, crowd pretty orderly; Johnny Rockets had music at that time of the morning. They were cleaning. Mr. Moe's was probably the worst. Spread out down the street. Groups yelling, etc. Ron went then to the Entertainment District downtown. There was gridlock. The clubs were packed. Cars, horns. They have noise on the roof. At 10 AM people were still in line. Ron suggested we have a 24 hour entertainment district, maybe we should close at 3 and send them there. Felice mentioned she thinks we should decide what we want to be; a late district or not. We have clubs that close at 5 and at 3. Ron said most clubs close at 3 because they can't afford the liquor license for that. It's expensive; \$150K. Gary brought up the rent issue. The only places that can afford the rent will be liquor establishments. Gary mentioned the philosophy of the thing. Great issue to consider: we have to come up with a balance. The issues of compliance and policing are important. Gary suggested a resolution be for better compliance and policing. Ron suggested hiring an off duty code enforcement officer to be there. Need to enforce code and control the people who leave drunk. Gary asked resident Dave Garrett his opinion. He asked what effect this has on the laws. Gary said the City, County and State do pay attention to our resolutions. Dave asked how much of a wild city do we want our little town to become? Gary wants to have a public discussion. September? Lili mentioned the Quench thing is coming up, too. Michelle mentioned the Grove needs to consider what it wants to be when it grows up. More than just bars. May be more appropriate to the BIC. Gary put this issue on the September 5 agenda. Ron suggested he

believed everyone would support a moratorium on new licenses. David, Michelle and Martin indicated they would not necessarily agree. Gary wants more consideration. Ron Nelson mentioned CocoWalk has a plan with a ratio of retail to bar space for its MUSP which would be lost if the balance is lost. Parking is affected, etc. Agreed to ask for deferment on the other applications until we have a chance to consider it. Kathy said Tom Braga mentioned that crime went down 33% when Vision went into compliance.

4. Miami 21 and NCD-3. Gary reported for Alyn. Council will have to initiate update modifications. His understanding is Planning would have to initiate a study. Alyn proposed a resolution to be voted on at our next meeting. He sees the risk of us losing the NCD-3. All six items on adoption of Miami 21 were postponed. See attached written report.
5. First hour of next meeting will be dedicated to 27th Avenue Beautification. Ron has a question: Version 3 was a hybrid of 1 and 2. Section between Tigertail and Bayshore Drive has no median in the Community version. The City planning staff thought it should have some sort of planting in it. Ron mentioned that, apparently, the Ritz Carlton has built into the setback. David mentioned that we need to get the word out to the people whose businesses will be affected so they know this is the 90% meeting that was promised.
6. Marjory Stoneman Douglas House: Jim McMaster let us know the State took the lease from the land trust, but the land trust still owns the empty lot next door. Friends has passed resolution requesting that the land trust do so. He asked that we put it on the August 7 agenda.
7. Ron was asked if Miami 21 meetings have been scheduled. One in Wynwood; no news on others yet.
8. Mailout. Volume 2. Lili will look into printing costs. David mentioned that with our tax status we might be able to do less expensive postage. Lili offered to format as well. Gary asked for a drafter. What should the flyer include? 5AM, Sasaki, Home Depot, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Home, Village West, 37th Avenue Metrorail, 27th Avenue, Miami 21, Reforest the Grove. Martin suggested a second mailer that's different. Michelle suggested we focus on what to look forward to / get involved in.
9. Lili was asked about the money that was promised for trees. The City is now saying the money wasn't just for the Grove. Lili is pushing for the trees the community asked for to be planted. Stephanie has committed to covering the trees that were planned for. The City acknowledged there is more money than the \$300K now and a lot of it is due to the Grove's activism on Code Enforcement. Tree Watch report; more trees in Village West. Lottie mentioned reading about moving a house on Williams Avenue and destroying the trees.
10. Michelle gave an update about the Waterfront Plan. There are meetings next week: PAB on Monday, WAB on Tuesday, Commission on Wednesday. Michelle expressed concern that there needs to be staging and budget information available to the public before the meetings so people are aware of what's happening and are informed before the public meetings, not after. Ron mentioned there will be a meeting with City Staff before the PAB meeting.
11. Sue mentioned streets will be closed for Burn Notice filming tomorrow.

12. Armando Paz and Charles Gibson had a meeting with Commissioner Sarnoff's office about the Village West committee. Yvonne McDonald was concerned that the Village West Committee would begin reinventing wheels created already by the CG Collaborative. Gary asked what the committee can provide. Armando suggested advocacy. Yvonne will report to the Commissioner that whatever the committee is to do should be vetted before the HOATA and do things that have been promised for years and never done. Such as: to see something happen. Little things: use farmer's market as anchor for what they're going to do. Collaborative's ambassador concept. Roving ambassadors. Kiosk program. Talking with Denise who owns the theater there. May do something with her. Jihad Rashid has two grant requests for the kiosks and technical assistance to businesses and the roaming ambassadors. Whole concept is to create synergy through the Grove. David mentioned St. Stephens Art Festival wants to make HIV in the Village West a benefactor.
13. Lottie felt left out from the meeting about the 5 AM closings. There was a meeting before this one that was not a VC meeting. Lottie does not want to be left out. She was elected and has her own vote just like everyone else.
14. Adjourned.

Dated: 9/4/2007


Michelle M. Niemeyer, Secretary

COCONUT GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL



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AGENDA FOR JULY 17, 2007
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICES
THE GLASS HOUSE - 2820 McFarlane Road
7:00PM to 9:00PM

- I. Call to Order.....Gary Hecht, Chair
- II. Swearing in Susan Weintraub.....Councilman Zilber
- III. Roll Call.....Councilwoman Niemeyer, Sec.
- IV. Minutes..... Councilwoman Niemeyer, Sec.
- V. Treasurer's Report...Councilwoman Dubin, Treas.

NEW BUSINESS

- VI. 5 AM Ordinance.....Councilwoman Dones
- VII. Miami 21..... Councilman Pruett
- VIII. Semi-Annual Community Direct Mailer.....Councilman Hecht
- IX. NCD 3 Update Councilman Pruett

OLD BUSINESS

- X. Other Committee Reports

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

**Cocoanut Grove Village Council
Balance June 30, 2007**

	Expenses	Income
Bank Balance Jan 1, 2007		
Coconut Grove Bank	896.54	
Biscayne Bank	8,642.97	
CD	<u>2,500.00</u>	
Total	12,039.51	
 INCOME		
Interest January		34.66
Service Charge refund (Coconut Grove Bank)		20.00
Applications (Coconut Grove Bank)		200.00
Applications (Biscayne Bank)		1,100.00
Interest February (Biscayne Bank)		50.97
Interest 6 Mo. CD (Biscayne Bank)		63.01
Commissioner Gimenez		15,000.00
Interest March (Biscayne Bank)		48.85
Interest March (CG CD)		37.89
Interest April (Biscayne Bank)		42.41
Interest May (Biscayne Bank)		43.97
Interest June (Biscayne Bank)		42.70
Deposit candidates (CG)		500.00
Interest Apr-June (CG CD)		71.84
 Total		 17,256.30
 EXPENSES		
<u>Jan.</u> Refund Rev. Leonard		100.00
Historical Pres. Workshop Fl. Trust		200.00
Daniel Acosta – artwork mailer		500.00
<u>Feb.</u> Charge for cashier ck.		5.00
<u>Mar.</u> Planning & Zoning (27 th Av)		30.78
Annual Report		61.25
City Graphics (mailer)		1,918.53
Arrowmill Presort Co. (mailer)		2,814.97
County Commissioners (27 th Av)		27.00
Crime Watch Contribution		500.00
Pullseye		330.00
IRS (501 filing)		750.00
<u>April</u> Bill Forshee Acct.		500.00
<u>May</u> Gary Hecht (Refund)		32.90
Village West Land Trust (Wall/Walk of Fame)		270.00
 TOTAL		 8040.43

Bank Balances 6-30-07

*Coconut Grove Bank 12 Month CD	5,563.00	5,672.73
Biscayne Bank Savings		12,501.54
Coconut Grove Bank		3081.11
TOTAL		21,255.38

***Transferred \$5563 from Biscayne Bank to Coconut Grove Bank to purchase 12 month CD @ 5.25% for election fund. \$2563.00 matured CD from 2006, contributed \$3000 to fund for 2007**

****Transferred 3/6 \$7500.00 from Biscayne Bank to Coconut Grove Bank**