



City of Doral Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Doral Government Center
3rd Floor Training Room
8401 NW 53 Terrace
Doral, FL 33166

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm

2. Roll Call of Members

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|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Carmen Ramos, Chair | Present |
| • Luis Viñuela , Vice Chair | Absent |
| • Vanessa C. Leon, Secretary | Absent |
| • Raffaele Q. Cardone, Board Member | Present |
| • Isabel del Castillo, Board Member | Present |

Also present were:

Diana Maldonado, Parks and Recreation Department

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comments

Paulo Gualano, from Brazilian Latin Sounds Company, introduces himself and asks what he needs to do to get his event, the International Music and Dance Festival, in the City of Doral's Calendar of events. He states that all the previous events he has done for the City have been successful and therefore he wishes to continue producing them here. He expressed that his interest is to make his event an annual event. Carmen Ramos explained that the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board used to have a budget and that the Board Members were able to decide what to use it for. However, the system changed, and the Parks and Recreation Department now manages the budget for the annual Cultural Arts events. Carmen Ramos also stated that only way to decide for the event is to present it to Council. Diana Maldonado further explained that the first step would be for the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board members to approve the project and then make a request to present it to Council for a final approval and allocation of funds for that specific event. Diana Maldonado will send the event proposal to the board members and then it will be conversed during the next board meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes

October 15, 2018

The Chair reads the October 15th session minutes. A Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Isabel del Castillo and seconded by Raffaele Q. Cardone. By consensus, the Board Members approved the minutes.

6. Discussion Items

a) Inclusion of Cultural Issues on the City Bulletin

Carmen Ramos mentioned that it has been requested from previous years to include Cultural Arts events on the City Bulletin that each resident receives in their homes and she believes it is not being addressed or promoted as other city events. For example, the Opera Concert, which was a magnificent event, was not mentioned in any City Bulletin. However, the Brazilian Art exhibit, which was the same night, was mentioned in the bulletin. Diana Maldonado explained to the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department has two publications, one that includes all upcoming events and a second one that recaps of the events that just happened. These publications are in the City Hall and all our Parks, but they do not send them to each household. However, if the Bulletin she is referring was a local magazine, then the City does not have control on what they decide to publicize.

Isabel del Castillo also mentioned that she went to a Gallery in Doral and saw that the event was sponsored by the City of Doral as the flyer included our Sunburst but that she, as a Cultural Affairs Board Member, did not know about such event. Therefore, she asks how we can support these events with our participation if we are not aware that they are happening. She believes we, the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board, are the connection between the City and the community and we should be informed of upcoming Cultural Arts events the city sponsors.

A motion to request Public Affairs and/or any other City Department to notify the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board of events that are related to Cultural Arts happening in the City was presented by Carmen Ramos and seconded by Isabel del Castillo. By consensus, the motion was approved.

b) Surveys

Postponed for next meeting.

c) Open Discussion

- Nilda Heredia from the MASIS Cultural Center reached out to Parks and Recreation Department to attend today's meeting. Diana Maldonado will notify her of our next meeting, so she can attend and present her project.
- Raffaele Cardone mentioned that it is important to find a good cultural alliance with other cities in other countries. He will be travelling to Italy and would like to establish a connection with them. He asks if he is authorized to do so. Carmen Ramos mentioned that we call that connection a "Sister Cities Agreement" and that those agreements are managed by the Economic Development Department. She further explained that we currently have an agreement with five cities and explained that the purpose of these agreements is to initiate a cultural and economic exchange between the cities. She states that we are currently city #22 listed in Forbes Magazine as the best ones to do business with. Diana Maldonado mentioned as well that in our past Capture Doral Photography Exhibit, we exhibited the Top Winners of the annual Nature & Faces Exhibit from Aruba as a Photography Exchange between the Cities. This will also be repeated for the 2019 Capture Doral Photography and our winners will be showcased in their 2019 Exhibit. Raffaele Cardone asks if we, as the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board, can be

involved in the Sister Cities agreements.

- Carmen Ramos reminded all members to submit their Advisory Boards applications to the Clerk Department.

7. Future Meeting Date – TBD

8. Discussion of next meeting agenda items.

- a) Paulo Gualano' s proposal for the International Music and Dance Festival
- b) Results of Surveys regarding the Opera Program
- c) MASIS Cultural Center to present their Bolivian Carnival Festival

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was presented by Raffaele Cardone and seconded by Isabel del Castillo.

***These are the minutes of the last meeting held by the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board for the 2017-2019 Term. Therefore, these are the official final minutes.