



**VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK
Village Commission Agenda Report**

Item # 8.d

REGULAR MEETING

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Biscayne Park Village Commission

FROM: Rox Ross, Commissioner

DATE: October 6, 2020

TITLE: **RESOLUTION 2020-51 – Recognizing Florida City Government Week, October 19-25, 2020, and Encouraging All Citizens to Support the Celebration and Corresponding Activities.**



Recommendation

Approval of the above-referenced resolution, including posting this information prominently on the Village website, as a regular agenda item for public discussion and within Village services in as many outreach venues as possible.

Background

Through “Florida Government Week” initiative the League of Cities Florida City Government Week helps municipalities foster civic education, collaboration, volunteerism and engagement. This year, “MY VILLAGE: I’m Part of It, I’m Proud of It,” is an opportunity to recognize that cities provide a higher level of local service than most government agencies, and generally cities receive higher levels of approval ratings than most government agencies. Still, many residents are unaware of how city/village services impact our daily lives.

By way of celebrating MY VILLAGE: I’m Part of It, I’m Proud of It, I submit for consideration that we join together in recognizing and thanking our loyal employees and volunteer boards, who dedicate their time for the betterment of the Village. Residents are encouraged to support Village service workers, attend Village meetings, particularly now that meetings are accessible online through Zoom, learn more about MY VILLAGE: I’m Part of It, I’m Proud of It, and be involved in local government.

It is essential to keep in mind purpose of local government when we approach ballot measures during elections this November to protect local decision-making, preserve unique characteristics and sustain the quality of life that make each city, town or VILLAGE special to its residents.

Fiscal / Budget Impact

The fiscal impact of approving the attached resolution, incorporating references and information concerning MY VILLAGE campaign on the Village website is nominal.

Attachment

Resolution 2020-51
FLC My City Government Booklet

Prepared by: Rox Ross

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RESOLUTION NO. 2020-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING OCOBER 19-25, 2020 AS “FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK” AND ENCOURAGING VILLAGE RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THIS CELEBRATION AND CORRESPONDING ACTIVITIES.

WHEREAS, city government is the government closest to most citizens, and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, municipal government provides services and programs that enhance the quality of life for residents, making their city their home; and

WHEREAS, city government is administered for and by its citizens, and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, city government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along the understanding of public services and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Florida City Government Week offers an important opportunity for elected officials and city staff to spread the word to all citizens of Florida that they can shape and influence this branch of government; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities and its member cities have joined together to teach citizens about municipal government through a variety of activities; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Biscayne Park wishes to take these opportunities to participate in this celebration of city government, of Home Rule, of local services and collaborations toward the betterment of the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. That the Village of Biscayne Park encourages all city government officials, employees, volunteers and citizens to participate in events that recognize and celebrate Florida City Government Week.

1 **Section 2.** That the Village of Biscayne Park encourages educational partnerships between city
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3 government and schools, as well as civic groups and other organizations.

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5 **Section 3.** That the Village of Biscayne Park supports the tradition of local decision-making in
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7 Florida as essential to protect each municipality’s ability to preserve and enhance the myriad
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9 characteristics that make each one uniquely special.

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11 **Section 4.** That the Village of Biscayne Park will include this information on its website, as a
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13 regular agenda item for public discussion and within Village services in as many outreach venues as
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15 possible.

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17 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** on October 6, 2020.



24 The foregoing resolution upon being put to a vote,
25 The vote was as follows:

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29 Virginia O’Halpin, Mayor

30 Mayor O’Halpin: _____
31 Vice Mayor Kennedy: _____
32 Commissioner Ross: _____
33 Commissioner Samaria: _____
34 Commissioner Tudor: _____

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45 Roseann Prado, Village Clerk

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45 Edward A. Dion, Village Attorney



#FLCityWeek Goes Virtual: *Tips for Celebrating Your City Virtually*

OCTOBER 19-25, 2020

- ▶ **Adopt a resolution.** Share the resolution on various communications platforms.
- ▶ **Post videos.** Share videos on your social media platforms and website about various municipal-related topics, such as the city's history or frequently asked questions.
- ▶ **Coordinate a story hour.** Have an elected or appointed official read the second edition of "The City That Talks," the children's book distributed by the Florida League of Cities in April as part of President Isaac Salver's Readers2Leaders initiative. Have the official read the book virtually on a live platform, or record the book reading and post it on the city's Facebook page and website. A complimentary copy of the book was sent to each elected municipal official, city manager and city clerk in Florida. To purchase more hard copies or access digital versions of the book in English, Spanish and Creole, visit readers2leaders.com.
- ▶ **Host a social media trivia game.** Post daily questions, and ask residents to respond.
- ▶ **Partner with a local radio station.** Host a karaoke hour at the same time every day. Ask residents to vote for their favorite song via social media, and have a different elected official introduce the song each day.
- ▶ **Host a photo contest.** Post submitted photos on social media, and ask residents to vote for their favorite photo.
- ▶ **Hold a virtual town hall.** Address current and future city projects, and seek citizen input. Allow citizens to ask questions.
- ▶ **Highlight employees.** Highlight them on social media and the city's website. Include their job description, and ask employees to share why they love their city.
- ▶ **Sponsor an essay contest for students.** Connect with local schools to share the criteria and rules.
- ▶ **Offer a virtual tour of city hall.** Have the tour guide (an elected official or staff person) visit different departments and interview employees or showcase city equipment. Host on a live platform so residents can ask questions.
- ▶ **Host a virtual citizens academy.** Choose a variety of municipal topics, and ask participants to watch live presentations with a Q&A session at the end of each topic. At the end of the academy, ask participants to share what they learned on social media.
- ▶ **Recognize city volunteers.** Recognize the residents who volunteer with your city by posting a video or photo.
- ▶ **Create a social media filter.** Encourage residents to use and post photos with the filter throughout the week.

NOTES:

- ▶ Please tag @FLCities and include the hashtag #FLCityWeek in your social media posts.
- ▶ Make it a competition! Whatever activity your city chooses, encourage residents to share their participation on social media by tagging your city. Ask local businesses to sponsor prizes.
- ▶ For more information on Florida City Government Week, please visit flcityweek.com. If you have additional ideas on how to celebrate virtually, please share them by emailing Eryn Russell at erussell@flcities.com.