



PARKS & PARKWAY
ADVISORY BOARD

Dan Keys
Lynn Fischer
Barbara Kuhl
Randy Wagoner

NOTICE

Two or more members of the Village of Biscayne Park Commission and other Village Board members may be in attendance.

In the event a quorum is not met, a workshop may be opened to discuss agenda items.

**MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & PARKWAY ADVISORY BOARD**

640 NE 114th Street, Biscayne Park, FL
Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:00PM

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

In attendance - Barbara Kuhl, Dan Keys, Lynn Fischer and Randy Wagoner.

Staff – David Hernandez

Public – Barbara Watts, Mercedes Diaz

B. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS –

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – as reported below.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Minutes – The minutes of January 17, 2019, were approved unanimously.

E. OLD BUSINESS –

1. **General median maintenance:** It was reported that the cocoplum hedge behind the 113 Street entrance sign had been cut down below the top of the sign as had been pointed out by Dan Keys. Dan suggested that the Village might buy additional time between trimmings if the hedge was trimmed even lower so that it could grow longer between trimmings' without going over the top of the sign. It was noted that the hedge around the pump was planted to hide the pump and the suggestion was made that its growth be encouraged for this purpose.

Discussion as to cleaning the iron stain on the front of the sign took place with all noting that some progress had been made. David Hernandez mentioned that the sign would be pressure cleaned and some Board members cautioned that the rock might actually be damaged by this. Coral Gables, at least at one time, had a prohibition against pressure cleaning their historic structures, which are oolitic limestone. Our sign is a different harder material but may still be vulnerable to erosion by pressure cleaning. The Board members suggested that the advisability of pressure cleaning at least be investigated prior to following through.

David Hernandez mentioned that he had met with representatives of North Miami regarding the maintenance of the 121 St. median. He was working on developing a memorandum of understanding regarding which City would maintain what with the initial idea that the



The Village of Biscayne Park

640 NE 114th St., Biscayne Park, FL 33161

Telephone: 305-899-8000 Facsimile: 305 891 7241

Village would maintain the area below 8 feet off the ground and North Miami the issues above that height. David mentioned that he had met with Kirk Oberholtzer, a resident of 121 Street, regarding the resident's desires to have landscaping installed in the median. The Board corrected the misconception that Mr. Hernandez brought from the meeting that the Board had somehow dropped the ball on this project. The Board and the residents had been waiting for the Village administration to move the project forward. David said that the planting of *Clusia guttifera* was discussed and the Board mentioned some issues that should be considered before moving forward with that plant material. Namely, the ability of the Village to maintain a hedge (of any species) on this median and on others in the Village where they may proliferate to. David was going to discuss the plantings with North Miami and return with their comments. The Board went on to ask why the area in question could not at least be better maintained – removal of high weeds and weeds around plant material, lack of edging along the street, plant material growing over the roadway, all of which have been unaddressed for some extended period of time by either North Miami or the Village.

2. **Village entrance signs:** David Hernandez reported that it was his opinion that signs could not be placed at any of the 121 Street locations primarily due to the sentiments of the adjacent residents against these installations, as was expressed to him in response to a letter he had sent to them which had discussed the project. The issue of adequate room on the right of way was also a possible factor. The Board members differed as to the issues in that some wished to honor the wishes of the residents and others noted the importance of these entrance signs as being significant to identifying the Village entrances for the good of the entire community. It was decided that some members needed to go by the sites in question to see if locating them along the right of way of either of the properties adjacent to the entrances, was in their mind feasible, and also in order to evaluate the impact of any installation on those residences.
3. **Tree removal and tree trimming issues:** David Hernandez reported that he had received preliminary estimates for the removal of the Australian Pines in the Village. The cost of \$94,000. or \$107,000. (if stumps were removed) was given, with only \$30,000. being specifically budgeted for the work. The cost was presumed to be higher per tree if fewer trees were removed at one time. It was suggested that the administration look one more time at the possibility of a demolition contractor doing this work as opposed to traditional tree removal contractor. If additional funding could not be found in this FY, it was suggested that the administration determine which trees might be of the highest priority for removal, based on a new evaluation or on the data that might be available in the Tree Inventory study that was done some years back. With this knowledge, a plan of action could be developed.



The Village of Biscayne Park

640 NE 114th St., Biscayne Park, FL 33161

Telephone: 305-899-8000 Facsimile: 305 891 7241

4. **Policy/Ordinance Development related to hurricane debris deposition in the medians after hurricanes:** David Hernandez advised that he felt this was an issue that should go before the Commission – there was no opinion from the administration as to the advisability of such a policy which could be disseminated prior to a hurricane event.
5. **Athletic Field:** David Hernandez advised that they were continuing to repair the irrigation system control wires. It was not fully evident what the extent of the damage was (isolated or systemwide), but David suggested that all of the wires needed to be replaced and that he suggested that the new wires be placed in conduit. After discussion, it was suggested that, after further study determining if that replacement was actually necessary, the Village do what is necessary to ensure a functioning irrigation system. If new wires are installed, either with or without an enclosing conduit, care should be taken so as not to trench across the root system of the large trees. It was noted that the direct burial wires installed initially, lasted over 30 years and could be redone less expensively than conduit installation.

David advised that he had met with the “Ball Park Maintenance” contractor and discussions took place. Once irrigation was repaired, something would commence. It was not evident from the discussion at the Board what would be done, i.e. would efforts seek to rejuvenate any existing bermudagrass or move in the direction of replacement. The Board suggested that determining what the goal is should be the subject of the next meeting with Ball Park Maintenance. It was reiterated that since we are now into the growing season it is important to move quickly so as to take advantage of good grow in or treatment recovery time.

6. **Six Ave. Bridge Landscaping:** Discussion regarding the insect damage to the golden creeper ground cover took place. An effective insect control method had not yet been employed to curtail further damage to the plants.
7. **Resolution of “Conflicting Tree Location:** issues was explained to David and he advised that he would get back to us regarding what Cesar had done and what remained to be accomplished.
8. **Restoration of 6th Ave irrigation and landscaping:** David Hernandez advised that he was getting estimates for some unspecified work. The Board suggested some general cleanup and preparation of the island ends for future planting.
9. **Seating Garden on East side of Village Hall/Bick paver fundraiser:** No new information was provided as to whether there was movement towards resolving the issue of the lack of a design for the brick paver project for which funds are already being collected.



The Village of Biscayne Park

640 NE 114th St., Biscayne Park, FL 33161

Telephone: 305-899-8000 Facsimile: 305 891 7241

10. **Landscape development of Village Hall grounds:** Mr. Hernandez advised that the administration had no opinion on this issue and that the Board needed to move it forward.
11. **Report regarding 114th Street median planting:** No discussion.
12. **Report on the Administration's desire if any regarding the Boards discussion related to developing needed information related to landscape development in the Village:** No discussion.
13. **No discussion of possible lighting project for these locations.**
Six Avenue Bridge Landscaping
Behind Main Village Entrance Sign
14. **Discussion of tree planting proposal for 2018-19**
Barbara Kuhl had begun the work of identifying locations for new trees. Board members were tasked with doing the same so that information could be coordinated for a field verification meeting.
15. **Discussion of a Permaculture Park:** No discussion.

- G. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT –**
Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7 P.M. was the scheduled date of the next meeting – at Village Hall.

The meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved on _____

By: _____
Dan Keys, Chair