

MINUTES
Sunshine Meeting
April 11, 2024
10:00 AM
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 10:16 a.m.

The following Councilmembers were present: Councilmember Luis E. Collazo and Councilmember Josh Dieguez. Councilmember Ray Garcia participated via phone.

The following Town Staff members were present: Parks and Recreation Director, Jeremy Bajdaun, Deputy Town Clerk, Victoria Martinez, and Deputy Town Attorney, Lorenzo Cobiella.

The following were also present: School Board Member Roberto Alonso and his Chief of Staff Rogelio Miret, Former Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rodriguez, Miami Lakes United Soccer Club Representatives Mr. Alvin Murray and Ms. Gladys De La Cruz, Miami Lakes Optimist Club Representatives Mr. Chris McCall and Mr. Jim Hamilton, and Town Resident Lynn Matos.

2. Items Discussed:

School Board Member, Roberto Alonso opened the meeting to get everyone's input and see what is going on at the parks. Former Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rodriguez expressed that the main issue is space and that all sports are playing on top of each other. Parks and Recreation Director, Jeremy Bajdaun, then gave a rundown of all activities taking place at each park.

Prior to giving feedback, Board Member Alonso assured that the Miami Lakes Optimist Park will always stay a park. He then went on to explain that Miami Lakes Middle School's green space in the back is there for the school board to build if ever needed. He suggested that perhaps there could be discussions to make it into an open green space. Board Member Alonso also added that partnerships or sponsorships, like what Hialeah did with the Marlins, are big things to explore to build the parks out.

Through discussions of using school space, Councilmember Garcia asked how they can begin opening the Goleman and HML fields up to the sports programs. Board Member Alonso suggested for Town Staff to meet with district staff to begin coordinating.

After further discussion, Parks and Recreation Director Bajdaun added that they would essentially match the Goleman JUA to the Optimist JUA to add organized use at Goleman and maintain the premise. Board Member Alonso suggested the town duplicate that JUA for HML as well.

All parties present suggested different ideas to one another and discussed the two club agreements in place and their extensions. After discussion regarding the schools and ways to create more space, Board Member Alonso and his staff left the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

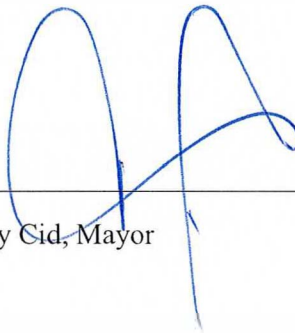
The other members present at the meeting stayed to discuss the two club agreements extensions, primarily Miami Lakes Optimist Club's extension. Former Vice Mayor Rodriguez suggested extending to the end of February under the same fee structure until they can discuss the joint RFI. Councilmember Collazo added that he would like to do the extension quicker because in February there will be a brand-new council. Former Vice Mayor Rodriguez then suggested entering into the agreement now with contingencies regarding future open space at the schools.

After further discussion, the meeting concluded with Parks and Recreation Director Bajdaun explaining that in 2-3 weeks he and the Deputy Town Attorney will draft an agreement to move forward with the process.

3. Adjournment:

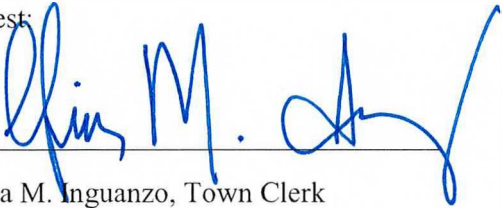
This meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Approved this 14th day of May 2024.



Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:



Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk