

# Cocoanut Grove Village Council

## MINUTES

*Miami City Hall*

*3500 Pan American Drive  
Miami, FL 33133*



Marcelo Fernandes, Chairman  
Linda Williams, Vice Chair  
S. Larissa Ozols, Secretary  
Rachel Cardello, Treasurer  
Thaddeus Scott, Sergeant at Arms  
Steven Dloogoff  
Sacha DuBearn  
Courtney Omega  
Hank Sanchez-Resnik

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**November 18, 2019**

**6:30 PM**

*[www.cocoanutgrovevc.org](http://www.cocoanutgrovevc.org)*

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1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. House Keeping
  - a. Approve October minutes
  - b. Opportunity for Council to modify agenda
5. Announcements for City of Miami Public Meetings and local events  
Discussion Items
  - a. **Transportation and Mobility Committee:** November Mobility visioning workshop summary, roundtable discussion about the future of coconut grove mobility present: Dade Heritage Trust, Transit Alliance, County and City Miami. The key items discussed included art installations at roundabouts – slow traffic and aesthetics; car-free grove on Saturdays; connect inter-connected free-bees and find a sister city. Ponder “What is the biggest thing you own? It’s the Public realm;
  - b. **Transportation and Mobility Committee:** Transit Alliance Miami made presentation on concepts and data to use when rethinking the bus system routes and interconnecting trolley services ridership is down. Formal presentation on this topic is available on-line at <https://www.betterbus.miami/videos> (November 2019 County Commission). Concepts and Study on-line available <https://www.betterbus.miami/>
  - c. **Transportation and Mobility Committee** Discussed the several participating schools and mobilizing community to participate in Bike and Walk to School Day, May 2020.
  - d. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee:** Discussions on covenant negotiations Kampong/FIU center for tropical botany include no additional structures for 25 years, no undergraduate courses will be offered on the property, limits on number of faculty and students to 50 at one time, time restrictions 8am -7pm, lights out at 7pm, signage restrictions, no outdoor music, etc...
    - **Public Comments:** Is the City a party to the documents? If not, enforcement falls on the neighbors. Suggests VC keeps tabs on this covenant once executed. Broader issue, what is the most effective legal mechanism to tackle neighborhoods faced with zoning and development issues
    - **Council members:** Perhaps covenant could be converted into an ordinance. VC could pass an ordinance to this effect without “undoing” the efforts of parties.
  - e. **Civic, Cultural Life, Parks, & Green Spaces Committee** Carrolton / Villa Woodbine summary of 10/27/19 HEPB. Residents were well organized and prepared– natural resources

and historic structure was the purview but much discussion was about traffic and size/mass of structure. Conclusion of HEPB was to have applicant return with drawings that incorporate revisions supported by staff. Come back on 2/3 to HEPB with drawings so neighborhood stakeholders are more informed. Dade Heritage Trust takes exception to this project for several reasons discussed, particularly the tree canopy. In 1999, Villa Woodbine was designated as a special historic overlay district regarding future uses. Sale contingent on zoning changes. HEPB concluded that it should go to PZAB. Determine use first.

- **Public Comments:** Residents were not part of the process. Waterfront Master plan had a very good public out reach project. That process should be adopted here. What are the possible government entities that participate and give input on the project?
- **Council members:** There is a meeting at the Carrollton school to discuss the project and clarify project.