



MEMORANDUM  
Harvey Ruvin  
Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
Miami-Dade County, Florida  
(305) 375-5126  
(305) 375-2484 FAX  
www.miami-dadeclerk.com

CRC  
Agenda Item No. 6(A)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Javier D. Souto  
and Members, Cultural Affairs and Recreation  
Committee

**DATE:** December 17, 2014

**FROM:** Christopher Agrippa  
Director, Clerk of the Board Division

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Commission  
Committee Minutes

The Clerk of the Board's office is submitting the following Clerk's Summary of Minutes for approval by the Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee:

November 10, 2014 CRC Meeting

CA/jt  
Attachment



Stephen P. Clark  
Government Center  
111 N.W. 1st Street  
Miami, FL 33128

# CLERK'S SUMMARY OF Meeting Minutes Cultural Affairs & Recreation Committee

Javier D. Souto (10) Chair; Barbara J. Jordan (1) Vice Chair; Commissioners Jean Monestime (2) and Xavier L. Suarez (7)

---

Monday, November 10, 2014

9:30 AM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

---

**Members Present:** Jean Monestime, Sen. Javier D. Souto, Xavier L. Suarez.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Members Late:** Barbara J. Jordan 10:14:00 AM.

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent County Business:** None.

---

## 1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:

**Report:** *Jill Thornton, Commission Reporter  
(305) 375-2505*

## 1A INVOCATION AS PROVIDED IN RULE 5.05 (H)

**Report:** *Chairman Souto convened the meeting at 9:38 a.m., to conduct the service awards presentations.*

## 1B ROLL CALL

**Report:** *The following staff members were present: Michael Spring, Senior Advisor to the Mayor and Director of Cultural Affairs; Assistant County Attorneys Bruce Libhaber and Miguel Gonzalez; and Deputy Clerk Jill Thornton.*

*Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez noted there were no changes to today's (11/10) agenda.*

*It was moved by Commissioner Suarez that the November 10, 2014 Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee meeting agenda be approved as presented. This motion was seconded by Chairman Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 3-0; (Commissioner Jordan was absent).*

## 1C PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



1F2

**142448 Discussion Item Sen. Javier D. Souto**  
DISCUSSION ITEM: PERFORMING ART CENTER *Presented*  
TICKETS FOR STUDENTS- HIGH SCHOOLS, COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES (LOW COST AND FREE)

**Report:** *Mr. John Richards, President/CEO of Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts (AACPA or Center) of Miami-Dade County, informed Committee members that a new program was recently launched at the Arsht Center, called Arsht UTIX, which offered college students discounted tickets at \$20 to attend a greater variety of performances at the Center. He noted this program was being greatly promoted at local colleges and universities. Mr. Richards also noted the AACPA has committed to enabling students studying the performing arts to experience onstage performances with some world-class entertainers; and to ensure the performing arts were made accessible to all ages. He spoke of recent events held at the Center, highlighting performances by the University of Miami's Henry Mancini Big Band, along with Take 6, Neena Freelon and others, in a tribute to Ray Charles music, noting nearly 1,600 people attended it. He noted other recent performances included Miami Music Project's Youth Orchestra in the James L. Knight Concert Hall, as part of the Free Family Fest; and "Cinderella" on tour, which attracted over 14,000 people and the most diverse audience ever seen at the Center.*

*Chairman Souto stated he desired that all students countywide have access to the performing arts and museums at reasonable prices. He encouraged the cultural arts centers/museum directors to help with meeting this goal.*

*Chairman Souto pointed out the County has made tremendous efforts, commitments and considerable investments to promote art in this community.*

*Commissioner Jordan commended Mr. Richards on his outreach efforts, ensuring inclusion at the Center, and making the performances accessible and affordable to students and the underprivileged. She noted it was important that students be exposed to the arts in order to cultivate appreciation for the arts, and to build future audiences.*

*Chairman Souto noted Miami had become known*

worldwide as a place where art was appreciated, and said the time and monies spent promoting art here was well invested. He urged the entire Art community to get involved by spreading the word about Miami's expanding cultural arts scene.

Director Michael Spring, Department of Cultural Affairs, noted the Miami Culture Shock program, initiated ten years ago, offered \$5 tickets for high school and college student between the ages of 13 and 22 to attend any cultural event throughout the County, plus \$5 ticket for an adult to accompany them, and two for \$5 tickets to attend any county museum. Mr. Spring said that thousands of tickets had been sold through this program, and the Opera and Ballet events had sold out within 24 hours of being posted on the website.

Chairman Souto noted he believed this Program had not been promoted enough; therefore, suggested it be advertised at the upcoming Miami Book Fair. He pointed out that it was difficult to reach out and inform the entire community about all the events occurring countywide, as many of them occurred at the same time. He urged the Cultural Affairs Department to make best efforts to reach as many people as possible and provide them an opportunity to attend these events.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern that when the events were announced, the tickets had sold out fast, and it seemed the frequent attendees were getting the tickets first, before newcomers. She suggested setting some guidelines or a method to provide newcomers an opportunity to attend the events; such as how the County allocated funds from the Mom and Pop small business program.

Mr. Spring informed Commissioner Jordan that this was not an issue for the Miami Culture Shock Program, explaining that the Department could track ticket purchases through email addresses, and found the number of students attending the Center through this program had increased, and that repeat attendees were attending other performances. He also noted the public art museums could accommodate larger audiences. Mr. Spring advised that in the event tickets run out for a performance, such as the Opera, the Center has requested and received additional tickets for more students to attend it.

Chairman Souto indicated that increasing the community's awareness of these events would attract greater audiences and increase

*competition for the tickets.*

*Commissioner Jordan added that many members of organizations liked to travel in groups and purchased several tickets for one event.*

1F3

**142449 Discussion Item Sen. Javier D. Souto**  
DISCUSSION ON PLAQUE FOR SCULPTURE IN FRONT OF THE WEST DADE REGIONAL LIBRARY **Presented**

**Report:** *Chairman Souto apprised the Committee of the sculpture in front of the West Dade Regional Library which had no plaque to commemorate it, and needed to be more visible to the public.*

*Mr. Spring noted the sculpture outside the library was a wonderful piece of artwork created by Sculptor Del Geist, and it was installed there in 1978. He said he would ensure that a noticeable plaque was placed nearby the sculpture to identify it and the artist.*

**1G PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**2 COUNTY COMMISSION**

**3 DEPARTMENTS**

**4 COUNTY MAYOR**

**5 COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**6 CLERK OF THE BOARD**

6A

**142428 Report**

APPROVAL OF CLERK'S MEETING MINUTES FOR THE  
OCTOBER 22, 2014 CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND  
RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING (Clerk of the  
Board)

*Approved*  
*Mover: Monestime*  
*Seconder: Jordan*  
*Vote: 4-0*

**7 REPORTS**

7A

**142443 Report****Sen. Javier D. Souto**

ORAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE LIGHTS AT WESTBROOKE PARK

**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Second: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *Commissioner Jordan noted she believed the Board needed to address all county parks with lighting issues; therefore, she would be bringing forth legislation to increase lighting in several parks within Commission District 1 (her district).*

*Mr. Jack Kardys, Director of Department of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS), advised the Committee that departmental staff was in the process of preparing a report to identify the parks scheduled for lighting projects, under the Government Obligation Bond (GOB) program, and would include in the report, a general cost estimate for installing lights in all community neighborhood parks within the PROS system.*

*Chairman Souto explained the foregoing oral report was to disclose a specific park in Commission District 10 that was located near Florida International University (FIU), and had some illegal drug activity/distribution issues, but no lighting there. He said he would not tolerate any gang-related or drug activities in any park within his District (Dist. 10). Chairman Souto noted his objective was to have lighting and cameras installed in all county parks; however, he was promised a year ago that lighting and cameras would be installed in the subject park by October 2014, and that had not occurred yet.*

*Mr. Kardys noted he was made aware of the issues concerning this park, and has directed the PROS Security Division to investigate it. He explained that the contract for installing new solar lighting in this park was a bid award that was delayed four months during the evaluation period due to a substitute proposal offered that was eleven percent below the engineers estimate and \$24,000 less than the second lowest bidder. He noted the Engineer needed to compare the products to determine if they met the County's standards, which they did; however, required some re-permitting. Mr. Kardys advised that construction/installation of the new lighting would*

*begin later this month; the contractors would be mobilized on site and ground breaking would occur in December 2014, and the project would be completed by March 2015.*

7B

**142444 Report**

**Sen. Javier D. Souto**

ORAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE  
WESCHESTER/WEST DADE CULTURAL CENTER

**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Seconder: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *Mr. Spring advised Committee members that a selection process was underway for selecting an Architectural Team to design the West Dade Cultural Center; and that some proposals were received and currently being reviewed by the selection committee, appointed by the Mayor. He said he anticipated that an architectural team would be selected soon and that the team would begin working on the project by the start of the New Year.*

7C

**142445 Report****Sen. Javier D. Souto**ORAL REPORT ON THE LONG RANGE PLANNING FOR  
MIAMI DADE REGIONAL PARKS (NEXT TEN YEARS)**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Seconder: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *Mr. Jack Kardys, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS), noted the PROS staff, along with a consultant, began a comprehensive planning process to develop a new Open Space Master Plan should Miami-Dade County's Park System become regional in the future. He noted they looked at integrating the land acquisitions/incorporations into the 2008 Open Space Masterplan to ensure larger resource-based parks were located within an appropriate distance of every household, as the park system was expected to grow. He also noted they discussed major sports complexes, the kind of facilities that would best compliment the sports needs of the municipalities, and how it would be laid out in a larger map. And, they looked at integrating the County's heritage parks system into the larger park system and prioritizing available dollars to refurbish and maintain them. He said he expected to provide a report with a complete plan in March 2015.*

*Chairman Souto asked Mr. Kardys to consider whether a large tract of land in South Miami, near Sunset Drive (SW 72 Street) and some railroad tracks, was suitable for a park. He noted the parcel was previously used by the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, and it possibly could be used as a soccer field or for basketball courts.*

7D

**142446 Report****Sen. Javier D. Souto**

ORAL REPORT ON THE HORSE MUSEUM AT  
TROPICAL PARK REGARDING GOB MONEY VOTED  
BY THE PEOPLE

**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Seconder: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *Chairman Souto noted, during the time the Equestrian Center was being constructed in Tropical Park, the Commission entertained some discussions about renting a small building in the park for special events, and include a horse museum in it. He mentioned that horses not only existed in Ocala, but throughout Miami-Dade County, and the history of the American and Florida 'cracker' horses had its roots in Florida, where horses were brought over from Spain through Cuba to Florida. Chairman Souto noted he desired that a horse museum be created in a small section of the park's rental facility for the public to view and learn about the history of horses, and he suggested the PROS Department solicit dedicated funding from the State of Florida for this purpose.*

*Mr. Jack Kardys, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS), noted the PROS Masterplan included a club house in the Park to be used for accommodating catering functions, seminars and workshops associated with the horse industry, and staff considered incorporating a small horse museum in it. He said he would follow up on the suggestion to solicit State funds for this project.*

*Chairman Souto noted although the ballot language for the Building Better Communities-Government Obligation Bond (BBC-GOB) did not specify that a horse museum would be created in Tropical Park, there was plenty of discussion about it. He said he believed that creating a horse theme and horse museum in Tropical Park was important, since the park was the home of the International Cattle and Horse Show, and had hosted many horse events over the past several years.*

7E

**142284 Report**

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER  
STATUS REPORT (Mayor)

**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Seconder: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *Mr. Michael Spring, Director, Cultural Arts Department, provided a monthly status report on the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. He noted the Center continues to have another fabulous season, starting with performances by TU Dance, a contemporary dance company from St. Paul Minnesota. He added that TU Dance Company was co-founded and led by Uri Sands, who is a native of Miami and attended elementary, middle school and New World School of the Arts here, before embarking on a dancing career with the Alvin Alley Dance Theatre, and then forming TU Dance in St. Paul. Mr. Spring indicated that part of the county's Cultural Arts Program was to bring back guest performers who studied in Miami and left to pursue a career in the arts. He announced the upcoming weekend performance featuring "Noche Flamenca," a touring Flamenca company, and said that all the shows had sold out.*

*Chairman Souto noted the County had so much to offer by way of arts, and the peak of the season was just getting started.*

*Mr. Spring noted the choices in art performances offered by the County was astounding, with some big events coming up, and the season building momentum through the spring of next year.*

*Chairman Souto noted the County needed to work hard at protecting its art resources and to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to enjoy it.*

*Hearing no further comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on all the reports presented at today's meeting.*

7F

**142331 Report**

ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY- MONTHLY  
STATUS REPORT (Mayor)

**Report Received**  
**Mover: Monestime**  
**Seconder: Souto**  
**Vote: 3-0**  
**Absent: Suarez**

**Report:** *NOTE: the report for this agenda item was covered in the discussion provided by Mr. Richards under Agenda Item 1F2; (See Legislative File No. 142448).*

**8 ADJOURNMENT**

**Report:** *There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.*