

MINUTES
Sunshine Meeting
March 12, 2020
7:30 PM
Government Center – Council Chambers
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

Meeting began at 5:45 PM.

The following councilmembers were present: Luis Collazo, Vice Nelson Rodriguez, and Mayor Manny Cid.

The following from Town Staff were present: Town Manager Edward Pidermann, Assistant Town Manager Tony Lopez, Town Attorney Raul Gastesi, Deputy Town Attorney Lorenzo Cobiella, Town Clerk Gina Inguanzo, Major Javier Ruiz, Clarisell de Cardenas, Director of Communications and Community Affairs and Rosa Marrero, Assistant to the Town Manager.

Also present were: Fire Lieutenant Christopher Garcia from Station 1, Vanessa Villamil, and Stephanie Calle from the Florida Health Department, and Dr. Ausberto Hidalgo from Pediatric Associates. People from the public were present.

2. Items Discussed:

- **Coronavirus Work Group to Protect the Miami Lakes Senior Population**

There was presentation given by the Florida Health Department by Vanessa Villamil, and Stephanie Calle. Their presentation included the following topics: background information about the Coronavirus; number of cases worldwide, nationally, and in the state of Florida; how the virus spread and contracted; symptoms of the virus; how to prevent contraction; what population is at risk; what the treatment is; testing; what to do if you think you have the virus; travel advisories; and what resources are available through the Florida Department of Health. They closed the presentation by opening the meeting up to questions from the public.

Miriam Duman asked if April 5th date of the re-opening of Town Facilities and resuming of Senior activities was hard and final date and expressed her concern for the senior population possibly developing depression due to isolation.

Dottie Wix asked how the Town would be helping Seniors in isolation.

Robert Alonso asked what the Town would be doing to help Seniors gain access to groceries and cleaning supplies and would it be possible for the Town to reach out to their community partners and help the Senior population during this difficult time.

The owners from My Gym asked if the schools would be closing.

The Town Manager, Edward Pidermann, stated that Town staff will be assessing the pandemic situation very closely and as of right now, the re-opening date would be April 5th. He also stated that the Town is going to be strategically assessing how some of their resources and partners can be re-purposed to help the Miami Lakes senior population. He also explained the Incident Command Structure for Town Staff during a crisis.

Councilmember Luis Collazo stated the Department of Elderly Affairs and Alliance for Aging would be providing meals to senior citizens in need. He explained that they also would be assessing other ways they can help the senior population suffering depression from isolation. He explained educational resources had been provided to all the Assisted Living Facilities (ALFS) about the new restrictions, what symptoms to look for, prevention, and the appropriate agency contact information if an employee or resident of their facilities becomes ill. Councilman Collazo stated concerns of the elderly population access to supplies, such as groceries and cleaning products, is critical. The county task force is assessing on how this issue can be dealt with. He also stated the possibility of connecting our Miami Lakes senior population with the local adult day care centers to assist seniors during this time. He added that Miami-Dade County and elected officials within the area are going to developing senior citizen check-ins via telehealth.

Dr. Ausberto Hidalgo from Pediatric Associates stated he has been educating children on good hygiene and prevention. He encouraged parents and other clinicians to do the same.

Fire Lieutenant Christopher Garcia from Station 1 stated that the first responders due have quarantine plan as well as Telehealth plan for 911.

Mayor Manny Cid stated he had been in contact with the Miami-Dade County School District. He stated that as of right now, the district has not shut down schools and all private schools usually follow the district's plans.

Adjournment:

This meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Manny Cid, Mayor

Attest:

Gina M. Inganzo, Town Clerk