

# MINUTES

OF THE  
REGULAR  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 16, 2010



PREPARED BY:  
SUSAN A. OWENS, CMC,  
CITY CLERK

**MARCH 16, 2010 MEETING MINUTES**  
*(CNMB-CC MINUTES TAPE #437)*

**1. ROLL CALL OF THE CITY OFFICIALS**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 P.M. Present at the meeting were Mayor Myron Rosner, Vice Mayor Phyllis S. Smith, and Council Members Beth E. Spiegel, Philippe Derose, Barbara Kramer, Frantz Pierre, and John Patrick Julien. Also present were City Manager Kelvin L. Baker, City Attorney Darcee S. Siegel, and City Clerk Susan A. Owens.

**2. INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Mayor Rosner. Mayor Rosner also led the Council in a moment of silence for the following individuals who passed away recently: former Councilwoman Jacqueline Smith, the father of Assistant Director of Leisure Services, Glenn Finney, and resident Shirley Kienzle.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rosner led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. REQUESTS FOR WITHDRAWALS, DEFERMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

The City Clerk announced that there were none.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**5.1 Swearing in of Police Officer Raphael Florencio, by Mayor Myron Rosner**

Swearing in was performed by Mayor Rosner.

**5.2 Swearing in of Police Officer Daniel Sotolongo, by Mayor Myron Rosner**

Swearing in was performed by Mayor Rosner.

**5.3 Swearing in of Police Officer John Saint Jean, by Mayor Myron Rosner**

Swearing in was performed by Mayor Rosner.

**5.4 Multi-Cultural Committee Report: Holiday Decorations**

Presentation made by the Multi-Cultural Committee Chair, Dr. Thomas K. Pinder. The Multi-Cultural Committee unanimously agreed that the City of North Miami Beach should publically recognize religious holidays and made the following recommendations:

1. Hold a community forum to discuss the situation and get input from residents within North Miami Beach.
2. Council should present a proclamation during its meetings to recognize various holidays individually and during that holiday time of the year.

3. Create a suggestion box and ask the community to deposit their ideas for future development of recognition on specific holidays.
4. Get the opinion of religious leaders within the community and then have them choose a suitable time to recognize that religious day.
5. Do not recognize any one religion over another in order to prevent division.
6. Make sure to educate the community on what direction the City is trying to head.
7. Form a special committee to review the issue and gather additional information.
8. Do not promote any one religion, simply recognize that religion.
9. Only one of the religion's main holidays will be recognized by the religious leader, to avoid recognizing several holidays over another religion that may only have one, or two.
10. Sponsorships, consideration for the recognition of religious holidays may be the City or the religions themselves.
11. Signage recognition may be displayed on the City's main streets.

The Multi-Cultural Committee has decided to establish an ongoing sub-committee for continuing research on the recognition of religious holidays in the City of North Miami Beach. The appointed Chair on the sub-committee on Religious Holiday Recognition is Mr. Yona Lunder. As Chair of the sub-committee, he will be charged with the following:

1. Responsible for identifying all legal religious organizations' holidays for the general committee.
2. Presenting a report to the general committee on his/her plan to accomplish this task.
3. Responsible for the following:
  - a. Identifying religious holidays of all major, legal religions in the United States.
  - b. Identifying all legal religious leaders in the City of North Miami Beach that may have members residing in North Miami Beach.
  - c. Developing a calendar for all major religious holidays.
  - d. Identifying at least one major religious holiday of each religion suitable for the City of North Miami Beach to recognize at its Council Meetings.
  - e. Identifying which type of religious recognition would best be suitable for the City of North Miami Beach Council to present at a Council Meeting.
  - f. Providing the general committee with a progress report at every meeting.

**5.5** Presentation by Dr. Moises Mitrani, Chief of Staff at Jackson North, regarding possible closure of Jackson North and the effect and impact on the North Miami Beach Community

Dr. Mitrani reported that the Jackson Trust System is in a major financial bind. Initially, Dr. Roldan, CEO of the Jackson Trust System presented a drastic plan because she was asked by the Public Health Trust to present a plan to eliminate the \$260M deficit. Dr. Roldan's solution was to close Jackson North and Jackson South. Yesterday, at a Public Health Trust meeting, Dr. Roldan presented a plan that would keep both Jackson North and Jackson South open and would reduce the layoffs to around 750 individuals. Dr.

Mitrani requested that the City Council draft a resolution to present to the Miami-Dade County Commissioners and the Public Health Trust, explaining how essential it is to keep Jackson North open for the health and economic well being of our City.

The Council considered this request and came to the conclusion that, because of the time-sensitive nature of this request, they will write letters to the County Mayor and Commissioners encouraging them to support keeping Jackson North open. Dr. Mitrani announced that there will be a rally on Monday, March 22 at the Jackson Memorial Campus downtown and requested the support of the community. Councilwoman Spiegel also suggested that we contact the Mayors of other affected cities and ask them to write letters supporting Jackson North as well.

## 6. APPOINTMENTS

### 6.1 Multi-Cultural Committee

Christine M. Gibson-Norris (Councilman Julien)

**Motion** made by Councilman Julien, seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, to appoint Christine M. Gibson-Norris to the Multi-Cultural Committee. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (**Motion carried 7-0**)

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion** made by Councilman Pierre, seconded by Councilman Julien, to introduce the Consent Agenda. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (**Motion carried 7-0**)

7.1 March 2, 2010 Meeting Minutes

7.2 Resolution No. R2010-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING GOVERNOR CRIST AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS UNIFORM STATEWIDE LEGISLATION DURING THE 2010 SESSION ALLOWING THE USE OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS (UNMANNED CAMERAS) TO RECORD VIOLATIONS OF RED LIGHT TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS.

7.3 Resolution No. R2010-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING INADEQUATE STATE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION AND REQUESTING THE EXPENDITURE OF INCREASED STATE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION BY THE GOVERNOR AND FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.

7.4 Resolution No. R2010-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000 OF THE GENERAL FUND-LIABILITY SELF INSURANCE FUND 030 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2009 FOR THE PAYMENT OF A SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION CAPTIONED *NATIVIDAD HERNANDEZ, ET AL. V. CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH*, CASE NO. 08-20724-CIV-GOLD/MCALILEY IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

**Motion** made by Councilman Derose, seconded by Councilman Julien, to approve the Consent Agenda. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (**Motion carried 7-0**)

**8. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Kelvin L. Baker**

**8.1 Census Update**

The City Manager reported on the City's continued Census initiatives and introduced Ms. Katia Saint Fleur, a representative from the Census Bureau. Ms. Saint Fleur stated that the City of North Miami Beach was one of the most aggressive and supportive cities that she has worked with; and, that because of this, the City has been very successful in getting funding through the Census Partnership Program for their Census initiatives. Ms. Saint Fleur said the Census Bureau is undergoing the following initiatives within the City:

- Community Festival – Census workers passed out over 3,000 flyers and other promotional materials.
- Take 10 Map – allows the City to be able to monitor the mail response rate of each neighborhood.
- Neighborhood blitz on April 10<sup>th</sup> – All organizations, individuals and community leaders are invited to help bring awareness to the community, focusing on those neighborhoods where the response rates were low.

Ms. Saint Fleur said all Census questionnaires have been mailed out and residents should have already received them. Ms. St. Fleur introduced Ms. Winnie Tang, the Asian Team Leader for State of Florida. Ms. Tang has worked to bring the Census Tour Bus to North Miami Beach for Asian Heritage Month. Ms. Tang reported that the Chinese community alone, she believes, was undercounted by 75% in the 2000 Census. They are planning a program celebrating Asian Heritage which will be hosted in the parking lot of the New China Buffet. It will be the Census Road Tour and will incorporate celebration of the Asian culture and education regarding the Census.

Ms. Saint Fleur made the following points in response to several questions from the Council:

- If you lose your form you can get a new one.
- You must turn in an original—copies cannot be accepted.
- The forms are available in several other languages.
- The Census Bureau encourages everyone to fill out the form in its entirety, but will accept incomplete forms.
- The information is not shared for 72 years.
- You will have access to your own information. This was particularly helpful to the victims of Hurricane Katrina who lost all personal identifying information.
- You are asked to list all individuals residing in your house on April 1<sup>st</sup>, even if they are not citizens.
- The federal government allocates funding based upon population.
- The Census Bureau will accept volunteers.

9. **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT** – Darcee S. Siegel

Ms. Siegel reported that two items were passed unanimously at the Planning and Zoning Board that will bring an ordinance before the City Council on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The first ordinance will allow residential properties to conduct home businesses in the RS1 and RM19 zoning districts (Eastern Shores). The second ordinance that will be presented to the City Council is the rezoning of property located off 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NE 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, as well as a resolution for a conditional use.

Ms. Siegel reported that the City received their first appeal in regards to the red light camera issue. The ruling from Aventura has been stayed by the court, as well as appealed by the City of Aventura. The Legislature has been very active to try and ensure that a statewide uniform law will be passed in the current session that will cover the sharing of the fines.

In the last couple weeks, the City has obtained about \$125,000 in forfeiture funds and two vehicles.

In regards to item 7.4, Resolution No. R2010-24, Ms. Siegel offered the following explanation. The Hernandez v. City of North Miami Beach lawsuit occurred in April of 2006. An emergency call for attempted suicide was placed and subsequently a police officer shot and killed an individual. The City went into Executive Session on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The Council discussed the matter, came downstairs and called a vote to settle that particular lawsuit. The purpose of bringing it forward this evening is because Ms. Siegel thought it was appropriate to address this as a resolution so that the Clerk will have the resolution on file and the auditors will be able to follow the money trail, figure out when the budget was amended, where the monies came from, and where they went.

10. **MAYOR'S DISCUSSION**

Mayor Rosner read the following exemption for the Eastern Shores residents from the School Board. "Students residing in Area A (Eastern Shores), who have attended and completed 5<sup>th</sup> Grade at Ojus Elementary School are eligible to attend 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade at David Lawrence, K-8 Center or Highland Oaks Middle School, upon request of the parent, based on the student's academic needs and the course offering at the school."

The Mayor allowed Councilwoman Spiegel to report on the School Board Boundary issue further. Councilwoman Spiegel stated that she would like to publicly acknowledge Susie Smith, who has done yeoman's work with me. Susie and I have, in part of our ongoing process in all of this, spent two days last week down at the School Board, meeting with the various School Board Members or their Chiefs of Staff trying to lobby them to work on these changes. And what the Mayor just read was what I was going to report. As a result of the lobbying effort that we did, what is going to happen tomorrow, I believe, is that the boundary change will be approved; but, I would like people to realize when this boundary change was first recommended, it was all of the students from Eastern Shores that were kindergarteners or 1<sup>st</sup> graders, plus the incoming kindergarteners, were going to be sent to Ojus. Now, all those children who are already kindergarteners or 1<sup>st</sup> graders will stay at Sunny Isles Beach Community School. The second change is that, as a result of the lobbying, as much as you can have a commitment from the Miami-Dade County School Board, the Eastern Shores children will remain in the feeder pattern to go to Alonzo Tracy Mourning Senior High School. The third change, and this is what happened last week as a result of phone calls, meetings, Susie and I going down to the Diversity Equity Committee. I went with Susie to the meeting where the Superintendent was presented with the findings: the Superintendent received a very long e-mail from me with the proposed reasons. While it's not a perfect solution, we've come a long way: probably shows that you can fight City Hall somewhat, or the School Board in lieu of City Hall. I would urge everybody, everybody who can show up tomorrow afternoon, even if you can only come for an hour.

show up because this is, these are our students, our future. I do not quite frankly believe this is going to be a long term solution. I have already suggested last night, to the Area Superintendent, second in command, that I am going to request that David Lawrence be a targeted school next year for the Boundary Committees. At the meeting that I went to tonight at Ojus Elementary School there were two representatives from the Voters' Council at Washington Park trying to explain to the Area Superintendent, Mr. Dotress, that Washington Park, which is in essence six city blocks, has kids, their children, go to four different schools. So, whether this remains my fight, or it remains a North Miami Beach fight, I think that the School Board needs to sit up and take notice as to what they are doing to North Miami Beach children and where they are sending our children and where they are not. And, it still wrangles me that very few of our students in North Miami Beach go to the David K. Lawrence K-8, the brand new school, despite the fact that our children are closer to that school than some of the children that do go there. So, I want people to show up on Wednesday, I want people to contact their School Board. Not just the School Board member for our area, but for other areas, all nine of them, and let them know that North Miami Beach students deserve equal treatment. Part of the problem is that the newer cities like Aventura and Sunny Isles Beach have gotten the newer schools, but just because we are an older city we actually, I keep arguing we have been paying school taxes a lot longer than these new cities. Our students deserve new schools as much as those students. Our students deserve neighborhood schools as much as those students; and, so show up Wednesday wearing your red and let's figure out what we want to do starting with the ABC Boundary Committee for next year, so that our children in North Miami Beach get the best possible education.

Mayor Rosner thanked Councilwoman Spiegel and Susie Smith for all their hard work. He stated that he too has been working with the Manager and his team in lobbying the Superintendent and everybody at the school level.

Vice Mayor Smith stated that she sat today at a luncheon with all the principals from all the schools in Miami-Dade County and when they announced that she was from North Miami Beach, they all hushed. They are very aware of what is happening. I think this is an ongoing process that we should take on for every area, not just North Miami Beach. How they determine where the school boundaries are and who goes where are so askew.

Mayor Rosner announced that the City is going to have our first Wheelchair Tennis Tournament at the Judge Arthur Snyder Tennis Center on April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be professionals coming in from out of town; and, it will be an amazing feat to watch these guys play. Mayor Rosner thanked Leisure Services for helping to put the event together.

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals appeared before the City Council to express their opinions and concerns:

**Charles Loeb**, 16800 NE 15 AVE, #112, North Miami Beach, FL. spoke regarding Census 2010, standing up and being counted, Jackson Memorial Hospital, and commuter and high speed rail costs

**Roland Jerome**, 1861 NE 161 ST, North Miami Beach, FL. spoke regarding use of the Allen Park Field and a possible permit fee waiver.

After much discussion, Councilwoman Spiegel requested this be placed on the next agenda and, in the meantime, that the gentlemen and Ms. Murphy meet to discuss possible resolutions to this matter. Mayor Rosner stated that he would rather have the discussion at a Pre-Council meeting as staff needs to prepare a more thorough analysis so that we understand how many requests we have had because the issue comes back every so often.

**Joseph Paglino**, 1270 NE 162 ST, North Miami Beach, FL, spoke regarding enforcement of the noise ordinance.

**Richard Riess**, 23 NW 139 ST, North Miami Beach, FL, spoke regarding transparency, spending of taxpayer dollars, accountability, Council salaries and medical reimbursements, and Jackson Memorial Hospital.

**Mubarak Kazan**, 15564 NE 12 AVE, North Miami Beach, FL, spoke regarding waiving fees, Jackson Memorial Hospital, red light cameras, and park lights.

**Bruce Lamberto**, 3420 NE 16 ST, North Miami Beach, FL, spoke regarding candidate filing fees, staff salaries, and the salary workshop.

12. **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS** – *None*
13. **WAIVER OF FEE** – *None*
14. **BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS** – *None*
15. **LEGISLATION** – *None*
16. **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **VICE MAYOR SMITH**

**Condolences.** My condolences to the Smith family. As anybody that was at the services on Saturday heard me say that when I first ran for office and knocked on thousands of doors, people always asked me if I was related to Councilwoman Smith and I always said we were sisters. And I intend to continue sitting in this seat for both of us. I have asked the Manager and he came up with what I think is beyond anything, we will be planning a memorial to Councilwoman Smith. She was a big advocate of children reading and she gave a lot of time to the library and she asked that you either send donations to the Cancer Society or to the libraries for children. And there is a wing there that the young children they read to and it's a young, for very young children and we are going to name that room after Councilwoman Smith. There will be a dedication ceremony where we will invite her family and we will invite the public. And, the Manager will be putting that forth right now and it will be my honor to be there to hand that family that plaque.

**Holiday Wishes.** I would like to say that when it comes to the holidays, I want to wish everybody everywhere a wonderful holiday. I do not know if we should do that every council meeting or not; but, I wore green in honor of both my husband's grandparents. The mothers' names, one was Donahue and one was O'Donahue, so the only thing I can tell you is yes I wore green for tomorrow and I can tell you in my mail I had an invitation from Bangladesh, has a holiday. So, I wish everybody whatever holiday it may be, it should be only with good and happiness with your family.

**Meetings.** The Focus Group for tomorrow night that I always hold for the public and I invite you to come and spend an hour with me and speak to me whoever would like to and I will take your issues back to the Manager. I am going to cancel it because we will have the Economic Development Meeting at 5:30 P.M., any business we invite you all. We will have the Senior's Meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00 A.M.; but, I'm canceling the Focus Group tomorrow night because of St. Patrick's Day, and I have another commitment.

**Seniors Group.** The County has brought forth, and I can't thank Ms. Weisblum enough, our Assistant Manager, she is working very diligently to bring this off, we are going to have 25-30 local leaders come in for a round-table about abuse against the seniors. We are not just talking about mental abuse, or even physical abuse, we are also even talking about financial abuse where a lot of seniors, their children are in such financial straits that they are taking parents who have homes that are free and clear and their social security and so we have that coming forth. And then there will be a celebration of seniors with a nice luncheon and we will be getting together with our seniors in our community because it is going to be our seniors, 125-150 people who are seniors, who will come to that celebration.

**Leisure Services Department.** I would like publicly, every single time, to thank Paulette Murphy. Not only was there such hard work from her and her staff for the Community Festival; it was incredible, incredible, incredibly hard work and it is their day to have their picnic, which they sacrificed and gave up. I even spoke to the Manager the very next morning and said to him please take them to lunch, take them to breakfast, do something, or have it for them, and he said he had already planned that. So, good minds think alike. I want to thank her because she pulled off the entertainment, the two wonderful Miss Knight, Miss Matthews, who came from our local community, Washington Park, in a quick hurry for me we had extra time and I want to bring that local, wonderful talent we have to show the public what is out there.

**Pet Fair.** The Pet Fair with the County partnership will be delayed right now. As you know Sally Heyman is in the middle of this Jackson crisis and money and every penny is so; but, we will be planning that, it is not going away. And, we will be doing that as soon as we can get together funds and get together dates and what have you.

**Health Fair.** I've had people ask me about the Health Fair. We are going to make that in conjunction with Back-to-School. And, we are going to do that so we could have some volunteer perhaps dentists and eye doctors and not only the seniors with their Health Fair, but also with children and so that will be coming forthright, I guess at the beginning of September.

**Self-worth Programs.** I am planning, and we are just in the beginning of it, we are going to try and put together two Saturdays a month, some type of self-worth program for young children. I will be reaching out to professionals again, to psychologists, to people with weight management, a lot of issues, the police for security, and we are going to put that program together as well.

**Humane Society Dedication.** There is a dedication tomorrow at Soffer and Fine at 3:00 P.M. I never saw the invitation, but she did call me, we are going to cut the ribbon for the new pavilion that they are going to have. And that is our Humane Society at 16101 W Dixie HWY.

**Upcoming Meetings and Events.** There is so much tomorrow. At 9:00 A.M. come to the Seniors Council. At 10:00 A.M., I believe it is 10:00 A.M., go down to the School Board wear your red. And at 3:00 P.M., we'll be at Soffer and Fine, and then you could come back to the City at 5:30 P.M. for our Economic Development meeting.

It is funny, I took so much time because there is so much, but everybody says how we are not doing anything. If you only knew what we were doing and if you only knew what our staff is doing and what we are moving forward and planning and it is very exciting. And, North Miami Beach is the best city to live in.

## COUNCILWOMAN SPIEGEL

**School Board Meetings.** Tomorrow morning at the School Board at 1450 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> AVE at 10:00 A.M. is Committee Meetings; at 1:00 P.M. is the first voting on the Boundary Committees. So, if you are working and you can only take a limited amount of time, come at 1:00 P.M. or 1:30 P.M. Wear your red, let them know that we in North Miami Beach care about our children and where they go to school and how they draw their boundaries. I will be down there at 10:00 A.M. Anybody who thinks that sitting up here is not something, does not take time out of your schedules, half a day, 2 days last week, last night at a meeting, tonight at a meeting before I came here, all day tomorrow out of my office; it gets interesting explaining to clients and judges where I am at times. But this is very important. It is our children who are our future. Tomorrow morning, 1450 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> AVE, 1:00 P.M. is the major meeting, wear red.

**Police and Fire Pension Trustee Board.** Since the Mayor was nice enough to appoint me to the Police and Fire Pension Trustee Board and since economic issues are front and center, I have seen the preliminary evaluation report. What is the old Mae West line about, "It's going to get bumpy out there"? \$8.8 million is the initial projection for pension funding for Police and Fire. We have got problems here folks. I think \$4.6 million is the current pension and \$4.2 million is the shortfall and we do not have a choice. There is State legislation that says we have to get that pension up to 70% funded. So it is going to get bumpy out there.

**Civil Service Board.** To my members of the Civil Service Board, I found one more person. I have been going to people and asking them, when I am at City events, if there is anyone sitting in this room that is a North Miami Beach resident, not an employee, that would like to be on the Civil Service Board, please, please, please see me, see Dr. Baker, see Ms. Weisblum, see Ms. Hobson. We need one more member, please.

**Thank you.** Thank you to the City Clerk's Office, to the Manager's Office. We resolved a problem and I cannot tell you that if you can find one of your Council Members sitting up here and just whisper in our ear, we will try and help you. There was a problem that came up and an e-mail to the City Clerk got everything started; and, hopefully from now on, we are going to have better communication between the off-duty police and the Clerk's office too, so that we learned a lesson and we have got a process going. Thank you Ms. City Clerk for your prompt attention to that.

**Holiday Wishes.** I join my fellow Councilwoman in wishing you a very happy holiday, whatever it may be that you celebrate.

## COUNCILMAN JULIEN

**Commission on Status of Women.** On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Commission on Status of Women will have a Safety Awareness Program in conjunction with the Police Department, where we are teaching women how to be safe out there and how to protect themselves in these tough times. And that is going to be held right here at the McDonald Center between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. I invite all of the ladies in the community, regardless of how young, or how young you are, we would like for you to come here.

**Condolences.** It really is, with a heavy heart, just to piggyback on what was said earlier, that I say goodbye to a very special lady, by the name of Jackie Smith. We all called her Jackie Smith, but her name is Jacqueline H. Smith. She passed away and obviously she is no longer suffering, she is

no longer in pain and her wish has finally come true. And, she lost Willy right before Thanksgiving and now she is home with Willy. I wish that her soul may rest in peace. I recall after I got elected and I got appointed to the Commission on Status of Women that my wife and I, we sat in Councilwoman Smith's home and we had some very serious conversations over the stretch of several months because I just did not know what to do with the Commission on Status of Women. I went to her and I said you got to help me out; what do I do? Her tutelage and her friendship and mentoring meant a whole lot to me. We were able to resuscitate the Commission on Status of Women and it has become something that is very near and dear to me. I had made her a promise that you made me break, but it is okay. Mr. Mayor, I still love you. And it is because I love you that I broke that promise. I had promised her that all of the programs that she started on behalf of the women, the youth, and the elderly, that I would continue them. Unfortunately, I broke one of those promises, but it's okay. I think she understands and it's all good.

**Commercial Trash Bins.** I would like to say Mr. Manager, just on a side note, I have been speaking with some of our employees, whose names will not be mentioned; but, it seems to me that there is probably just a little something that is askew. When you have two individuals that are working the commercial truck trash route, you have one driver and one individual that goes out to move the large trash bins. And, a lot of these guys are just getting hurt, Doctor. They are just getting hurt because some of the wheels on these trash bins are broken and when you have one person getting out of a truck trying to move a large container filled with commercial trash it is rather cumbersome. I am not going to tell you what to do because I can't, or I won't rather; but, I think you are able to figure out a way so that we can help these individuals not throw their backs out trying to move these large bins.

**City Audit.** I have had an opportunity to sit down with the auditors that are being maligned and I have to tell you, I knew what was going on, or at least I thought I knew what was going on before, and after sitting down with the new auditors and I hope that each of my colleagues have had an opportunity to sit down and meet with the new auditors and talk to them. I think that when they give their report to this Council and to this community, you are finally going to understand what I understood for quite a while, which is there was a total total lack of internal controls within the City of North Miami Beach. It is not perfect right now, but it is getting better. And it is just amazing what a difference almost two years can make. Again, Dr. Baker, words just cannot describe what you have done with the City of North Miami Beach and the great talent that you have brought here. Again, it is not perfect, but we are getting there.

**Goodbye.** I really am going to miss serving the residents of North Miami Beach; but, with everything in life there comes a point and time where you just have to say goodbye. And, I had made myself a personal promise and obviously I feel loved because I am being attacked again and that is good. I kind of miss the personal attacks, and that is a good sign. So, I really am going to miss the individuals; and, if it is God's will, I shall continue to serve the people of North Miami Beach in whatever capacity that God wants.

## **COUNCILMAN DEROSE**

**Condolences.** I myself want to seize this moment to express my sympathy to the family of former Councilwoman Jacqueline Smith. I had the privilege of working with her for two years. I must say that she was a very nice person, someone with a good heart, and very compassionate. Certainly her death is not only a loss for the family, but also for friends and people who used to work with her. I

hope that her soul will rest in peace in the hands of God.

*Friends of Israel Defense Force.* I had the privilege of attending one of the functions organized by the Friends of Israel Defense Force. This event was organized as an effort to honor some of the doctors, military officers, who are participating in the rescue mission in the last earthquake in the Republic of Haiti. As a result, they saved so many lives and delivered so many unborn babies. On behalf of the Haitian community, I am very, very, very proud to say thanks to the Republic of Israel for their overwhelming support. Their support is not only appreciated by the Republic of Haiti, but all the people around the world. God Bless the Republic of Israel.

#### **COUNCILWOMAN KRAMER**

*Condolences.* I too would like to express my deepest condolences to the Smith Family. I was the only Councilperson that did not attend her funeral, as I was out of town, but my sympathies go out to the family while they are grieving a very great woman.

*Multi-Cultural Committee.* I love what you are doing Councilman Julien. I think what you are doing with the Multi-Cultural Committee is amazing. It is so exciting. It is something this City has needed for a very long time, to wrap our arms around all of our diversity, different religions and different cultures. I really think that this Committee and seeing how many members there are and people that are involved, I think this is going to make a huge difference in our City. And, it has been something that I have always talked about; we need to wrap our arms around the fact that we have all of this diversity here. We get along, we want to know about each other's culture and I think this is something that will put us on the map as the poster child for how a diverse city can get along so well.

*Happy Birthday.* I would like to say that, in two hours I am going to be a very different woman, or I should say mother; because, I am going to have two teenagers in my house. My son, Jordan is turning thirteen tomorrow on St. Patrick's Day and I want to wish him a very happy and healthy birthday.

#### **COUNCILMAN PIERRE**

*Community Festival.* First and foremost, I want to thank the community for coming out last Sunday on our Third Annual Community Festival. As far as I am concerned it was a success. It was a family event and I want to take this opportunity to address my special thank you to the City Staff, to Paulette, and Parks and Recreation, and all of you who got involved in the event. Year after year it is getting better and I can see that becoming even better. As we say, we are one big community. So, together as one we make a difference.

*Multi-Cultural Committee.* I want to thank Dr. Pinder for his presentation. I think it was well thought out, everybody was involved, and I think this is the way we want to lead our City, where everyone is involved and everybody has a say, because we are one City after all.

*Census.* Today, just seconds before coming to City Hall, I looked into my mailbox and found my Census 2010 envelope and I could not wait to see it. I promised myself I am going to fill it out tonight and tomorrow it will be in the mail. Let me tell you, when I look inside, there is an envelope where you have to return it. You do not need a stamp; it is already paid for by the government. All you have to do is fill it out, put it back in this envelope and ship it back. It does not matter if you are

an illegal immigrant, if you have a green card, if you are here illegally. As long as you are here, we need to know who you are, where you are, and how old you are. As you heard in the presentation earlier tonight, a lot of decisions will be made on what you put on the form. We cannot wait another ten years to make it happen. We missed the boat ten years ago and we are determined to make it happen simply because we know we have the numbers, we just have to go out and prove it.

*Women's Appreciation Month.* Finally, as I said last time, I was told that March is Women's Appreciation Month. As far as I am concerned, that should be every month. But, since we take a special month to recognize them for what they are, I always say woman is the center of life. Without woman there is no life. So, to all of you, "I love you."

*Holiday Wishes.* Happy St. Patrick's Day to my Irish friends. I'll be wearing green tomorrow, except when I go to the School Board, I will be wearing red.

### **MAYOR ROSNER**

*Women's Appreciation Month.* If March is Women's Appreciation Month, Happy March. At this time then I would like to thank my wife who is an amazing woman, takes care of our family and I appreciate her; and, like every other household, probably does not thank them enough for really doing what they do. Happy Holidays to everybody.

17. **NEXT REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** – Mayor Rosner announced that the next Regular City Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 6, 2010.
18. **ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the City Council of the City of North Miami Beach, the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of North Miami Beach was adjourned at 10:06 P.M. on a motion by Councilman Julien and seconded by Councilman Pierre. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (**Motion carried 7-0**)

### **CERTIFICATION**

I, SUSAN A. OWENS, CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES, PAGES ONE (1) THROUGH PAGE TWELVE (12) INCLUSIVE, TO BE THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS AS TAPE RECORDED AT THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, HELD ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2010.

  
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SUSAN A. OWENS, CMC  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH

(S E A L)