



*Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.*

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

**December 3, 2015**



*Welcome*



Richard Kuper, Esq.  
Executive Director

OFFICERS

President  
Hon. Jon Burgess  
Councilman, Homestead  
First Vice President  
Hon. Francis Suarez  
Commissioner, Miami  
Second Vice President  
Hon. Oliver Gilbert III  
Mayor, Miami Gardens  
Third Vice President  
Hon. Jordan W. Leonard  
Mayor, Bay Harbor Islands  
Secretary  
Hon. George Vallejo  
Mayor, North Miami Beach  
Treasurer  
Hon. Claudia Cubillos  
Mayor, El Portal

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hon. Howard Weinberg  
Commissioner, Aventura  
Hon. Seth E. Salver  
Councilman, Bal Harbour  
Hon. Robert Yaffe  
Councilman, Bay Harbor Islands  
Hon. David Coviello  
Mayor, Biscayne Park  
Hon. Jim Cason  
Mayor, Coral Gables  
Hon. Peggy R. Bell  
Mayor, Cutler Bay  
Hon. Luigi Boria  
Mayor, Doral  
Hon. Harold Mathis  
Councilman, El Portal  
Hon. R. S. Shiver  
Vice Mayor, Florida City  
Hon. Judy Lusskin  
Councilwoman, Golden Beach  
Hon. Yisot De La Cruz  
Mayor, Hialeah Gardens  
Hon. Jeff Porter  
Mayor, Homestead  
Hon. Bernard Klepach  
Mayor, Indian Creek  
Hon. Mayra Peña Lindsay  
Mayor, Key Biscayne  
Hon. Roberto Martelli  
Mayor, Medley  
Hon. Wilfredo "Willy" Gort  
Commissioner, Miami  
Hon. Esteban Bovo, Jr.  
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County  
Board Member  
Miami-Dade County School Board  
Hon. Michael Grieco  
Commissioner, Miami Beach  
Hon. Felicia Robinson  
Vice Mayor, Miami Gardens  
Hon. Tim Daubert  
Councilman, Miami Lakes  
Hon. Herta Holly  
Councilwoman, Miami Shores  
Hon. Xavier Garcia  
Mayor, Miami Springs  
Hon. Connie Leon-Kreps  
Mayor, North Bay Village  
T B A  
North Miami  
Hon. Marlen Martelli  
Councilwoman, North Miami Beach  
Hon. Joseph L. Kelley  
Commissioner, Opa-Locka  
Hon. Eugene Flinn  
Mayor, Palmetto Bay  
Hon. James E. McDonald  
Vice Mayor, Pinecrest  
Hon. Walter Harns  
Vice Mayor, South Miami  
Hon. Isaac Aelion  
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach  
Hon. Barry Cohen  
Commissioner, Surfside  
Hon. Jose M. Diaz  
Commissioner, Sweetwater  
Hon. Richard Block  
Councilman, Virginia Gardens  
Hon. Eduardo Muniz  
Mayor, West Miami

Immediate Past President

Hon. Cindy Lemo  
Mayor, Pinecrest

Past President

Hon. Luis Gonzalez  
Council Vice-President, City of Hialeah  
Hon. Isaac Salve  
Councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands  
Hon. R. S. Shiver  
Commissioner, City of Florida City  
Hon. Wilfredo "Willy" Gort  
Commissioner, City of Miami

# Board of Director's Meeting

December 3, 2015

Hialeah Park  
2200 East 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hialeah, FL 33010

6:00 p.m. Reception - 7:00 p.m. Dinner Meeting



## WELCOMING REMARKS:

*President Jon Burgess,  
Councilman, City of Homestead*

### 1. INVOCATION:

*Councilwoman Vivian Casals-Munoz,  
City of Hialeah  
Director of Events, Hialeah Park*

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

*Mr. John Brunetti, Jr.  
President, Hialeah Park*

### 3. MINUTES: November 5, 2015

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Monthly Disbursement



5. MDCLC BY-LAWS AMENDMENT:

*Second Vice President **Oliver Gilbert, III**  
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

6. MDCLC BUDGET AMENDMENT:

***Richard Kuper, Esq.***

7. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION

8. PRESIDENT'S RECOGNITIONS:

**Presentation by: *President **Jon Burgess,**  
Councilman, City of Homestead***

- ❖ President's Distinguished Board Member Award

*Mayor **Luigi Boria,**  
City of Doral*

- ❖ President's Leadership Award

*The Honorable **Steven Leifman,**  
Associate Administrative Judge,  
11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit*

- ❖ President's Associate Member Award

*Mr. **Carlos A. Penin,**  
C.A.P. Government, Inc.*

- ❖ President's Community Service Award

*Commissioner **Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.,**  
Miami-Dade County*

- ❖ President's Community Service Award

*Mayor **Jeff Porter,**  
City of Homestead*

❖ President's Municipal Service Award

*Ms. Sonja K. Dickens, Esq.,  
City Attorney, City of Miami Gardens  
Chair, MDCLC-City Attorney's Advisory Committee*

❖ President's City Attendance Awards

- Village of Biscayne Park
- Village of El Portal
- City of Homestead
- Town of Medley
- Town of Miami Lakes
- North Bay Village
- City of North Miami Beach
- City of Opa-Locka
- Village of Virginia Gardens

9. MDCLC 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE SPONSORSHIP RECOGNITIONS:

- *Ms. Michelle Azel Belaire,  
Director of International Corporate Affairs, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*
- *Mr. Lance Aylsworth,  
Vice President, Relationship Manager, Government & Institutional Banking,  
Wells Fargo*

10. MDCLC 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE RECOGNITIONS:

- *Mayor Yiozet de la Cruz,  
City of Hialeah Gardens*
  - *Mr. Manuel Carrera,  
City of Hialeah Gardens*
- *Commissioner Michael Grieco, Esq.  
City of Miami Beach*
- *Manager Jimmy Morales, Esq.  
City of Miami Beach*

- *Ms. Maria Luisa Gonzalez Silva,  
Director, Government and Community Relations,  
Baptist Health South Florida*

#### 11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

*Richard Kuper, Esq.*

#### 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **No Meeting in January: *Happy Holidays!***
- **SAVE THE DATE: 62<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Installation Gala***  
*Saturday, February 20, 2016*  
Location: Jungle Island

#### 13. ADJOURNMENT









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Councilman, Homestead  
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Commissioner, Miami  
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Hon. Wilfredo "Willy" Gort  
Commissioner, Miami  
Hon. Esteban Bovo, Jr.  
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County  
Hon. Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway  
Board Member  
Miami-Dade County School Board  
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Hon. Xavier Garcia  
Mayor, Miami Springs  
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North Miami  
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Hon. Joseph L. Kelley  
Commissioner, Opa-Locka  
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Hon. Walter Harris  
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Hon. Isaac Aelion  
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach  
Hon. Barry Cohen  
Commissioner, Surfside  
Hon. Jose M. Diaz  
Commissioner, Sweetwater  
Hon. Richard Block  
Councilman, Virginia Gardens  
Hon. Eduardo Muñiz  
Mayor, West Miami

### *Miami-Dade County League of Cities*

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Miami, Florida 33131

E-mail: [mdclc@bellsouth.net](mailto:mdclc@bellsouth.net)

Telephone: 305-416-4155

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### Minutes

November 5, 2015

Grand Bay Club

President, **Jon Burgess**, Councilman, City of Homestead, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., welcomed the guests to the Grand Bay Club. Mayor **Mayra Peña Lindsay**, Village of Key Biscayne gave the invocation. Manager **John C. Gilbert**, Village of Key Biscayne, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **municipalities represented** at the Board Meeting: Aventura, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Biscayne Park, El Portal, Homestead, Key Biscayne, Miami, Miami Gardens, Miami Lakes, Miami Shores, Opa-Locka, Palmetto Bay, Sunny Isles Beach. **Associate Members** and guests: American Medical Response, David Sanford, American Traffic Solutions, Orlando Torres, Sandy Mickey, Berger Singerman, Javier Vazquez, C.A.P. Government, Inc., Carlos Penin, Raul Rodriguez, Jose Miranda, Monica De Castro, Maria Alvarez, Gedel Merzius, CAC Florida Medical Centers, Rey Lopez, Chen Moore and Associates, Dr. Ben Chen, CH2M Hill, Mike Shehadeh, FPL, Aletha Player, Armando Rodriguez, Charles Knight, Fulcro Insurance, Rene Alvarez, Jackson Health System, Ryan Hawkins, Miami-Dade College, Nairobi Adams, Melissa Reddington, Skanska, Jose Cortes.

President **Burgess** asked for a motion to approve the minutes and the consent agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

President **Burgess** introduced Vice Mayor **Frank Caplan**, Village of Key Biscayne for the Host Village Presentation. Vice Mayor Caplan thanked everyone for coming to the Village of Key Biscayne. He then went on to tell everyone of the improvements and changes that have been made in the Village, such as new bike lanes, and schools. He then spoke on the history of the Village of Key Biscayne and mentioned that next year they would



be celebrating 25 successful years of being a Village. President Burgess thanked the Mayor and his colleagues on the commission for sponsoring the League board meeting.

President **Burgess** introduced Mr. **Jack Kardys**, Director of MDC- Parks, to make a presentation about Regional support for Sun Trail funding. Mr. Kardys mentioned that the Florida Department of Transportation has put together a program known as the Sun Trail Network. The Sun Trail Network is a 25 million dollar Annual fund that can be used to put together a trail system on a regional level; it is not used for smaller projects. South Florida has had a 17-year dry spell, in which no funds from the Sun Trail have been used. Placed in the agenda is a sample resolution that Mr. Kardys asked municipalities to consider adopting so that it can be acknowledged that Miami-Dade County has a trail system and that our municipalities support it. He then thanked everyone for their time and consideration.

President **Burgess** then introduced and congratulated the new MDCLC representative for his appointment to the Commission on Ethics, Mr. **H. Jeffrey Cutler**. Mr. Cutler thanked everyone for the warm welcome and went on to mention that he is honored and takes his appointment to the Commission on Ethics very seriously. He looks forward to representing the League and seeing everybody at future meetings and events.

President **Burgess** then went on to speak about the MDCLC scholarship awards, three Miami Dade College students were presented with the MDCLC scholarship award. The students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher and will intern in three municipalities. The objective of the scholarship program with Miami Dade College is to provide the students with local government experience. President **Burgess** then introduced the three scholarship recipients, **Berline Laurent, Alejandro Dominguez, and Andreas Colmenares**. Each student expressed their gratitude and appreciation and thanked the League for the opportunity given to them.

President **Burgess** then introduced First Vice President **Francis Suarez**, Commissioner, City of Miami for the Legislative session report. Commissioner Suarez informed that the Legislative session has been moved up due to presidential elections and that it is important to start the planning process early. He has been meeting with legislators on a variety of different topics to make sure that when the agenda is finalized that we can be successful in Tallahassee. One of the leading issues, county wide, is mass transit and transportation. It is essential to make sure that the lobbying efforts are comprehensive at the federal, state, county, and MDX level. He guaranteed to keep the board and members informed when there is a specific piece of legislation.

President **Burgess** then called City attorney **Sonja Dickens**, City of Miami Gardens to the podium to discuss the City of Miami Beach, Amicus Brief concerning handbills. Some retailers recently sued the City of Miami Beach. Miami Beach had adopted an ordinance related to handbills and when you can pass them out and where. Recently a district court judge ruled against the city and issued an injunction against the city saying that you cannot stop or put a hold on the aggressive distributing of handbills. This is important to the League because it applies to a number of municipalities that have expressed a concern with pedestrians, customers, and residents to be accosted. Therefore, the Attorney Advisory's committee thought it was important to do an Amicus Brief. She asked that everybody support the committee and the City of Miami Beach by filing an Amicus Brief in support of when and where the handbills may be passed out. She then made herself available during the evening to answer questions.



President **Burgess** asked for a motion to approve the Amicus Brief. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

President **Burgess** then introduced Ms. **Marci Cancio-Bello**, Miami Book Fair's and Children's Trust, for the Read to Learn for free presentation. Ms. Cancio-Bello gave a brief description of what Read to Learn for free is. Read to Learn Books for Free is a program of The Children's Trust in partnership with The Center for writing and literature at Miami Dade College. It encourages children and parents to read together by placing bookshelves full of free books in locations throughout Miami-Dade County where they visit together often, including clinics and doctors' offices, the Juvenile Justice Center, and Community Service Centers—40 locations in the first year, and they are hoping to grow. They have created vibrant signage inviting the children to take a book and keep it. And they are committed to restocking the bookshelves regularly, keeping them tidy and full of wonderful books. She thanked everyone and asked for everybody's support.

President **Burgess** then asked Dr. **Wilbert "Tee" Holloway** to come to the podium for the Educational minute. Dr. Holloway thanked everyone for being at the meeting and for giving him the time to update everyone on what is currently going on with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Student achievement is a first priority as a board; they are working hard to make sure that Miami-Dade County students are the best. Results were just reported by the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The assessment scores for Miami-Dade County as reported in Washington D.C. were "muscular". Miami-Dade County lead the nation in fourth and eighth grade math results, fourth grade reading results and tied the nation in eighth grade reading results. Students in the fourth and eighth grade from across Miami-Dade were randomly selected for this test. Dr. Holloway then congratulated Mr. Alberto Carvalho for being appointed to the National Assessment of Educational Progress Board of Director for the next three years. President Burgess then thanked Dr. Holloway for the update and congratulated the School Board on all the hard work that they do to make student's futures brighter.

President **Burgess** introduced Executive Director, **Richard Kuper** for the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Kuper thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He then introduced the **Former League Presidents** present: Michael Blynn, Former Councilman, Isaac Salver, Councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands, Eduardo "Eddy" Gonzalez, Former State Representative. **Executive Board Members** present: President Jon Burgess, Councilman, City of Homestead, First Vice President Francis Suarez, Commissioner, City of Miami, Third Vice President Jordan W. Leonard, Mayor, Town of Bay Harbor Islands, Treasurer Claudia Cubillos, Mayor, Village of El Portal. **Board Members** present: Commissioner Howard Weinberg, Aventura, Councilman Seth Salver, Bal Harbour, Councilman Robert Yaffe, Bay Harbor Islands, Mayor David Coviello, Biscayne Park, Mayor Mayra Peña Lindsay, Key Biscayne, Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, MDC- Public Schools, Vice Mayor Felicia Robinson, Miami Gardens, Councilman Tim Daubert, Miami Lakes, Councilwoman Herta Holly, Miami Shores, Commissioner Joseph Kelley, Opa-Locka, Mayor Eugene Flinn, Palmetto Bay, Commissioner Isaac Aelion, Sunny Isles Beach. **City Clerk** present: Marilane Lima, Indian Creek. **City Attorney** present: Dan Espino, Doral, Gil Pastoriza, Doral, Victoria Mendez, Miami. **City Managers** present: Sonja Dickens, Miami Gardens. **City Manager** present: John C. Gilbert, Key Biscayne. **Judges** present: Robert J. Luck, Circuit Court, Nushin Sayfie, Circuit Court. **Re-Elected** present: Councilman Jon Burgess, Homestead. **New Associate Members** present: American Medical Response, David Sanford. **Associate Members** present: American Traffic Solutions, Orlando Torres, Sandy Mickey, Berger Singerman, Javier

Vazquez, C.A.P. Government, Inc., Carlos Penin, Raul Rodriguez, Jose Miranda, Monica De Castro, Maria Alvarez, Gedel Merzius, CAC Florida Medical Centers, Rey Lopez, Chen Moore and Associates, Dr. Ben Chen, CH2M Hill, Mike Shehadeh, FPL, Aletha Player, Armando Rodriguez, Charles Knight, Fulcro Insurance, Rene Alvarez, Jackson Health System, Ryan Hawkins, Miami-Dade College, Nairobi Adams, Melissa Reddington, Skanska, Jose Cortes.

Executive Director, **Mr. Richard Kuper** thanked everyone for attending this evening's board meeting and thanked the Village of Key Biscayne for their sponsorship and inviting the League to the beautiful Village. He then went on to mention how important it is to support the League and the League support it's municipalities, drafting an Amicus Brief in support of the City of Miami Beach's legal response to the court is one example. He then thanked everyone for their support and teamwork.

Mr. **Kuper** went on to announce all of the upcoming events, Ninth Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive on Friday, November 13, 2015, FLC Annual Legislative Conference in Orlando, November 19-20, 2015, Board of Director's meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2015, Ninth Annual Toy Drive, December 2015, and the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gala on February 20, 2016 at Jungle Island.

He then thanked everyone again for attending this month's November Board of Director's meeting and is looking forward to seeing everyone at the next Board meeting.

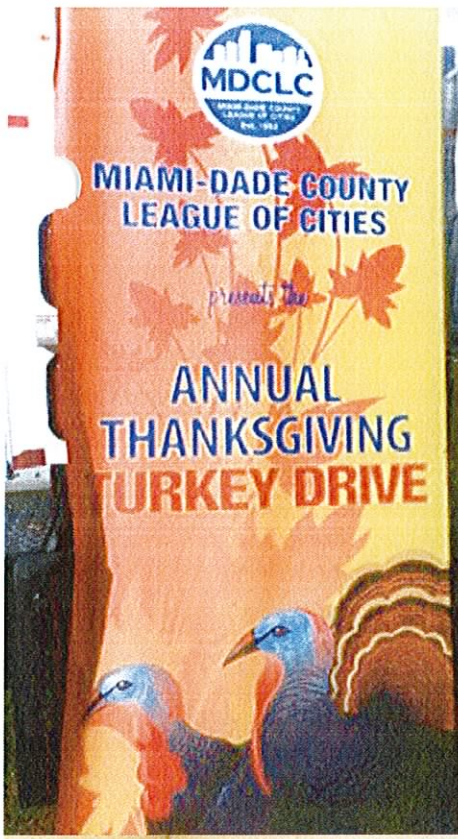
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

***Summarized minutes***















*Please Save the Date*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016

MDCLC PRESENTS THE

*62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gala*

HONORING

INCOMING PRESIDENT, COMMISSIONER

*Francis X. Suarez*  
&  
*The Board of Directors*

JUNGLE ISLAND

1111 PARROT JUNGLE TRAIL, MIAMI, FL 33132

