



City of Doral Special Needs Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Doral Police Training & Community Center
Community Room
3719 N.W. 97th Avenue
Doral, FL 33178

1. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **Roll Call of Board Members**

Vinita Tandon, Chair	Present
Vanessa B. Fernandez, Vice Chair	Present
Sergio Leao, Secretary	Present
Elizabeth Dager, Board Member	Present
Matthew Shiebler, Board Member	Present

Also present were:

Erin Weislow, Parks and Recreation Department

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Public Comments**

- a. Mr. Andres Piedrahita and Ms. Yenifer Cruz introduced themselves to the board. They have been Doral residents for ten years now and they're attending the board meeting because they want to know more on what the City does for kids with special needs.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **Motion to approve the September 5th meeting minutes** were made by the board. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

6. **Discussion Items**

a. **Presentation: Divine Savior Academy – Special Needs Program**

Mr. John Althoff from Divine Savior updated the board on the progress of the new school. He informed the board that the new school is almost complete; the developers have told him that the final step is to work on landscaping. Mr. Althoff has already been

meeting with different families and potential students. Their goal is to start with twelve students that have similar needs, so they can serve them the best way they can. He believes that they have identified the group that they'll be working with for occupational and speech therapy.

b. Discussion: Give a Store Non-Profit

Sergio informed the board that he was approached by someone who was looking to start their business on dog grooming and their employees would be people with special needs. Sergio said that it gave him an idea to possibly bring a business like that here to Doral. He stated to the board that they should start thinking about occupation/professionalization after education for special needs students. The best direction would be to bring in someone to present on this specific topic, so that they can answer any question that the board has.

c. Discussion: Planning Initiatives for 2020

Sergio briefly discussed a possible initiative that the board can work with, but more will be discussed at the next meeting.

Vinita discussed that she wants the board to come up with ideas to put together, so that for every meeting that they have, there is an item on the agenda that the board wants to collectively discuss.

d. Open Discussion

7. **Future Meeting Date:** Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

8. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourns at 7:09 p.m.

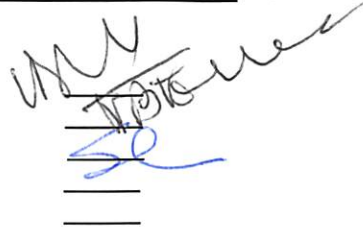
Respectfully submitted,



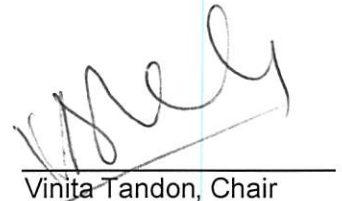
Juanita Cruz, Office of the City Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 14th, 2019 Special Needs Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member _____ and seconded by Board Member _____.

Chair Vinita Tandon
Vice Chair Vanessa B. Fernandez
Secretary Sergio Leao
Board Member Elizabeth Dager
Board Member Matthew Schiebler



APPROVED and ADOPTED this 16th day of January 2020.



Vinita Tandon, Chair