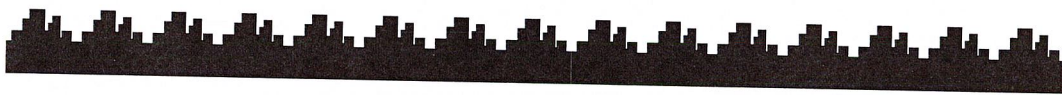




*Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.*

## **Board of Director's Meeting**

**April 4, 2024**



***Welcome***



Richard Kuper, Esq.  
Executive Director

OFFICERS

President  
Hon. Rodney Harris  
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens  
First Vice President  
Hon. Karyn Cunningham  
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay  
Second Vice President  
Hon. Omarr C. Nickerson, Ph. D  
Mayor, Village of El Portal  
Secretary  
Hon. Fortuna Smukler  
Commissioner,  
City of North Miami Beach  
Treasurer  
Hon. Joseph Corradino  
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hon. Rachel S. Friedland  
Commissioner Aventura  
Hon. Seth E. Salver  
Vice Mayor, Bal Harbour Village  
Hon. Robert Yaffe  
Councilman, Bay Harbor Islands  
Hon. Jonathan Groth  
Mayor, Biscayne Park  
Hon. Kirk Menendez  
Commissioner, Coral Gables  
Hon. Tim Meerbott  
Mayor, Cutler Bay  
Hon. Christi Fraga  
Mayor, Doral  
Hon. Luis Pirela  
Vice Mayor, El Portal  
Hon. Walter Thompson  
Commissioner, Florida City  
Hon. Kenneth Bernstein  
Vice Mayor, Golden Beach  
Hon. Bryan Calvo  
Councilman, Hialeah  
Hon. Yoset De La Cruz  
Mayor, Hialeah Gardens  
Hon. Steve Losner  
Mayor, Homestead  
Hon. Bernard Klepach  
Mayor, Indian Creek  
Hon. Jose I. Rasco  
Mayor, Key Biscayne  
Hon. Edgar Ayala  
Vice Mayor, Medley  
T.B.A  
Miami  
Hon. Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
Chairman, Miami-Dade County  
Hon. Maria Teresa Rojas  
Chair,  
Miami-Dade County School Board  
Hon. Alex Fernandez  
Commissioner, Miami Beach  
Hon. Robert Stephens  
Councilman, Miami Gardens  
Hon. Ray Garcia  
Councilman, Miami Lakes  
Hon. George Burch  
Mayor, Miami Shores  
Hon. Victor Vazquez  
Councilman, Miami Springs  
Hon. Rachel Streitfeld  
Commissioner, North Bay Village  
Hon. Cassandra Timothe  
Councilwoman, North Miami  
Hon. Jay Chernoff  
Commissioner, North Miami Beach  
Hon. John H. Taylor, Jr.  
Mayor, Opa-Locka  
Hon. Leanne Tellam  
Vice Mayor, Palmetto Bay  
T.B.A  
Pinecrest  
Hon. Javier Fernandez  
Mayor, South Miami  
Hon. Jerry Joseph  
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach  
T.B.A  
Surfside  
Hon. Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Mayor, Sweetwater  
Hon. Richard Block  
Councilman, Virginia Gardens  
Hon. Eric Diaz-Padron  
Mayor, West Miami

Immediate Past President

Hon. Juan Carlos Bermudez  
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County

Past Presidents

Hon. Joseph Corradino  
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest  
Hon. Keon Hardemon  
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County  
Hon. Oliver Gilbert, III  
Chairman, Miami-Dade County  
Hon. Francis X. Suarez  
Mayor, Miami  
Hon. Isaac Salver  
Councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands  
Hon. Jay Chernoff  
Commissioner, City of North Miami Beach

## Board of Director's Meeting

**April 4, 2024**  
**Hialeah Park**  
**2200 E 4th Ave.**  
**Hialeah, FL 33013**

**6:30 p.m. Reception - 7:30 p.m. Meeting**



### WELCOMING REMARKS

*President Rodney Harris,  
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

**1. INVOCATION:**

*Past President Isaac Salver,  
Councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands*

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

*Board Member Richard Block,  
Councilman, Village of Virginia Gardens*

**3. MINUTES: March 7, 2024**

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Monthly Disbursement

#### 5. FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES PRESENTATION:

*Mr. David Cruz,  
Deputy General Counsel  
Florida League of Cities*

- *Home Rule Hero Awards:*
  - ◆ Manager Jorge Gonzalez, Bal Harbour Village
  - ◆ Vice Mayor Joshua Fuller, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
  - ◆ Council Member Isaac Salver, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
  - ◆ Council Member Robert Yaffe, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
  - ◆ Mayor Rodney Harris, City of Miami Gardens
  - ◆ Vice Mayor Fortuna Smukler, City of North Miami Beach
  - ◆ Commissioner Jeniffer Viscarra, City of Sunny Isles Beach

#### 6. EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATIONS:

- *President Karyn Cunningham,  
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay*
- *First Vice President Omar C. Nickerson, Ph.D.,  
Mayor, Village of El Portal*
- *Second Vice President Fortuna Smukler  
Vice Mayor, City of North Miami Beach*
- *Secretary Joseph M. Corradino  
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest*
- *Treasurer Walter P. Thompson,  
Commissioner, City of Florida City*
- *Immediate Past President Rodney Harris,  
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

*Richard Kuper, Esq.*

**8. IMPERVIOUS ORDINANCE PRESENTATION:**

*Mr. Rafael Casals,  
Manager, Town of Cutler Bay*

**9. ASSOCIATE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

*Ms. Vivian Casals-Muñoz,  
Director of Community Relations,  
Hialeah Park*

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **MDCLC 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala:** *Saturday, June 8, 2024*  
Time: 7:00 p.m. Reception / 8:00 p.m. Celebration  
Location: Loew's Hotel – Coral Gables  
*Sponsorship Opportunities attached*
- **MDCLC Board of Director's Meeting:** *Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024*  
Time: 6:30 p.m. Reception / 7:30 p.m. Dinner meeting  
Location: T.B.A

**11. ADJOURNMENT**





#### OFFICERS

President  
Hon. Rodney Harris  
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens  
First Vice President  
Hon. Karyn Cunningham  
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay  
Second Vice President  
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T.B.A

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Commissioner, Coral Gables  
Hon. Tim Meerbott  
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Hon. Victor Vazquez  
Councilman, Miami Springs  
Hon. Rachel Streitfeld  
Commissioner, North Bay Village  
Hon. Cassandra Timothe  
Councilwoman, North Miami  
Hon. Jay Chernoff  
Acting Mayor, North Miami Beach  
Hon. John H. Taylor, Jr.  
Mayor, Opa-Locka  
Hon. Leanne Tellam  
Vice Mayor, Palmetto Bay  
Hon. Joseph Corradino  
Mayor, Pinecrest  
Hon. Javier Fernandez  
Mayor, South Miami  
Hon. Jerry Joseph  
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach  
Hon. Shlomo Danzinger  
Mayor, Surfside  
Hon. Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Mayor, Sweetwater  
Hon. Richard Block  
Councilman, Virginia Gardens  
Hon. Eric Diaz-Padron  
Mayor, West Miami

### Miami-Dade County League of Cities

2655 S Le Jeune Rd, Suite 1014

Coral Gables, Florida 33134

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

Telephone: 305-416-4155

Fax: 305-416-4157

Summarized Minutes

March 7, 2024

94 Aero Squadron

**President Rodney Harris** began the meeting by thanking everyone for their consistent hard work and dedication towards their municipalities and their residents. He called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

**President Harris** led us in the invocation and **Mayor Spencer Deno**, Village of Virginia Gardens led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**President Harris** asked **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Karyn Cunningham** to chair the meeting. **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Karyn Cunningham** asked for a motion to approve the minutes and consent the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Cunningham** extended a warm welcome to **Robert Meyers** for a discussion on an imminent issue that has been sent for consideration to the Ethics Commission and will be heard on March 31st. This issue, closely monitored by **Mr. Meyers** himself and several City Attorneys within our League, pertains to an elected official seeking to expedite permits through a permit expediting business they own. Recognizing the importance of transparency, the Ethics Commission sought to outline their planned hearing process, anticipating the participation of elected officials interested in engaging with and deliberating on this matter. Acknowledging potential conflicts of interest arising from overlapping roles, **Mr. Meyers** advised attendees to reach out to him for further details regarding the forthcoming meeting.

Additionally, **Mr. Kuper** informed attendees of the League's proactive stance on this issue, which includes providing relevant information to its members, engaging with Jose Arrojo, Executive Director of the Ethics Commission, as well as meeting with City Attorneys for collaborative discussions.

2,400 available spots. She also highlighted the accomplishments of the Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science, which is the sole subtropical school of its kind in the United States. The school has evolved into one of the world's leading earth science research institutions, contributing to life-saving advancements in extreme weather forecasting and sustainable wild fisheries and aquatic culture programs, among others. Additionally, Ms. Verdeja mentioned the vibrant event scene on the Gables campus, with over 500 events hosted annually, as evidenced by the flyers distributed to attendees. Once again, she thanked the League for giving her the opportunity to highlight the University.

**Mr. Kuper**, the Executive Director of MDCLC, reiterated the procedure for presenting matters at the League's Board of Directors Meetings. While all are encouraged to bring forth issues or topics for discussion, they are required to contact **Mr. Kuper** beforehand so that he may review the information and then present it to the Executive Board.

Following that, **Mr. Kuper** informed the attendees about the forthcoming 70th Annual Gala of the League, during which **Mayor Cunningham**, Village of Palmetto Bay will be sworn in as the League's President for 2024-2025. He also informed the attendees of the upcoming potential sponsorships there will be for this year's Annual Gala celebration. **Mr. Kuper** then expressed gratitude to everyone present and acknowledged the following Board members and associate members:

**The Executive Board Members Present:**

President Rodney Harris  
First Vice President Karyn Cunningham  
Secretary Fortuna Smukler  
Immediate Past President JC Bermudez

**Past President:**

Past President – Wifredo “Willy” Gort  
Past President – Luis Gonzalez  
Past President – Jay Chernoff

**Board Members:**

Commissioner Walter Thompson – Florida City  
Chair Mari Tere Rojas - MDCPS  
Vice Mayor Edgar Ayala - Medley  
Mayor George Burch – Miami Shores  
Commissioner Rachel Streitfeld – North Bay Village  
Commissioner Jay Chernoff – North Miami Beach  
Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam – Palmetto Bay  
Commissioner Jerry Joseph – Sunny Isles Beach  
Councilman Richard Block – Virginia Gardens

**Newly Elected:**

Commissioner Miguel Angel Gabela - Miami

**New Associate Members:**

**VIA Transportation, Inc.**

Sebastian Loria

**Associate Members:**

Kevin Crowder, BusinessFlare

Carlos Del Pino, C.A.P Government, Inc.

Jose Miranda, C.A.P Government, Inc.

Hernando Novoa, First Bank

Elisa Robles, First Bank

Frank Lanza, First Bank

Juan Carlos del Valle, Florida International University

Claudia Miro, Freebee

Carlos Trueba, GEMRT

Frances Cabrera Yec, GEMRT

Gerry Donates, GEMRT

Lisbeth Bojorge, GEMRT

Vivian Casals-Muñoz, Hialeah Park

Raphael Garcia, Ocean Bank

Christian Infante, SFM Services

Adriana Verdeja, University of Miami

Jason Neal, Waste Management

Kenneth Rivera, Waste Pro USA

Chad Friedman, Weiss Serota Helfman...

Robert Meyers, Weiss Serota Helfman...

Roger Pou, Weiss Serota Helfman...

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

*Summarized minutes*







**70TH ANNUAL GALA**  
**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024**  
**LOEWS HOTEL - CORAL GABLES**

**TITLE**

**\$25,000**

20 event tickets  
 Royal Table Seating  
 Full page recognition in the event program  
 Recognition night of the event and on website

GOBO recognition displayed night of the event  
 Award recognition night of the event  
 1 Session Sponsorship at the BPC  
 1 Exhibit Table at the BPC

**PLATINUM**

**\$20,000**

14 event tickets, Exclusive VIP Seating  
 Full page recognition in the event program  
 Recognition night of the event and on website

GOBO recognition displayed night of the event  
 Award recognition night of the event  
 1 Exhibit Table at the BPC

**GOLD**

**\$10,000**

10 event tickets, VIP Seating  
 Full page recognition in the event program

Recognition night of the event and on website  
 Award recognition night of the event

**SILVER**

**\$7,500**

8 event tickets  
 Half page recognition in the event program

Recognition night of the event and on website

**BRONZE**

**\$5,000**

6 event tickets  
 Quarter page recognition in the event program

Recognition night of the event and on website

# 70th Annual Gala

## *Sponsors*

### PLATINUM SPONSOR



### GOLD SPONSOR

COMMISSIONER  
**Manolo  
Reyes**  
DISTRICT 4

### BRONZE SPONSORS

Bal Harbour Village  
C.A.P Government, Inc.  
Chen Moore & Associates  
Florida League of Cities  
TECO Peoples Gas