



NORTHWEST COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING NOTICE

DATE: Tuesday, January 14, 2025

TIME: 12:00 Noon - Lunch will be served promptly; public meeting to be held concurrently.

HOST CITY: The City of Margate

NEW LOCATION: La Bamba Mexican Spanish Restaurant II
5452 W Sample Rd
Margate, FL 33063
(954) 978-6377

CHAIRMAN: Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Minutes of December 9, 2024, meeting hosted by the City of Coral Springs
2. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Veteran's Recognition
3. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Discussions with Police Chief Michael Palma, Fire Chief Roberto Lorenzo, and IT Director Patrick Garmon regarding local government challenges.
 - B. Conversation with the Broward County Commissioner Hazelle Rogers surrounding homelessness.
4. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – February 2025, hosted by the City of Parkland.

ADJOURNMENT

Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 7, 2025, to cityclerk@margatefl.com with the number of representatives from your municipality who plan to attend and advise of any agenda items for the meeting.

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that if any persons should desire to appeal any decision made at the Northwest Council of Elected Officials meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings conducted at such meeting and for such purpose, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Any person with a disability requiring auxiliary aids and services for this meeting may call the City Clerk's office at (954) 972-6454 with their request at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting date.

Members of the public need not purchase a meal in order to attend this meeting.



**NORTHWEST COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS
Regular Meeting**

Monday, December 9, 2024 – 12:00 P.M.
Hosted by the City of Coral Springs
Country Club of Coral Springs
10800 West Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065

Draft Minutes

Present

Mayor Scott Brook	Coral Springs
Vice Mayor Nancy Metayer Bowen	Coral Springs
Commissioner Joshua Simmons	Coral Springs
Commissioner Joseph McHugh	Coral Springs
Vice Mayor Sandra L. Welch	Coconut Creek
Commissioner John Brodie	Coconut Creek
Mayor Veronica Edwards Phillips	Lauderdale Lakes
Vice Mayor Tycie Causwell	Lauderdale Lakes
Commissioner Sharon Thomas	Lauderdale Lakes
Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn	Lauderhill
Mayor Arlene Schwartz	Margate
Vice Mayor Antonio V. Arserio	Margate
Commissioner Joanne Simone	Margate
Vice Mayor Darell Lewis-Ricketts	North Lauderdale
Mayor Rich Walker	Parkland
Commissioner Simeon Brier	Parkland
Commissioner Cindy Murphy-Salomone	Parkland
Commissioner Latoya S. Clarke	Sunrise
District Director for Rep. Jared Moskowitz, Theresa Brier	U.S. House District 23

Coral Springs Staff

Deputy City Manager Catherine Givens	Coral Springs
Director of Communications & Marketing Lynne Martzall	Coral Springs
Commission Relationship Manager Luwam Ghermay	Coral Springs
Education Relations Manager April Wyche	Coral Springs
Clerk Coordinator Kerrie-Anne Taylor	Coral Springs

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Northwest Council of Elected Officials was called to order on Monday, December 9, 2024, at 12:27 p.m. by Mayor Scott J. Brook of the City of Coral Springs.

2. Introductions

Mayor Scott J. Brook facilitated attendee introductions. Self-introductions were made by attendees and council members.

3. Approval of Minutes

October 14th meeting hosted by the City of Tamarac

ACTION:

- Mayor Rich Walker moved to approve the minutes of October 14, 2024, as presented.
- Commissioner Joshua Simmons seconded the motion.
- **The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Staff Presentation

Commission Video Messaging (Lynne Martzall, Director of Communications & Marketing)

Deputy City Manager Catherine Givens spoke on her connection to the education system in the City of Coral Springs. Ms. Givens acknowledged the City of Coral Springs' longstanding focus on education, which culminated in the City of Coral Springs' establishment of an education office and the creation of a new position - Education Relations Manager. Selected to serve in this capacity, April Wyche was recognized by Deputy City Manager Givens.

Ms. Martzall presented on the "Effective Communication Strategies for Neighborhood Schools". The presentation was made a part of the record. Topics discussed included:

- Alignment of the city's communication plan with the city's vision and number one strategic goal for which quality schools are an integral part.
- Involvement of the Principal Education Group and the Parent Education Group
- Online Neighborhood Schools Guide with content driven by principals
- City's local magazine - "Under the Sun" - to highlight events and activities being held in the City of Coral Springs as well as parent involvement.
- City banners installed at all schools with the City of Coral Springs' social media platforms including QR (Quick Response) codes directing the public to the city's website and advertising current events and city services.
- Teen Political Forum
- Partnership program with lower scoring schools, allowing employees to offer tutoring, go into classrooms, and help with candy fundraising drives to build relationships and promote what the city is about – public servants that give back.
- Promotion in hyper-local magazines (such as *Sports and Activities* magazine, *Spectator* magazine, etc.) of the Education Relations Manager and what they do.
- Video messages issued to schools before the 1st of every month featuring members of the Coral Springs City Commission. These videos highlight current events and available activities which have been fundamental in creating more opportunities for teen volunteer recruitment. The current video message for the month of December featuring Commissioner Joshua Simmons was played for the room.

Lynne Martzall and April Wyche fielded questions from the Council members.

Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn of the City of Lauderhill inquired about HR or union contract challenges related to making it open to city staff to volunteer at the schools. Deputy City

Manager Catherine Givens was asked to provide a copy of the city's Engaging Employees through Volunteerism policy.

5. Old Business – None.

6. New Business

Mayor Scott Brook asked the Council members in attendance about what their cities do for veterans. Mentioning his personal family ties to a veteran, his father, Mayor Scott Brook voiced his support for the Council members and their respective cities partnering together to recognize veterans. Responses included:

- Commissioner John A. Brodie advised that the City of Coconut Creek does something for veterans every day and that he is a veteran. Further, Coconut Creek is working on a dog-friendly program for veterans.
- Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz advised that the City of Margate has a Veteran's Pantry.
- Commissioner Joanne Simone added that the city also provides yard signs at no cost to veterans; wreaths can be bought to be placed on the headstones of veterans who have passed away; and there was a veterans parking program.

Mayor Scott Brook proposed that The Northwest Council of Elected Officials come together to do some form of recognition for veterans by March 31st, 2025.

ACTION:

- Mayor Sandra L. Welch moved to approve Mayor Scott Brook's proposal that the Northwest Council of Elected Officials come together to do some form of recognition for Veterans by March 31st, 2025.
- Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz seconded the motion.
- **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Scott Brook extended an invitation to the council members to attend the City of Coral Springs' "Coffee with the Mayor" scheduled on January 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Kerrie-Anne Taylor
Clerk Coordinator
Approved on: