

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item 2-3
January 22, 2019
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena
Commissioner Frank Quesada

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Historic Preservation Officer, Dona Spain
Arts and Culture Specialist, Catherine Cathers

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item 2-3 [9:13:00 a.m.]

A Resolution approving artists for public art proposal submittals associated with the new Public Safety Building. (Unanimously recommended by the Cultural Development Board approval/denial vote: 4-0).

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: A Resolution approving artists for public art proposal submittals associated with the new Public Safety Building, unanimously recommended. Is there a motion?

Commissioner Quesada: I'm sorry, what item?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: 2-3.

City Attorney Ramos: I think there is a presentation here, Ms. Spain, no?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Is been unanimously recommended. Motion – is there a motion?

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*Agenda Item 2-3 – Resolution approving artists for public art proposal
Submittals associated with the new Public Safety Building*

[Date]

Commissioner Quesada: On item 2-3, is there not a presentation?

Vice Mayor Lago: That's what I was under the impression.

Commissioner Quesada: I'm ready to move it, but is there something staff wants to tell us in particular.

Preservation Officer Spain: No, not at all. This is to approve these artists. There are four of them. Cultural Development Board and Arts Advisory Panel, they are recommending that these go forward to a selection committee and then back to the Cultural Development Board and the City Commission. We need to have public outreach also involved in that process and this is just the beginning.

Vice Mayor Lago: If I could just add two quick points Mayor, in reference to the public outreach. I want to make sure that we have an extensive outreach campaign, we've done it in the past. I know I'm speaking to the choir, we do it all the time. But, I want to make sure that we put this in every single City publication that we mail to any homes in the area, whatever is necessary, whatever we have at our disposal, I want to make sure we do that. I don't want people to say they got caught off guard.

Preservation Officer Spain: That's right.

Vice Mayor Lago: We all know that never happens, that's number one. Number two, I would like to see each one of my colleagues here, if possible if they are interested, to put a name of whatever artist they want, in addition to these four. I like these four artists, but I think that we should always keep our options open, if my colleagues are interested.

City Attorney Ramos: So a procedural point. Ninety – how many?

Preservation Officer Spain: Ninety-two.

City Attorney Ramos: Ninety-two artists put in for this, so of those 92, certainly we can, you all can add others. If we want to add artists that are outside of those 92, then I recommend throwing it all out and starting over, because this did go out as an RFQ.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK.

Vice Mayor Lago: I don't want to throw it out. I mean I think we have good artists, but I think we should always try to keep our options open.

Preservation Officer Spain: What if they add a name of artist that responded to it, but weren't selected by the Arts Advisory Panel?

City Attorney Ramos: As long as it's one of those 92, there is no problem with that, but if its outside of the 92.

Vice Mayor Lago: Do you want me to put it on the record now, or you want me to give it to...

Preservation Officer Spain: Now is good, don't you think?

City Attorney Ramos: I think it's preferable to do it now.

Commissioner Quesada: Do you want to push it to the next meeting, so you think about it?

Commissioner Keon: Or you can tell her it's one of the 92, she'll let you know.

Vice Mayor Lago: What I would like – there are some good artists that maybe didn't get selected.

Commissioner Mena: I would love that, but I don't know if they were part of the 92.

City Attorney Ramos: Then we should defer it, have the 92 provided to you.

Vice Mayor Lago: I want to respect – I want to hear what you have to say...I know that you enjoy art as much as I do, so I want to make sure...

Preservation Officer Spain: You have the list in your packet...[Inaudible]... there's the list, so if you want to...

Commissioner Keon: You can do this at the end of the meeting.

Preservation Officer Spain: Do it at the end of the meeting, so you can check the list to see if the artist is on.

Vice Mayor Lago: To the end of the meeting, then we'll just do it.

Preservation Officer Spain: OK – we're good.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK – deferred.

[Note for the Record: This item resumed at 12:51:36 p.m.]

Preservation Officer Spain: What about the artist for the Public Safety Building, you all were going to go to 2-3.

City Attorney Ramos: Yes, we have to go back to 2-3.

Vice Mayor Lago: We have to go back to 2-3.

Commissioner Mena: So the person I had in mind is not on the list, which is Manolo Valdez, who is a Coral Gables resident.

Preservation Officer Spain: Not respond to the...

Vice Mayor Lago: That's a shame, because he's a Coral Gables resident, he's in every major fair.

Commissioner Quesada: And there's no way we can add to it, pursuant to the RFQ in the Procurement Code?

City Attorney Ramos: You can throw the whole thing out and start over, that's perfectly permissible.

Preservation Officer Spain: He would be perfect for...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli:...we have 97 people. We'll find a Manola Valdez somewhere, an artist.

Vice Mayor Lago: I don't want to include somebody if my colleagues are not going to include anybody.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I agree with you, he's wonderful, but we went through a process, 90-sum people applied, we chose five. Let's not tear down something...

Commissioner Mena: But, if you have somebody else who is on the list...

Vice Mayor Lago: But I don't want to be the only one.

City Attorney Ramos: Vice Mayor that doesn't matter. As long as they are on the list, you are all free to add whomever you choose.

Vice Mayor Lago: I do not feel it's fair. I want to do the right thing. Probably I don't own any art by this individual. I would love to one day, if I can afford to own art by the individual I would put on this list. It is what it is. We move forward.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Let's move forward and we'll invite him to...

Vice Mayor Lago: I just want to be fair. I don't want to be later...

City Attorney Ramos: Dona do you need a vote on the resolution?

Commissioner Keon: Do you need a motion on the resolution?

Preservation Officer Spain: Please if you could.

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

Preservation Officer Spain: Just a vote to accept it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK. It's been moved and seconded. Will you call the roll please?

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Commissioner Mena: What's the process from here on this?

Preservation Officer Spain: Now we put it out to the public, so the public it's their input...

Ms. Cathers: So the proposals, we'll be waiting for the proposals will be introduced to the public. They'll have a public comment period. The review panel will have those comments as part of their review of the proposals, which will then be presented to the Cultural Development Board to make a recommendation to the City Commission.

Commissioner Mena: And the process for informing the public is...?- music to my ears. OK. Thank you.

[End: 12:53:52 p.m.]