

**City of Coral Gables
Virtual Commission Meeting
April 21, 2020
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

City Commission

**Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Jorge Fors
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena**

City Staff

**City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-1

A Resolution of the City Commission declaring Principles of Inclusion for all individuals with disabilities and urging action by National, State, and Local Governments, Businesses and Residential Communities consistent with these principles. (Sponsored by Commissioner Keon)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Item F-1. This is your item, Commissioner Keon. And I don't know if you have the (INAUDIBLE). I have it here. If you would like to read it, that's perfect. But if not, I will read it because I have it here.

Commissioner Keon: I don't have it. You can read it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. This item is a resolution of the City Commission declaring Principles of Inclusion for all individuals with disabilities, and urging action by National, State, and Local Governments, Businesses, and Residential Communities consistent with these Principles. And

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this is Commissioner Keon's item. Whereas autism spectrum disorder is a result of a neurological disorder that can affect anyone regardless of one's race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and whereas autism spectrum disorder affects 1 in 59 children in the United States; and whereas autism is estimated to be the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control in autism and developmental disabilities monitoring; and whereas symptoms and characteristics of autism spectrum disorder is evident in a variety of combinations and can result in significant lifelong impacts, including affecting an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors and understand verbal and nonverbal communication; and whereas early diagnosis and intervention, as well as an ongoing support from family doctors, therapists and educators can (INAUDIBLE) disorder achieve better outcomes; and whereas persons with autism spectrum disorder should have access to appropriate services throughout their lifetime so that they may achieve their greatest potential and lead happy and productive lives (INAUDIBLE). Now, I, Raul Valdes-Fauli, as Mayor of Coral Gables, along with members of our City Commission, do hereby proclaim April 2020 as World Autism Awareness Month in Coral Gables.

Commissioner Keon: Thank you. I'd like to thank the (INAUDIBLE) for their help and being available to work with us in the City on issues related to persons with autism. I'd like to thank Crystal Academy for the services and things that they also provide. But most importantly, I'd like to thank the Recreation Department for the programming and the staffing that we have that make -- that allow these children to have a place to play and other (INAUDIBLE). They also work with the adult population to have activities for them also. So, my special thank you to our City staff for all of the work that they have put into it to make us a better City. Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you, Commissioner Keon.

City Attorney Ramos: If we could have a motion, sir, to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

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Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's been moved. Is there a second?

Commissioner Mena: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll, please?

City Clerk Urquia: Commissioner Fors?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Commissioner Fors? He's muted.

Commissioner Fors: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

(Vote: 5-0)