

# **City of Coral Gables**

*405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
www.coralgables.com*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 28, 2014**

**9:00 AM**

**City Hall, Commission Chambers**

### **City Commission**

*Mayor Jim Cason  
Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.  
Commissioner Patricia Keon  
Commissioner Vince Lago  
Commissioner Frank C. Quesada*

*Patrick G. Salerno, City Manager  
Craig E. Leen, City Attorney  
Walter J. Foeman, City Clerk*

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Cason, Commissioner Keon, Vice Mayor Kerdyk Jr., Commissioner Lago and Commissioner Quesada

**INVOCATION**

[Note for the Record: Mayor Cason acknowledged the presence of Rabbi Knobel, from Temple Judea, who currently serves as Interim Senior Rabbi at Temple Judea and previously was Rabbi for the Beth Emet synagogue in Evanston, Illinois for 30 years. Rabbi Knobel received his Ph.D. and Master's degree in Philosophy from Yale University and was ordained and received a Master's degree in Hebrew Literature from Hebrew College].

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Keon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**

The following minutes summary includes all presentations made, and actions taken which information is supplemented by the following exhibits on file in the Office of the City Clerk, and which are by reference made a part of the record herein: (a) Ordinance(s) adopted (Ordinance No. 2014-01); (b) Resolution(s) adopted (Resolution No. 2014-17 through Resolution No. 2014-25); (c) Video; (d) Audio Recording; (e) Minutes Folder with Agenda and background information, including items which were submitted at the meeting.

**A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- A.-1. 14-2828 Presentation of a Certificate of Congratulations to Mr. John Pallot in recognition of having been named 2013 Southern Chapter PGA Teacher of the Year.

[Note for the Record: Following Mayor Cason's reading of the title to Agenda Item A-1 into the public record, he read the Certificate of Congratulations in recognition of John Pallot having been named "2013 Southern Chapter PGA Teacher of the Year."

While presenting Agenda Item A-1, Vice Mayor Kerdyk stated that he didn't really know where to start, adding that he grew up with "Johnny, and that he has done so many things in his life;" further pointing out that he has been a fantastic teacher of young, old, youth, women, men, and has an outstanding disposition; further mentioning that the Pallot family is and has been a famous family in Coral Gables, and that it is a great occasion to honor him for all of his accomplishments in the golf world-noting that he excelled as a junior, excelled at the collegiate level and has excelled now; further congratulating him for all that he has done.

In accepting the protocol document, John Pallot thanked the Mayor, Vice Mayor, members of the City Commission, City Manager and City Attorney, stating that it is a thrill to receive this recognition by the City; further adding that it has been an honor to teach golfers of all ages in our wonderful City; further thanking his parents, citing that they moved across from the Granada Golf Course, which instilled his passion for golf; further stating that it has been his pleasure to teach golf his entire life and that he loves being at the golf course, helping City residents learn how to play golf; citing that has many fond memories of playing golf with Vice Mayor Kerdyk, and him getting mad at him and the golf course, whom he recalls out drives him quite easily. Mr. Pallot further notes that working on his driving game is something that he is constantly working on, trying to outdrive Vice Mayor Kerdyk.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk respectfully asked Mr. Pallot (i.e. in jest) if he could assist Commissioner Quesada with his golf game, because he needs a lot of assistance].

**This Presentation/Protocol Document was Presented and Filed**

City Clerk Item No. 1

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

B.-1. 14-2841 Regular City Commission Meeting of January 14, 2014.

**Attachments:** Meeting Minutes

Verbatim Transcript - Agenda Item E-1 - Ordinance amending Chapter 50 Article II

Verbatim Transcript - Agenda Item G-3 - Reso authorizing ad valorem tax relief for

Verbatim Transcript - Agenda Item G-4 - Resolution confirming the appointment of

Verbatim Transcript - Agenda Item H-1 - Resolution for negotiations with the Palac

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Lago, that this matter be approved. The motion passed by the following vote.

**Yeas :** 4 - Commissioner Keon, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Lago and Mayor Cason

**Absent :** 1 - Commissioner Quesada

City Clerk Item No. 2

**C. CONSENT AGENDA****Passed the Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Quesada, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., to Adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yeas :** 5 - Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Lago, Commissioner Quesada, Commissioner Keon and Mayor Cason

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-17**

C.-1. 14-2827 Resolution authorizing Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral to sell alcoholic beverages as part of the Annual Cathedral Festival on 320 Palermo Avenue on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on Sunday, February 9, 2014 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., subject to Florida Department of Professional Regulation requirements.

**Attachments:** Resolution for St. George's Festival

Special Events Application and Permit

C-1 Signed Cover Memo

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL TO SELL ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES AS PART OF THE ANNUAL CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL ON 320 PALERMO AVENUE ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2014 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M. AND ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2014 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M., SUBJECT TO FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION REQUIREMENTS.

This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-17 on the Consent Agenda.

City Clerk Item No. 3

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-18****C.-2. 14-2820**

Resolution authorizing Satchmo Blues Bar and Grill, Inc. to sell alcoholic beverages from 12:00 p.m. to midnight at the Plaza located at 60 Merrick Way from Friday, March 14, 2014 through Sunday, March 17, 2014, during the 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Weekend event to benefit BRANCHES, subject to Florida Department of Professional Regulation requirements.

**Attachments:** Special Events Application and Permit  
St Patrick's Day Weekend Resolution  
C-2 Signed Cover Memo

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SATCHMO BLUES BAR AND GRILL, INC. TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM 12:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT AT THE PLAZA LOCATED AT 60 MERRICK WAY FROM FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014 THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2014 DURING THE 2ND ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY WEEKEND EVENT TO BENEFIT BRANCHES, SUBJECT TO FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION REQUIREMENTS.

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-18 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 4

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-19****C.-3. 14-2821**

Resolution authorizing Satchmo Blues Bar and Grill, Inc. to sell alcoholic beverages from 12:00 p.m. to midnight at the Plaza located at 60 Merrick Way from Friday, May 23, 2014 through Sunday, May 25, 2014, during the 10th Annual Rib and Beer Fest to benefit BRANCHES, subject to Florida Department of Professional Regulation requirements.

**Attachments:** Special Events Application and Permit  
Rib and Beer Fest Resolution  
C-3 Signed Cover Memo

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SATCHMO BLUES BAR AND GRILL, INC. TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM 12:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT AT THE PLAZA LOCATED AT 60 MERRICK WAY FROM FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2014 THROUGH SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2014 DURING THE 10TH ANNUAL RIB AND BEER FEST TO BENEFIT BRANCHES, SUBJECT TO FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION REQUIREMENTS.

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-19 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 5

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-20**

- C.-4. 14-2823** Resolution authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with City College to allow for EMT/Paramedic students to ride on rescue units.

**Attachments:** [Draft Resolution, City College.pdf](#)  
[City College Agreement, 1-28-14.pdf](#)  
[C-4 Signed Cover Memo](#)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES AND CITY COLLEGE TO ALLOW EMT/PARAMEDIC STUDENTS TO RIDE ON RESCUE UNITS.

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-20 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 6

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-21**

- C.-5. 14-2824** Resolution authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with Urgent Response Training Institute to allow for EMT/Paramedic students to ride on rescue units.

**Attachments:** [DRAFT RESOLUTION, URGENT RESPONSE TRAINING INSTITUTE.doc](#)  
[Urgent Response Trng Inst Agrmt, 1-28-14.pdf](#)  
[C-5 Signed Cover Memo](#)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES AND URGENT RESPONSE TRAINING INSTITUTE TO ALLOW EMT/PARAMEDIC STUDENTS TO RIDE ON RESCUE UNITS.

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-21 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 7

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-22**

- C.-7. 14-2837** Resolution authorizing the appointment of City Commissioner Vince Lago to serve as an ex officio member of the Coral Gables Museum's Board of Directors beginning in March 2014.

**Attachments:** Resolution - 1.28.14 (Museum Bd Appt)  
Letter from Christine Rupp, Coral Gables Museum Executive Director  
C-7 Signed Cover Memo

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CITY COMMISSIONER VINCE LAGO TO SERVE AS AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE CORAL GABLES MUSEUM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, BEGINNING IN MARCH 2014.

[Note for the Record: The verbatim transcript for Agenda Item C-7 is available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk and in Legistar].

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-22 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 8

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-23**

- C.-8. 14-2839** Resolution authorizing the City to be a sponsor of the Coral Gables Preparatory Academy Family Fun Day 2014, at the bronze level.

**Attachments:** CGPA Family Fun Day Resolution  
C-8 Signed Cover Memo  
Donation Form

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO BE A SPONSOR OF THE CORAL GABLES PREPARATORY ACADEMY FAMILY FUN DAY 2014, AT THE BRONZE LEVEL.

**This Matter was adopted by Resolution Number 2014-23 on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 9

**Presentation of Boards and/or Committees minutes requesting no action from the City Commission:**

- C.-9. 14-2814** Communications Committee Meeting of December 19, 2013

**Attachments:** Agendaitemjanuary2014  
minutes december 2013

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 10

C.-10. 14-2818 Coral Gables Merrick House Governing Board Meeting of December 2, 2013

**Attachments:** 12.2.13MinutesforCC1.28.14  
Merrick House December 2 2013

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 11

C.-11. 14-2819 Historic Preservation Board Meeting of December 19, 2013

**Attachments:** HPB.12.19.13MinutesforCC01.28.14  
HPB Minutes December 19 2013

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 12

C.-12. 14-2822 Senior Citizens Advisory Board Meeting of December 9, 2013

**Attachments:** Min 12-09-2013  
Cover Sheet Minutes 12-09-13

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 13

C.-13. 14-2830 Property Advisory Board Meeting of October 16, 2013

**Attachments:** PAB 1-28-14 Commission cover  
10-16-13 PAB minutes

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 14

C.-14. 14-2831 Property Advisory Board Meeting of October 28, 2013

**Attachments:** 10-28-13 PAB 3501 Granada walkthrough minutes  
PAB 1-28-14 Commission cover 2

**This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

City Clerk Item No. 15



**Pulled from Consent Agenda****RESOLUTION NO. 2014-24****C.-6. 14-2825**

Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Chief Procurement Officer to authorize contract negotiations with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., and if necessary, with other short-listed consulting firms for architectural consulting services for the renovation of Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park pursuant to Florida Statute 287.055, known as the "Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act" and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2012.05.17.

**Attachments:** Draft Reso.  
AECOM  
C-6 Signed Cover Memo

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC., AND IF NECESSARY, WITH OTHER SHORT-LISTED CONSULTING FIRMS AS THE DESIGN CONSULTANT FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE FRED B. HARTNETT PONCE CIRCLE PARK PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 287.055, KNOWN AS THE "CONSULTANTS COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION ACT" AND REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) 2012.05.17.

[Note for the Record: The verbatim transcript for Agenda Item C-6 is available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk and in Legistar].

**A motion was made by Commissioner Quesada, seconded by Commissioner Keon, that this matter be adopted by Resolution Number 2014-24. The motion passed by the following vote.**

**Yeas :** 5 - Commissioner Lago, Commissioner Quesada, Commissioner Keon, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr. and Mayor Cason

City Clerk Item No. 16

**D. PERSONAL APPEARANCES**

**None**

City Clerk Item No. 17

**E. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Anyone who wishes to address the City Commission on an item to be considered for public hearing must fill out a Speaker Card and turn it in to the City Clerk. Speaker Cards can be obtained on the credenza located outside the Office of the Mayor, during the day of the City Commission Meeting.

**ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING****ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01****E.-1. 14-2816**

An Ordinance amending Chapter 50, Article II of the Code of the City of Coral Gables, entitled "Retirement System for City Employees"; amending Section 50-25, Definitions; amending Section 50-29, City Contributions; amending Section 50-230, Normal Retirement Income; amending Section 50-249, Excluded Employees; repealing all Ordinances inconsistent herewith; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. (Passed on First Reading January 14, 2014)

**Attachments:** CG Pension Ord General Employees Grandfather 1-14-14  
E-1 Signed Cover Memo 1-14-14  
CG Pension Ord General Employees Grandfather 2nd Reading  
E-1 Signed Cover Memo 1-28-14

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE II OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, ENTITLED "RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR CITY EMPLOYEES"; AMENDING SECTION 50-25, DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 50-29, CITY CONTRIBUTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 50-230, NORMAL RETIREMENT INCOME; AMENDING SECTION 50-249, EXCLUDED EMPLOYEES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

[Note for the Record: The verbatim transcript for Agenda Item E-1 is available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk and in Legistar].

**A motion was made by Commissioner Quesada, seconded by Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., that this matter be adopted by Ordinance Number 2014-01. The motion passed by the following vote.**

**Yeas :** 5 - Commissioner Quesada, Commissioner Keon, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr.,  
Commissioner Lago and Mayor Cason

City Clerk Item No. 18

**F. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS**

None

City Clerk Item No. 19

**G. BOARDS/COMMITTEES ITEMS****RESOLUTION NO. 2014-25**

- G.-1. 14-2829** Resolution confirming Anthony Bello (appointed by the Board-As-A-Whole) to serve as member of the Planning and Zoning Board, for the remainder of a two (2) year term beginning June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2015.

**Attachments:** G-1 Signed Cover Memo  
Anthony Bello Resolution  
P&Z Excerpts - Board Appointment

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ANTHONY BELLO (APPOINTED BY THE BOARD-AS-A-WHOLE) TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD, FOR THE REMINDER OF A TWO (2) YEAR TERM, BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2013 THROUGH MAY 31, 2015.

[Note for the Record: The verbatim transcript for Agenda Item G-1 is available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk and in Legistar].

**A motion was made by Commissioner Keon, seconded by Commissioner Lago, that this matter be adopted by Resolution Number 2014-25. The motion passed by the following vote.**

**Yeas :** 5 - Commissioner Keon, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, Jr., Commissioner Lago, Commissioner Quesada and Mayor Cason

City Clerk Item No. 20

**H. CITY MANAGER ITEMS**

**None**

City Clerk Item No. 21

**I. CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS**

**None**

City Clerk Item No. 22

**J. CITY CLERK ITEMS**

**None**

City Clerk Item No. 23

**K. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mayor Cason: Moving on to Discussion Items, I'll start as usual with Commissioner Keon.

Commissioner Keon: I have a couple of things. I want to thank the Manager, particularly we talked this week in that they are working with Miami-Dade County to accept the GOB (General Obligation Bond) money that Commissioner Suarez has made available to us that we will handle that in-house. They are working on the resolutions at the County that will come to the City for review and draft or whatever, so thank you very much for bringing that...

Mayor Cason: How much money in the end?

Commissioner Keon: Was it \$500....

City Manager Salerno: It's between 550 and 600, but they haven't told us exactly.

Commissioner Keon: \$500,000.

Commissioner Quesada: That's great! At the last meeting when we discussed it...

Commissioner Keon: I didn't want to say because it was a lot of money, I wanted to make sure.

Commissioner Quesada: For some reason I thought it was going to be \$100,000, because I think that was the number you guys were using in the example.

Commissioner Keon: Actually the County through CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds has awarded \$100,000 to the County's Historic Preservation Office to work with the homeowners on the refurbishment of - to the extent that they can work for that \$100,000, as much as they can do. These dollars will come to the City through Historic Preservation with the Manager and the other department, the process how we disseminate. What I wanted to ask...

Commissioner Quesada: So we'll get roughly half a million dollars from the County for Historic Preservation funds.

Commissioner Keon: No. They are GOB dollars for affordable housing.

Commissioner Quesada: That's great news.

Commissioner Keon: But it goes to certain census track and there are a number of issues that need to be worked out because it is a public to a private benefit and we need to work out the parameters by which we would use that, so there is still work to be done.

Commissioner Quesada: Of course, but the money that's tremendous.

Commissioner Keon: So we are very grateful to the County making it so available to us and Vince and I have worked well on this and the opportunity to have a Sunshine meeting is a wonderful thing to be able to discuss these things and to move projects along, so I'm really grateful for that.

Commissioner Quesada: I need to interrupt you. I need to interrupt you and say thank you to Commissioner Keon and Commissioner Lago for making this happen. We are going to be able to do a lot of good in the City with that. So thank you so much, that's great news - great work.

Commissioner Keon: I also understand that there was an escrow account set up with a project that was built to provide some affordable housing dollars, it's sitting in an escrow account and I wanted to ask the Manager about the availability of those funds also to add to this, if needed.

City Manager Salerno: Yes Commissioner. Two to three years ago, you may recall, there used to be Gables-Ponce, the beautiful project on the corner of LeJeune and Ponce, a component at that time that required a certain percentage. I don't remember the exact units; I think it was 19 units that were supposed to be limited to affordable. They asked that because the market conditions changed and everything became on the market in '08-'09 almost affordable based upon the market real estate dropping 40 percent that the discussion changed statewide, of the need for government to affect affordability. In fact, everybody has been working since '09 to do just the opposite, get your property values back up to where they were beforehand. At that time the City agreed to a request to eliminate the rental portion of affordable housing in exchange for a cash contribution, and as Commissioner Keon said Greenberg Traurig has \$100,000 for affordable housing set up in an escrow account that they are holding, and it will be

up to the Commission in conjunction with the Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association to discuss that use and decide on its purpose, I think that's what the Commission....

Commissioner Keon: We will have about six and-a-half hundred thousand dollars (\$650,000) available and you know we have worked so closely with this community and it's such a wonderful group of people to work with that it will be a very nice thing for our City. They for so long have asked that the Code be enforced throughout this City, regardless of what the address is, and our ability to help with some of these homes will give us that ability now to help them meet the Code and then we will enforce the Code so that every single neighborhood in the City is as well maintained as every other.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: I think it's very good - excellent.

Commissioner Keon: Hopefully, it will all work out well and I'm very happy to see that we are taking it in-house because I really believe that the closer we are to the project that we can administer it. So thank you. I spoke to Walter Foeman about - I saw where he had put out the item on the Green Task Force and we are not getting the respondents apparently for some of the - for like architects in different disciplines that are required on that Task Force and we are not getting them. The issue has been raised that some of the people that had served on it in the past really didn't want to serve on it again because they weren't sure that you were really moving those issues and how dedicated we are to them and whatever else, and so if we are going to have a Green Task Force. I think we really need to make sure that we're going to do it, we are really going to do these things, and I'm assuming that with the sustainability study...

Commissioner Lago: May I interject?

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: I had the pleasure of attending the last Green Task Force meeting, which was this past week, and I spoke with several of the members during the meeting and they were very adamant about continuing to serve as members of that Board, I think probably about 60 percent of them will continue to serve, some of them will be coming off the Board and moving into the private sector, moving on with their lives in regards to certain other issues. The Board, the residents are eagerly anticipating the sustainability plan and what will be coming after the Sustainability Plan, but like I

told them in front of the Board and I tell you, first of all we have to say thank you to the Manager. He's put forth a lot of effort, he's listened to us, he's listened to the members of this community really delivered upon a Sustainability Plan, something that we have been talking about in this City for a long and we got it. This past week and clarify me where I'm wrong, seven firms, seven highly qualified firms from South Florida, from all over, South Florida and all over the United States delivered upon an RFQ that we submitted and they submitted with it now being reviewed by staff and we will proceed in dwindling them down to a short list and then we will chose a firm to provide us with a Sustainability Plan, which will lead us to the 10-15-20 years in reference to "green" issues in this community.

Commissioner Keon: And would the Green Task Force then would work with...

Commissioner Lago: And I'll tell you another thing and this is what really made me happy besides that and it goes back to the kind of issue on C-6 that we are dealing with, the question that I asked about, what's the make-up of the committee? The Manager made sure that we put Sonia Succar, who is our sustainability individual in this community on that committee - proactive decision which is going to really pay dividends in the future for us. So first off, let's get the plan done, it could take six months to get the plan done. I imagine it would take about a month for staff to dwindle it down to three. They will have a presentation, and then one will be chosen subsequent following weeks. So we are talking about six to eight months to really get the plan submitted and submitted to the City, am I correct?- are we looking at that timeframe?

City Manager Salerno: Maybe a little longer, but close to that.

Commissioner Lago: Let's just say a year; let's say a year, because this is a comprehensive citywide study. I know that we are under 50,000 residents, but what we are asking here is a \$200,000 study or under \$200,000 and it's going to be citywide, it's going to tell us what we can do to be a more sustainable City.

Commissioner Keon: OK. I just wanted if maybe in the E-NEWS or something we could again bring up - you could talk about that, that you are doing the sustainability study and we need additional members on - and actually Walter has where those vacancies are maybe we could actually list those specific disciplines because we are getting a lot of response from...

Mayor Cason: Other than E-NEWS we could write letters to the AIA and others and we could reach out to...

Commissioner Keon: Very good. I think it's like a LEED architect, LEED Certified Architect we need and Walter could maybe you could work with him to actually put out there what specific people, disciplines that we need to make that task force really work so we can really move it forward. I think it would be great if we could do that. The other thing, I gave the Manager a text as I'm riding through the City about lights that are out constantly and I know that the City has worked very hard to try and communicate that to FPL, and I know that there is a meeting soon between the City and FPL because the response really doesn't seem to be as - they are not as responsive as maybe we would like them to be, so I'm hoping you are quite persuasive when you meet with them, but I was also thinking that you know some of our lights, and there is always the potential that maybe there are some things that we as a City could do and I think that Commissioner Lago would know that specifically is, that streetlights that are on the Mile. I understand, are our streetlights, you know, we could look into retrofitting those streetlights by solar with LED lighting outside of FPL and you know if we could start to begin to look at ways that we can create and power our own electricity off of a solar grid. You know maybe we won't have these issues with FPL because we won't have to go to them if we can begin to create some of our own electricity. They are in the business of selling electricity, I don't know that they really want us see create our own, but I think to serve us and to serve our City maybe in some small projects and in some small ways we can do that in our buildings that we build, I mean you can start looking at buildings in the building of buildings that can produce their own power sources and we could actually sell power back to the grid.

Commissioner Quesada: But then we need to hold off that conversation till we have a consultant hired for sustainability, so we have our expert.

Commissioner Keon: We have to hold off the decision to do it, but I don't think we have to hold off the conversation.

Commissioner Lago: And that's where I think that you are 100 percent right. The discussion needs to continue because I've gotten probably ten e-mails in the past two weeks in regards to the following lights are not out, by the way, they repaired these lights, but they are out again. All the lights near my house in San Amaro are out in reference to the circle that's right in front of the University of Miami. My issue with FPL is the same issue that you mentioned; the City controls 10 percent of 4,000 lights



in the City. Going solar and pushing electricity back unto the grid is a lofty goal and I think we can do it, because let me tell you, a lot of other cities, and I don't have the list in front of me, are doing it already.

Commissioner Keon: They are doing it already.

Commissioner Lago: We are behind the curve, we are behind the curve. We are not talking about something that's supposed to happen in the future, we are talking about something that's already happening in the State of Florida. My issue is we can discuss solar till we turn red in the face, but we can do something which is already occurring in a whole multitude of other states and that is retrofitting our existing 10 percent, which is around 400 lights with LED; and again the Manager will look into it. He is the one who handles the finances of the City and he will tell us, obviously we don't have that project funded, and that's going to be looked into. It will be addressed in the sustainability plan, but if you - if we were able to retrofit the existing light posts and make them LED's, like you said, FPL is in the business of selling electricity, you are talking about 40, 50, and 60 percent savings in electricity, but that's not even the most important part. You are talking about a larger light span, which is a deterrent for crime and you are talking about less maintenance, so these light bulbs last 10 to 15 years depending on the usage. I have them throughout my home and I know I've mentioned it till I'm red in the face, but it is what it is, that's what I think we really need to concentrate on getting the sustainability plan done. They will address it and they'll say, by the way, are you aware that "X" amount of lights in your City don't work?- you need to upgrade or retrofit the existing poles, but I'm so happy right now that you brought that up because that's on my list of items that I want to bring up and I'm happy to see that not only you, but the whole Commission is on board in regards to this issue.

Mayor Cason: Mr. Manager, the one thing that we haven't discussed that was in our original Neighbor Renaissance is a program that you might explain about when we get around to it, of the neighborhoods doing 50/50 with us in terms of historic lights.

City Manager Salerno: That's correct Mayor. That is a historic streetlight initiative where the concept is that the City would put up to half a million dollars to assist neighborhoods. They would have to match that 50/50 to put historic styled streetlights in their neighborhood.

Commissioner Keon: Would that eliminate those big cement poles?

City Manager Salerno: Similar in look to the white-way lights that are historic in the community...

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

City Manager Salerno:...they would be similar to that, but not identical because the historic people have advised me that those white ray lights are only - they are unique, they are only in a certain area of the City, we don't want to duplicate that and diminish the importance of where those were put, but there are similar lights that we can put, not identical and that's what that program is looking at.

Mayor Cason: It's also important to continue to remind residents to report lights that are out because regardless of how long it takes FPL to fix them, they only go around - we go around and they go around certain intervals, but a resident that sees a light out needs to call. Where should they call Mr. Manager?

City Manager Salerno: The best direct call would be to Public Works, they can certainly call the Manager's office as well, but when we get them, we refer it to Public Works. So either the Public Works Department direct or the Manager's office and we'll see that it gets across.

Commissioner Lago: I'm sorry to interrupt you, what is the phone number for Public Works?

City Manager Salerno: Sorry?

Commissioner Lago: You have the number for Public Works, sorry?

Commissioner Keon: The phone number for Public Works.

Mayor Cason: We'll get it in a second.

Commissioner Keon: What we are finding is FPL, their report or their standard is that within 3 days of becoming aware that a light is out they will have the light fixed, but what we are finding is that's not happening, so it's very frustrating for residents to call and then not have them done.

Commissioner Quesada: Those two things - first of all let's get the number out there



and if we could ask whoever is working the TV monitors if you can put the number on the screen, can they do that?

City Manager Salerno: The number, I believe is 305-460-5004.

Commissioner Quesada: So if your light is out in your neighborhood or you see one that's the number to call, that number again is...?

City Manager Salerno: 305-460-5004.

Commissioner Lago: And if I could just interject one second - it's a simple phone call and we are in the process of putting together a light study that Pubic Works is doing, so your phone call that will take you probably one minute, you can ask to speak to the Public Works Director, Sonia Succar, who is under the Public Works Director, or staff is essential because we are working on the sustainability plan. This is all part of a master plan that will hopefully come to fruition within the next year or so, but we need to resolve these issues, so please make sure you call.

Commissioner Quesada: OK, two things. First of all the number is now at the bottom of your screen. If you are watching this at home, so that's the number to call if your lights are out in your neighborhood. Number one, this portion or the minutes of the meeting, if we can have them sent to the members of the sustainability committee that's going to be putting together - making a determination, their initial recommendation to us and who to select, so that they can keep track of it and if Mr. Manager you can see that that gets done.

City Manager Salerno: That the minutes of this discussion.

Commissioner Quesada:...of this discussion go to them because again, we were discussing the solar, the lights, and again who knows if we forget about it six months from now, we don't remember the specifics of it, so let's make sure they get it. I guess it's a standing request that anytime we discuss any sustainability issues that that portion of the minutes of the meeting get transferred over to them so they get it. That's number one; number two, I've been to several Crime Watch meetings in the last few months and the request for lights being out is overwhelming. It really is overwhelming, that's the main focus that's what everything turns on, and everyone feels more secure when the lights are on in the neighborhood. I know none of us are disagreeing with that or will argue with that. Can we get a representative of FPL to our next Commission

meeting? I think Ramon Ferrer represents our community, just get him up for a few minutes so that he can hear it from all of us that we want them to be more responsive, because even though we have a sustainability plan coming, the idea is to change to LED lights, that's the future, but for the present, for right now we still need FPL to work with us pretty efficiently.

Commissioner Lago: I second that request.

Mayor Cason: Let me ask the Manager. I think you have something coming up. We had a meeting in my office with our staff on the same issue and we want to have a meeting, can you tell us...?

City Manager Salerno: There is a meeting set, I believe, next Friday, I think it's the 7th of February, that I have that I'm participating in along with key staff members with Ramon, to express, to understand a little better about their process, to also point out that we think they need to change their process as far as reporting to us and one of the key elements we have is that we report them to FPL. We would ask and this is the key issue for the discussion, we would ask them to report back to us to tell us when they have changed out that bulb and the light is working again. They have indicated in the past to City staff that they don't have that information gathered. Now whether - assuming they don't, they should, and us being the customer and trying to be responsive to our residents, it's almost impossible for us to monitor when they are done. We don't have the staff resources to send out an employee every single night to check whether or not that light's done, but they simply, logically when they repair it they should report back and let us know it's been taken care of. That's the focus of that meeting because we need to know what that timeframe is. Now they report to us and residents it would be helpful anybody who has this issue, they report if it's an above ground power supply light. Their target, their goal, their expectation is to repair it in 3 days. If it's underground, 4 to 6 days, that's not our experience, and we need to have that, that's the reason for the discussion. The Mayor has subsequently has another meeting scheduled independent of staff's meeting. We will participate in that meeting with Ramon and actually the individual, Ramon's supervisor, to talk about this issue, so the Mayor had asked for that meeting to be set up and we've done so and we will support that meeting and staff is meeting independent and prior to that some days to meet with Ramon directly and see if we can't work out these issues on a staff-to-staff basis, if possible, but we'd be glad to invite Ramon to the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Quesada: I think we will do well considering you're meeting on Friday, if there could be an immediate follow-up and we can ask, OK, so what have you guys done?- but also give them a chance to show face to the community and say this is what number you need to call. Maybe they can contact them directly, maybe they have a new online application they can just go fill out, we don't know, so let's see what they have to say.

Mayor Cason: Pat?

Commissioner Keon: I had asked Craig the other day, there was an article in the paper over people having shooting ranges, target ranges in their yards and assuming that we would have some ability based on our zoning or rights to police that you can actually regulate that. So I asked Craig to look into it further and to come back at another meeting to discuss it.

Mayor Cason: About two years ago I sent you something that indicated that people can even go into our parks with guns, according to the state.

City Attorney Leen: There is a statute, there are a couple of statutes, the one that we talked about in the Commission before us. The one that greatly limits cities or counties from being able to regulate guns at the local level. Basically they are regulated at the state level and in fact, we went through our Code and removed provisions that were contrary to state law. So basically - and we had to do that, it was required to, the state law made them null and void. So we are in full compliance with the law. What Commissioner Keon mentioned is true. There was an article in the paper about this issue and basically the cities and counties hands are tied. There is not much that can be done except to enforce the law if someone fires a gun negligently or recklessly, they are guilty of a misdemeanor. So we still have the ability of the police to enforce the law, but in terms of regulations, no, we are not allowed to according to state law. The only way to contest that would be to challenge the constitutionality of the state law, which of course is a major policy decision for any city. So at this point though we cannot - we are bound by the state law and the only regulations we can do are, there are certain personnel regulations we can do. There are certain regulations of businesses. So for example, a business could not under our Zoning Code have a shooting range in a residential neighborhood, that can still be zoned, but what individuals do is governed by state law and there is nothing that cities can do, and just to be clear both to the Commission and to the public, there is nothing that the Commission can do. That is something that if an individual is concerned about that they

have to take up with the state legislature.

Commissioner Keon: I mean that I think that this is such - everyone is entitled to the Second Amendment Rights. I in no way want to take away anybody's gun, but I really think that gun safety is truly an issue that we should weigh in on and I would hope - we put together a legislative agenda in our legislative priorities for this Session. I would hope somehow we could have a reasonable discussion on gun safety; everybody can have their guns. They could carry their guns, but you know, this issue of setting up target ranges in your backyard is I think it bears further discussion, and I know Vince now with the League of Cities, maybe you could bring that up...

Commissioner Lago: I will for sure.

Commissioner Keon:....because I never saw that on their legislative agenda and maybe we can even talk to that for our own lobbyist, at least have some discussion with regards to that.

Commissioner Lago: 2014 forthcoming first meeting is coming up, so I'll make sure that I address that issue with the League of Cities.

Mayor Cason: OK - anything else?

Commissioner Keon: Thank you.

Mayor Cason: Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Just a couple of comments. A follow-up on the FPL issue; you may want to publicize it on E-NEWS too where to call in, I think that's always a good idea. Another comment in regards to Fred Hartnett Ponce Park, I would really encourage public input. I suppose that you will have a public meeting to allow any changes on that, the land itself to make sure the public has input as far as that's concerned. Also, as you drive down University Drive as you are heading west and of course the Youth Center is on your right hand side, or on the north side of the street, the south side of the street there are two beautiful lots. One across from the Youth Center, the other across from the library there, and what I think, by the way, those have deed restrictions, you can't do anything. You can't put playground equipment or anything, but I would encourage the City to look at it from a beautifying standpoint and maybe be able to plant some flowers or something to encourage since that is such a

great spot, so many people go through that spot. It's another beautification project for the City of Coral Gables that will enhance the quality of life.

City Manager Salerno: Mr. Vice Mayor could you just go back over the location again for me.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: OK. As you are proceeding west on University Drive and on the right hand side is the Youth Center. As you are going west, on the left hand side there are two large lots...

City Manager Salerno: Right - that are used for overflow parking?

Vice Mayor Kerdyk:...overflow parking and there is a deed restriction on those lots that prevent you from developing or anything, but I think you could beautify those and it goes in the spirit of what has happened on Segovia Circle right around the corner there, it's really main to main in the City, so I would just have you look at that.

Commissioner Quesada: Just to jump in on that topic. I live in that area and I walk to the Youth Center and so I know a lot of the neighbors in that area, and when you are at the Youth Center everyone is always talking to you about that area and everyone says, people like having it open from what I've heard, because on Sundays when the go to Mass that's like overflow parking and people who live in the immediate area always says, can we beautify it to make it a park? Now I've also heard Dog Park as well. I'm just telling you what I hear from the residents in the area, but there is definitely a lot of interest to improve that property in that immediate area, again from what I've heard.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: I don't know if we can actually do something to make it a formal park, I think that may be a deed restriction issue, something to look into, but I do think we can maybe beautify it. Especially the one that's near the library because that doesn't get the overflow parking quite as much as the one across from the Youth Center, but anyway just that. Congratulations to the Merrick House Board because I had the opportunity to go speak Sunday on the porch with George, a series they have. I saw Carmen there and they are doing a very, very good job. So if you have the opportunity to go over there and see that, I think they have something coming up February 9th that may be of interest to people; and also we had our presentation at 1 o'clock, the Special Meeting. I was wondering Mr. City Manager, if you could provide us with input about this Form Base Zoning Code, because that was something,



sort of a new concept for me to try and get my arms around that in general, and of course I have asked for the Old Spanish Village what that was compared to what the new proposal is. That's it.

Commissioner Lago: You brought something up, Vice Mayor Kerdyk, I requested from our City Attorney, I want to look into what were the promises that were made when the preliminary Old Spanish Village design was proposed and was approved to the residents in that area and I want to make sure as we move into a different direction with Form Base Code, I want to make sure that not only do we meet what we promised the residents in that area, but that we deliver if the project grows, depending on the direction we are headed, I want to make sure, and Craig is looking into that right now just to make sure that information is given to me. Commissioner Keon, you basically stole five or six items from me (laughter).

Commissioner Keon: I'm sorry.

Commissioner Lago: I'm just kidding. It's a good thing.

Commissioner Keon: We may have to start the other way.

Commissioner Lago: It's a good thing you know why?- because we think a lot alike, but I just wanted to make sure I thanked the Manager for making this truly a possibility. We asked him two weeks ago to look into the matter and deal with the County and he is making the process a lot more - simplifying the process for our residents who are here today. I also like to thank Commissioner Suarez for - Commissioner Suarez at the County. We have to tip our hat to him, we have to commend him. He is an individual who puts his money where his mouth is and he is really delivering as a representative of this community, so we've got to thank the Commissioner for that.

Commissioner Quesada: I'm not trying to invite everyone over, but maybe thank - is he one of the main reasons why we got this money?

Commissioner Keon: We thought that maybe once we get the resolutions come through the County and we have all of the parameters set out and it gets done we would certainly love to...

Commissioner Quesada: Maybe have him come speak and he could also update us what's going on in the County.

Commissioner Lago: He's been to three meetings, that's - he is a busy individual, not only in his professional life, but also as an elected official in this community, but he has taken a vested interest in the City of Coral Gables, so I can't thank him enough for that.

Mayor Cason: Perhaps what we can do is, I know Commissioner Rebeca Sosa is also very interested, very supportive of the City and maybe we can invite those Commissioners at the County level that have a piece of Coral Gables to come have a presentation.

Commissioner Lago: That would be great.

Commissioner Quesada: A Sunshine...

Mayor Cason: Yes - separately.

Commissioner Lago: The second important issue of the many that you discussed was the issue of FPL, so I appreciate you discussing that, the Commission discussing that thoroughly and really airing, I don't want to say our grievances, but airing how we can make this community better, which is what we are all striving for, that's the key. I just have two small issues; number one, was for the Manager to discuss the issue of the Miller and Alhambra intersection. I've talked to the residents and I know that we are in the process of design for a traffic calming device there on Alhambra right next to St. Augustine Church, because we have that issue for 57th Avenue prior to running up to the University of Miami. Residents are requesting something to slow the traffic down. I think that my last meeting with Mr. Pino there was something in the works, am I correct?

City Manager Salerno: That's correct Commissioner. The residents in that area had asked us to look at that situation. There used to be small traffic islands that the City had installed years ago at the request, I understand, of residents in the area trying to both slow down traffic and redirect traffic that was going to the U.

Commissioner Lago: Islands would force vehicles right.

City Manager Salerno: Yes - and when the university was redoing that intersection on San Amaro, they were successful in getting them to agree to replace the trees. As you remember on Miller half the trees had wooden 4 by 4's holding up the limbs because the trees were such they were ficus in many respects and they had just become safety issues and the university replaced all the trees that were there with Oaks, large Oaks, they resurfaced the street all the way to Red, then went one block beyond where they needed to go. So they resurfaced the street and they also took care of the trees for one block beyond what they were obligated to do as far as the circle project. During that discussion when that work was being done, the residents came and said, don't put back those small traffic islands. We would like a circle there, because there was a reconfiguration of the traffic pattern with the circle staff advised the residents in that area that we needed to wait six to nine months for the traffic to readjust to the new conditions and then they would look at the study and see whether the conditions warranted a traffic circle before doing anything. It's my understanding from staff that, that time period has passed, that they looked at it and that they have determined that a traffic circle is appropriate. I don't know the exact stage of the process as far as the voting is concerned because when you put a circle in you've got to get each of the neighboring - on each corner, so in that case there are four corners, one being the church. We need the approval of all property owners on the corner and then a broader area that we send out and ask them to vote that they support that. I don't know off the top of my head right now where that voting process is, I will find out and get that to you.

Commissioner Lago: If you could get that information before our following meeting that would be perfect. The residents are very understanding; they are just eager for this traffic calming device.

Commissioner Quesada: They brought it up when they were doing the new entrance to the University of Miami. I went out there a few times, it was just before the two of you got elected, and they were talking about it back then as well.

Commissioner Lago: Yes, it's more of a concern because - and I don't want to use the word students, but there are individuals who go rather fast on that street and you have a lot of young kids running around that area. So thank you, thank you for that. I look forward to that update. The final issue that I wanted to discuss, first off I wanted to say thank you to the residents of Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association, who are here today. It was truly a pleasure and an honor to attend your Homeowners Association meeting last Thursday around 7 o'clock. It was great to spend some time

with all of you and discuss city issues and see how we can service you in a much friendlier manner, so I appreciate the time that we spent together. I want to discuss with the Commission, if possible, and I had spoken to Craig about this. I wanted to discuss and after reading the Herald article that came out last Sunday, which I know that everybody read the article, which I say with all modesty did not paint the City of Coral Gables in the best light, and I know that we hold ourselves to the highest standard in reference to our residents, the business community, and I wanted to make sure that we voice our opinion in reference to this article and that the City always has its residents from north to south to east to west at the heart of the City; and I wanted to discuss the fact that there has been a multitude of discussions over the years in reference to whether a trolley stop should be allowed to be in the Lola B. Walker area, if it should be even discussed, and I'm a firm believer that it's just a "stone's throw" from where the trolley basically drives through. I looked at it with Danette and with staff and you are talking about something around two blocks. The trolley is around two blocks away from the Lola B. Walker area. All we have to do is just cross U.S.-1. I know that there is some cost associated with extending the line and making a stop, but I think that we could somehow somehow find the necessary funds to make this a true reality. So after speaking to Craig, we discussed the ability of maybe directing staff to look into this and making it a policy matter to really move forward, not just talk, but take action. Craig could you help me out a little bit in regards to what would be the necessary steps to move forward, if the Commission so deems? I would want 100 percent approval from the Commission.

City Attorney Leen: Well under the Code, the Rules of Procedure, this is not on the agenda right now, so to take a policy action today would require unanimous vote, under our Code provisions, but I would recommend is that you ask staff to look into the matter, or make the decision today that you want staff to look into the matter and come back to you and have it at a regularly scheduled meeting where it's on the agenda, and then you make the policy decision, whether you want to do it or not after listening to the Manager's reasoning.

Commissioner Quesada: So what are you asking for? You are asking for us to consider it?

Commissioner Lago: Yes. I want to give also, again, defer to the Manager because the Manager provided us with a trolley report, which I read it from cover to cover. I didn't get much sleep last night, and there were some valid points in reference to trolley stops, the routes, and different things that are important in the report, but I think you

have to look sometime beyond what is in a report and you have to look at what is the right thing to do, and I think that everybody in this community deserves a bite at the apple and I know that, that's the right thing to do. So I asked the Manager in reference to this matter we are discussing today before I ask for support in this issue to give a little bit of his insight in regards to the matter. I know it's been an ongoing issue and I want his opinion on the matter, if possible please.

City Manager Salerno: Thank you Commissioner. As Commissioner said, the City hired a firm; Janet Fleming I believe is her name, to conduct a master plan for trolley. That was completed, needed to be completed by December 31st in accordance because it was funded largely by grant funds. You all received a copy within a few days after its completion. The service today is really, we don't have Bill here, Commissioner Kerdyk, Vice Mayor Kerdyk sorry, he is not here but from all indications and everything that I've read, the initial trolley service that was set up in the City was intended to be a line and it was done in conjunction with the County, which was to bring people from the Metro-Dade Station to downtown and from the north to downtown. The route was intended ultimately to connect Miami-Dade Transit routes to the north, a major link, and Metro to the south to get people to the downtown, to and from the downtown and it just happens that they stop along the way periodically on the stops that are north and south of the downtown to pick those folks up, but it only gets them on that corridor. So it is not a true transit service first of all, in the sense of general circulation for our community that's Miami-Dade Transit. So that's historically how my opinion I've seen it. The purpose of it was established to be that connector and to do it and have the City have control of that. There's been some discussions over the past as, if the City was to look at an expansion what might those opportunities be?- and I'd heard some of that discussion amongst Commissioners although it was not a burning issue, top priority compared to all the other issues we have in the City that needed to be addressed, but it was one where there was a curiosity of, OK, some day if we did expand what's the logical next step?- no time for it to be done, no necessity that it be done, but that's what planning is about, it's looking toward the future, its thinking about the future. So we saw an opportunity to apply for a grant, we did, we were successful, we got the grant. The study was completed; the study came up with several - a few conclusions and there was a survey done both online with the City, E-NEWS sent out a survey, so that anybody who receives our E-NEWS some 6,000 subscribers would get it. There was a survey done, two surveys done at two different times of the riders. So there were survey individuals that were on the trolleys at two different times that rode the route for. I'm not sure how long of a period it was, but they actually asked the riders as well a

myriad of questions as to what the issues were?- where would they think service needed to be enhanced?- what would they change if they could change it?- are you open to fares or not?- does it go where we want it to go?- if it doesn't go where you want it to go where would you like it to go?- and many, many other questions. All of that data plus the consultant's own opinion. He is an experienced individual. Put all that together, put it in the plan, they are recommendations, they are not something that the City is tied to, you are not tied to that in any way. It's basically, probably some of the best information about the trolley system that somebody could look at and then from that you can make your own judgments as to what you think the direction should be, if and when. So with that said, that's sort of the background to that. Specific to Commissioner Lago's suggestion here, I think before any material discussion, meaningful discussion as you ought to know what the cost is. I think we need to look at - I think a couple of things need to happen. There are certain sections in the report that deal with the cost per thousand. These are the merits of the issue that transit professionals look at, they are not determinative, but you look at them; what they looked at were the cost per thousand of eligible riders potential and what that would be to the service, that factors in who is to be served anywhere in the City and in factors in what's the potential ridership that could be there and relates it to cost. So it's really telling you how do you get the "best bang for the buck?" If you are going to spend more money, where do you get your "best bang for the buck", that's one element? The other aspect I think should be refreshed is what did the survey data say, as to where service should be considered for enhancement? I think we should look at those and then the specific recommendations of the consultant. I'm not prepared today to have a discussion on that, but the consultant had several pages of recommendations that he thought were the best alternatives or options. Specifically, I could and I will have staff prepare what the additional cost implication for the Commissioner's suggestion. What would it take as far as additional resources to provide that service?

Mayor Cason: One other thing too more basic is what are we trying to accomplish?- because as you said right now this basically takes people from mass transit downtown to go to work, that's what the study shows. There is very little of other kinds of uses of it, where we take about a million people a year or something like that, but there are other areas that could be served as well if we decided to expand it and looking into cost. We have the senior center people are interested, we've had people ask about the Youth Center, we've had people ask about going up into the North Gables. So what are we trying to accomplish if we expand it in addition to what the cost is?

Commissioner Lago: If I could just interject one second in regards to that because I

want to make sure that I answer what the Mayor is saying. When I look at the words, "what are we trying to accomplish?"- this is what I envision and what we are trying to accomplish because I think the key word here is vision. Vision, the future, I don't look at the past, I don't look at the present, I'm always trying to strive for the future and I think that's what this Commission is all about. When I visit this area of the City, the Lola B. Walker area, I know there are businesses opening; I visit a juice bar on constant basis not only on the weekends, but during the week and I see residents and individuals who conduct business in the downtown area. They are eating at this restaurant, so I would see this trolley as an extension and a possibility for them to go from downtown to this juice bar that just opened up in front of Carver School as an opportunity for that transit. When we talk about the sustainability plan that we discussed for such a long time in today's Commission meeting, this is a key component of the Sustainability Plan, because the City of Miami has a bus stop that is adjacent to a potential bus stop. Excuse me, not bus stop, I apologize. The City of Miami has a trolley stop which hopefully if we did have a trolley stop in the Lola B. Walker we could connect. So if you are talking about going from downtown you could potentially go from our City to the City of Miami. So I think there is a lot of opportunity in reference to the future and if we offer this stop in the Lola B. Walker area.

Commissioner Quesada: Can I propose something?- and Pat if you can write this down. I don't know if I can do a motion or not or unanimous or just hear me out first and then Craig and you guys tell me what you think. I would like to see what the cost impact would be to take a trolley into this area?- number one; number two, what the effect on service times be?- number three, would there be any need for additional trolleys for going in there?- and number four, a proposed route. I think those are the basic questions and the reason I ask those questions is, I was very involved in extending the trolley down to Flagler all the way north, because that was an issue when I was campaigning and then I had many conversations with staff and with Pat internally about trying to take it down to Fairchild Tropical Garden on the weekends. That was the thought and I think from those conversations we ended up going with the consultant and I know those are the first initial questions. As far as having the conversation about taking it in there, I am 100 percent on board in having that conversation, expanding the trolley route. Bill, I remember from when I was an intern for you fourteen years ago, a long time ago, we are getting old. At that time, I remember when you were bringing the trolley to the City. The goal of those conversations always was as much as possible, at that time Mayor to answer your question very early on and Bill can speak to it better than I can. The whole idea was always bringing in as much of the population as possible to be able to get around the City was always the conversation, and Bill I pass

it to you to really further expand on that.

Mayor Cason: What I'm trying to get at if we want to do that there are other areas as well that we ought to include, because we used to have it at the Biltmore....

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Exactly.

Mayor Cason:...it turned out nobody used it.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: The thing is that Frank is right; we want to be as inclusionary as possible in this process here. I mean, after we did the initial study after looking into these other areas, the concept was that we were doing really two things: we were trying to take cars off the street, force people onto mass transit and alleviate parking problems in the downtown area, and that's accomplished both of these. If you go back and take a look at the studies it's fantastic how many people are now using Metro Rail, now using that to get to the downtown area. The Mayor is correct, we did run - initially we tried a pilot program down the heavily populated corridor of Biltmore Way where we have those large structures, the David Williams and Biltmore II, all the way down to the Biltmore...

Commissioner Quesada: That's right, I forgot about that.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk:...and it did work, it did work, and that's heavily populated. I've had people from the Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association talk to me, I've had people from North Gables saying they are trying to get it there, we've had people there. It's not that we want to exclude anybody, the fact is, is it practical?- is it possible? So I think Frank's idea of getting all the information is something that we can look at and then make a determination if it's feasible and things like that.

Commissioner Quesada: Can I ask you a question? The pilot program that you had with the Biltmore, how was that run?

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: It was run separately from the main route, because the key in the main routes is headways. Once you start messing with headways, which are 8 to 10 minutes that's when people don't want to take it as much, that is it. So if you mess with the headways, that will hurt the sustainability of that program, which again what you want is hooking into Metro Rail and bringing people in and believe me, I've had so many tenants in the City of Coral Gables saying, you know what Bill?- I can relocate in



Coral Gables now because you know my people can take the Metro whereas before I had to go to Brickell. So it is a big thing for encouraging business in the City of Coral Gables. So we need to look at all this and I'm for it; I'm for trying to include as many neighborhoods as possible.

Commissioner Lago: Especially this is just two blocks away.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: We just need to make sure the headway stay - so to answer your question, so we ran another route up and down Biltmore Way and the headways were not good, they were 20 minute headways or 25 minute headways and it just never worked, and we just couldn't afford to do it.

Commissioner Quesada: So Mr. Manager, the fifth thing I would like to add, so the four essential questions obviously with any other input that you think is necessary for us to make a determination: number one, the cost impact; (2) effect on service times; (3) need for additional trolleys, if any; (4) proposed route, and (5) is what would be a reasonable amount of time if we make a determination that a pilot project would be needed. Is a pilot project 2 weeks?- is it a month?- is it 6 months?- is it a year?- if you could just sort of take that back to staff...

City Manager Salerno: One other element that needs to be there is you need to consider the alternatives, if you are expanding service you have to look at - it shouldn't be this or nothing, I think you should look at - that's why we spent \$45,000 which was to look at - you should consider that along with the other options that should be considered, no area should be excluded or from the discussion based upon the best use of dollars, because those dollars are relatively tight and in all decisions it's a matter of alternatives. So that's the Commission's decision as to where you want to invest any resources, but I would add that the alternatives need to be considered, rather than do it or don't do it, because that's seems to be not a full review of the matter.

Commissioner Keon: Can I add one item to that possible that you can look into is the service in the City of Miami and the opportunity to connect at the Metro Rail, at the Douglas Metro Rail station between those neighborhoods east of the highway and our route along Ponce that maybe it's just a transfer. I thought the City of Miami was looking at also expanding their trolley service throughout the west Grove into that Metro Rail Station too. So if we can pick it up and transfer then to ours it does enhance the quality...

Commissioner Quesada: Yes, maybe that works.

Commissioner Keon: So maybe we can talk, when you are doing it you can have a conversation with the City of Miami as to what they are doing also.

Commissioner Quesada: That's a good point.

Commissioner Lago: Are we going to schedule a timeframe in regards to these deliverables that Frank is requesting?

Commissioner Keon: Sure. How long do you think it would take to get that information back to us Pat?

City Manager Salerno: I'd be glad to let you know, I want to talk to staff first on that...

Commissioner Keon: February?- a meeting in February it will come back?

City Manager Salerno: As soon as I check with staff. This is February now, so I'd like to talk to staff first and find out what...

Commissioner Keon: OK. So sometime in February we would be able to...OK. Thank you very much.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Quesada.

Commissioner Quesada: Yes, I've got a few things. Number one, I want to request since we are talking about trolleys, I want to request an Executive Session on our trolley issue. It's been I guess, about two months since we've been updated as a group, what's going on, I just want to know where we're at.

City Attorney Leen: Understood. Under state law then I will request an Executive Session again on the Astor lawsuit and the FTA administrative proceeding, also another Executive Session on the FPL matter and both of those will present to you with the current situation.

Commissioner Quesada: That's actually the next thing I was going to ask for, an Executive Session on FPL because you and I had an internal conversation. I don't

know if you've had it with everyone else, but we should be discussing it as a group.

City Attorney Leen: Yes.

Commissioner Quesada: Can you do it at the same meeting?

City Attorney Leen: Yes, we would try, that should be the goal. We've had two Executive Sessions in a row, we've done that before.

Commissioner Lago: I think that meeting with the trolley should be sooner rather than later. I don't know how everybody's schedule is, but I'm willing to do it as soon as possible.

City Manager Salerno: We'll check with you all for availability and I do agree that to the extent that there is going to be a difference in time, we should try to do the trolley one sooner.

Commissioner Quesada: OK. I'm OK with that.

Mayor Cason: Anything else?

Commissioner Quesada: I want to request - I had a meeting with the Hammock Oaks Neighborhood Association and they are having some traffic issues, major traffic issues is what they are telling me on Solano Prado and Marquesa Drive. I don't know if we can start the process of having someone from staff take a look at that and maybe do a basic traffic count.

City Manager Salerno: We'd be glad to.

Commissioner Quesada: They said it's creating a dangerous situation that they have there and they've had some close calls.

City Manager Salerno: I'd be glad to have it looked at Commissioner.

Commissioner Quesada: This is what I've been thinking about for a while and we all get complaints about traffic and traffic circles and many times there is not much we can do, maybe because one of the neighbors that their swale's been affected is not in agreement with it or maybe the entire neighborhood doesn't vote in favor of the circle,

especially the cut through streets. This past weekend on Saturday, the Coral Gables Community Foundation had the "tour of kitchens" and I volunteered at home. I was at 500 Madera and the event went great, but I was standing outside most of the time working as a greeter, welcoming in people in, letting them know this is one of the houses on the tour and the cut through traffic. I mean I've never lived on one of those streets, we've all seen it, I'm sure I have, we've all used it as a cut through street at one point or another in our lives, and the speed that comes through is very quick. So here's a thought that I've been thinking about and I think this is one way to do it. What if we were and I'm proposing it right now, maybe we have to put in at a future meeting, the residential areas we reduce the speed limits from 30 to 25 throughout the City?

Mayor Cason: Do you think it will stop them from speeding?

Commissioner Quesada: I think it will slow things down.

Commissioner Keon: I think that then it becomes an enforcement issue because if speed isn't enforced it doesn't hold, so - and I really think we are on an open grid, we sit in the middle of the County, we are going to have traffic.

Commissioner Quesada: Just slow people down.

Commissioner Keon: Its slowing it down, its slowing that traffic down because people fly through those streets.

Commissioner Quesada: And what happens is you have....

Commissioner Keon: But absolutely you're right.

Commissioner Quesada:...I think the psychology of a driver, me, anyone of us, if you see it says 50 miles an hour, you go. I can go 60, I'm not going to get a ticket going 60. So I think when people see 30 they think 30, oh I can go 35, maybe someone else doing 40 and that's dangerous, there could be a kid playing Frisbee or throwing a ball around in the front yard.

Mayor Cason: Are we allowed, Mr. Manager, to set speed limits on different streets according to whatever criteria we come up with?- or is it something that's out of our hands?

City Manager Salerno: Well, I want to look into this and get you some more information, but certainly if we vary our speed limits in our City then we are going to have to post at every entrance to our City what our speed limit is. So if we are five miles less than the neighboring streets, the moment you cross into any Coral Gables street we are going to have a major sign initiative to tell everyone and on every single street. The County will not allow you to lower the speed limits below the standard without them changing out all the speed limit signs and making sure that when you cross because the rest of the County they are used to what it is. Now you've created a zone where its five miles less and people coming from outside the County, they don't know what the speed limit is in our City. If its five miles less, they are subjected to traffic citations, etc., so it is a big issue. We can certainly - I don't feel we have the staff capability in-house to analyze that issue, this is bigger than us. I think we should - we certainly could ask one of our outside consultants to at least raise what all the issues are and factors that you might want to consider that come into effect both that and on ease of flow, does lowering the speed limit to what extent does people recognize that lower speed limit versus - and what's the impact on traffic backing up, etc., the timing of all the signals in the City, it potentially is not a - it has a lot of legs to it, but we could certainly have staff, we could contact our traffic consultant and ask him to give us, treat us let's say, on what are the advantages, what factors should we consider in discussing that matter.

Commissioner Quesada: OK.

City Manager Salerno: Would that be agreeable?

Mayor Cason: A lot of things that go into this and I agree, whatever we could do, if there is anything we could do to slow traffic down, but certain cities do things that we haven't done like traffic bumps because that affects our Fire Departments and our Class I ratings and...

Commissioner Quesada: It is allowed within the City...

Mayor Cason: Two of them, I think in Sunrise.

Commissioner Quesada: Sunrise - what happens is you need 100 percent approval from the homes that are directly affected and no one wants to hear the (sound effect) on private...

Mayor Cason: Then you've got people that don't care what the speed limit is. Those are the ones that speed and you have, I think we looked at the red light cameras on Alhambra and LeJeune and there were 1,333 of which 80 percent were people from out of Coral Gables whipping through the City. They don't care, they go through the lights. So I think it's very complicated, it would be great to have a discussion of what if anything we could do. Certainly seems to me policemen giving tickets is one of the best things.

Commissioner Quesada: Of course, of course.

Commissioner Lago: Enforcement is the key.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: It's a great idea. I remember Commissioner Cabrera actually was very active in trying to do this, and there is something that prohibited us from moving it from 30 to 25. I can't remember, it's a historical deal; she could look it up and find out.

Commissioner Quesada: Mr. Clerk if you don't mind, can you research and pull the minutes from that meeting when it was discussed, the 25 mile an hour speed initiative, how far back you think it was?

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Probably five years.

Commissioner Keon: I don't think you can do it on....I think you can do it on residential streets you can do it.

Commissioner Quesada: OK. That's all I have.

Mayor Cason: I just have a couple of things. One, I think we all love landscaping, beautiful trees, could you update us Mr. Manager on the lighting on Alhambra Circle, which I think would be beautiful once it's on.

City Manager Salerno: Yes. Thank you Mayor. What we are planning in the very, very near future is to have a tree lighting ceremony or trees lighting ceremony because I think there are 67 Midules that are on Alhambra between LeJeune and Ponce that stretch, as you know, has been improved with irrigation there was never irrigation there. There is now ground cover, flowering annuals, and power had been added and

the light fixtures within a short period, within let's say two weeks. We are hoping that the final light fixtures that will light up both the Bismarck Palms, which are the shorter of the palm trees and the tall Midules that are there, that those lighting fixtures will all be there. They are down to the last six or so lights that have to be installed and there were two on each of the trees, so there's quite a number there. Anyway, that is in the last stages of being installed and I think you'll be pleased when you see it lit up at night. It will characterize, it's beautiful in the daytime I think. I think everybody would agree, I've heard very positive comments from people about it, but at nighttime its dark and when you have something that beautiful just like architecture you want to light it up, that's living. That's architecture in a fashion, so I think it will make that part of our community even more desirable and noteworthy and something that will become a signature type street for South Florida, not just within Coral Gables. So as soon as we have final acceptance of that lighting, which would be very soon, I'll get with you all to see what's the best availability for Commissioners, if you'd like to attend because the difference is that has to be done at night. We can't turn the lights on in the day nobody will notice we did anything. So it's going to have to be after sunset and we'll try to find a time that is convenient for Commissioners and we'll do a ceremonial light switch turning it on at that point.

Mayor Cason: Thank you. Just two things if staff could keep an eye on. I've noticed more and more, at least where I walk, the garbage pits people are throwing out cardboard and doors and everything the day after the garbage is picked up. They seem to be forgetting that you can put green but not trash and it's starting to look nasty in lots of areas of the City. So either get on with warnings or give them a fine, but that's one of the areas that really makes the City ugly.

City Manager Salerno: We'll try an education effort first and let everybody know about what those rules are. Remind them of that first and if we need to go to the next stage...

Commissioner Keon: That goes back to issue when we talked about cardboard and because we don't have the ability to recycle cardboard. I mean if we could really work with staff and figure out if there is a way that you can just cut up cardboard, tie up cardboard, you know allow them to - it fills up your garbage can so it means more than two garbage cans, but its whether we go to three garbage cans or we go to something else that allows people to be able to dispose of cardboard. Obviously, we don't have the capacity in the trucks or the means to separate it, but there has to be a solution to getting that because most of the trash, I mean the other stuff like doors and

that stuff that should be taken away with contractor, whatever, but there is a constant filling of the trash pits with cardboard and cardboard boxes. We have to figure out a way to do that between now and the time that we can do something about our trucks.

Mayor Cason: Part of the sustainability.

Commissioner Keon: You can't wait until that system comes and we buy all new trucks and whatever else, that is such a long time and it's such an unattractive element on our streets that we just have to be able to - I'm sure we have enough creative minds in our Public Service Department within the staff in your City to figure out a way to get that stuff off the street. If it means giving people an extra garbage can, I don't know what it means, but we need to be able to do that.

Mayor Cason: And the last thing that I have is, I've noticed more and more people that are blocking off the swale with sticks and ribbons and everything else, the swale belongs to the City, to the citizens, and yet I've seen 15 or 20 homes where you have a whole block of yellow ribbons, what they are saying belongs to me and nobody can park there. In a place like Alhambra what it does is then they park in the middle of the parkway, which says no parking and its beautiful and they dig it all up, so be aware - that doesn't belong to them the swale.

City Manager Salerno: We'll be glad to have Code Enforcement where they see that talk to the residents, not give them a citation, but just make them aware that that's not the appropriate approach.

City Attorney Leen: Mr. Mayor, I just had one thing. Commissioner Keon had asked me just to report back briefly and you are going to get a longer report in a future meeting, but regarding the specific property that came up last time where there were some issues with the public, I just want you to know that there is now a running fine on that property for the bank. That the bank management company is taking action to fix it, that the City secured the property under the unsafe structures ordinance. Code Enforcement I thought responded appropriately to that and very quickly, and then more generally what I'm working on with staff, again. This will probably be in February, present some proposed ordinances to you, but we are looking at enhancing the abandoned property registry to make it for vacant properties where there is a running Code violation to have enhanced fees and fines for the bank or the property owner to allow the City to issue trespass warnings as to those properties because they are a public nuisance, to allow the City to more easily get special assessment liens on



the property, and to give staff authority to bring actions against those properties; and I want to emphasize there are not that many of those specific properties I'm talking about, but the will of the Commission has been that for every one of those we do something about it, and I know that the Manager and I are looking at that closely and we've met and we are taking action. I just want you to know that.

Commissioner Keon: Did you find that fining the bank was more effective than...?

City Attorney Leen: Yes, it's much more effective and the banks have been working with us.

Mayor Cason: OK. Meeting adjourned.

City Clerk Item No. 24

#### ADJOURNMENT

[Note for the Record: There being no further business on the Regular City Commission Meeting Agenda. The Commission of the City of Coral Gables adjourned its meeting at 11:02 am on January 28, 2014. The next regular meeting of the City Commission has been scheduled for February 11, 2014, beginning 9 a.m.]

JIM CASON  
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOLMAN  
CITY CLERK

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item C-6**  
**January 28, 2014**  
**City Commission Chambers**  
**405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Jim Cason**

**Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.**

**Commissioner Pat Keon**

**Commissioner Vince Lago**

**Commissioner Frank Quesada**

**City Staff**

**City Manager, Patrick Salerno**

**City Attorney, Craig E. Leen**

**City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman**

**Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

**Chief Procurement Officer, Michael Pounds**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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C-6 [Start: 9:20:55 a.m.]

Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Chief Procurement Officer to authorize contract negotiations with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., and if necessary, with other short-listed consulting firms for architectural consulting services for the renovation of Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park pursuant to Florida Statute 287.055, known as the "Consultants Competitive Negotiations Act" and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2012.05.17.

Mayor Cason: Item C-6.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you. Just want to make brief comments in regards to Item C-6 on the Consent Agenda. I was reviewing this item and I noticed that it is for an RFQ that went out for design of Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park. What I'd like to see if our Manager and maybe staff could give us a little further information in reference to the process how AECOM was selected as the short-listed consulting firm to perform the design, and also just to clarify a few technical questions that I may have in reference to the RFQ.