

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item M – Discussion Items
September 25, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

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

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item M – Discussion Items [12:04:30 p.m.]

City Attorney Ramos: I would like to announce for the record, as I stated earlier, the Executive Session is being postponed until a later time. However there was an error made in the title, Vice Mayor Quesada is recused from this item, has been from the inception, has never participated and is being corrected to remove him from that title. He will not be participating.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We are having an Executive Session?

City Attorney Ramos: We are not. We are postponing it till a later date. Sorry to disappoint.

Commissioner Keon: On the item relating to Garage 1, is that supposed to come back?

City Attorney Ramos: I believe it will be at the next meeting, but all I got was a text message saying that they were not ready today.

Commissioner Keon: OK.

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City Attorney Ramos: I suspect they will be in two weeks.

Commissioner Lago: You have a comment?

Commissioner Keon: I would like for us to have a Sunshine meeting again, to meet with staff.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Again?

Commissioner Keon: Again – before it comes back to the Commission, because I'd like to know all of their input before. I want all of the information I need on that Friday before, so I can make a very informed decision on that Tuesday.

Commissioner Lago: And I'd also like to thank Commissioner Keon for putting together the Sunshine meeting before. I attended. It was very informative. I think Mr. Trias did an exceptional job in bringing a lot of the issues to light. I requested that he go through the Manager, send all the work that he did over the weekend to make sure that it got all to my colleagues on the Commission, because it was very, very appropriate. His diagrams, all the information that he provided, because it really gave you a sense of the scope and the size and the magnitude of the project. I would just like to put one last thing on the record. I want to lay this to rest at the next Commission meeting. This has been dragging on for way too long. Either we approve this project or we don't approve this project. But it's gotten to the point where it's taking up a lot of staff's time, a lot of resources, and I think that we need to move on, because there are a lot of other issues that I think are just as important as these projects.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you Commissioner.

City Attorney Ramos: I'd like to know Commissioner Lago, as of last night the plan changed again, so we are looking at something new.

Commissioner Lago: And I think it's appropriate that it didn't come before us, because I think staff didn't have an opportunity to review it and I did not want to see and I told Peter when we met, I think at 5 o'clock yesterday evening, under no circumstances that I want to see this come before the Commission when staff hasn't been able to give us their up or down in regards to this project or seen the fine points. It has to go through that, it has to through Ramon, it has to go through everybody that's involved. Kevin has to really vet – I need to understand and feel comfortable when we are going to make this decision.

Commissioner Mena: But to Commissioner Keon's point and I think your point, now that there is this new proposal, which I think was made in response to some of the things that were stated at the last meeting. I don't want to have another workshop until everybody's reviewed it...

Commissioner Keon: I don't want another workshop.

Commissioner Mena: ...vetted it.

Commissioner Keon: I don't want another workshop.

City Attorney Ramos: I don't think she's asking for a workshop. I think she is just going to have a Sunshine meeting.

Commissioner Keon: A Sunshine meeting so I have all of the information that I need.

City Attorney Ramos: A meeting that's noticed and anybody who wants to come, you all can come, but it's with staff.

Commissioner Keon: It's with staff.

Commissioner Lago: And by the way, and I want to make a point, excuse me Commissioner Keon, this is worth noting. The City Attorney just mentioned that anyone can attend. We did have two individuals from the public attend this meeting; and they came and they gave their voice or opinions.

Commissioner Keon: Well they just asked some questions, they are writing about it.

Commissioner Lago: They asked questions about the project, they voiced their opinions and perfectly fine. It was a Sunshine meeting.

Commissioner Mena: So all the meetings were noticed though, right?

Commissioner Lago: I know.

City Attorney Ramos: But it's not a formal workshop where, at least I don't believe that that's what...

Commissioner Keon: No. We sat around the conference table and talked about it and Keith Kleiman was there and talked about our ability to finance the garage and gave us all the information, everything, whatever. So it was very, very informal.

City Manager Iglesias: It was really an informative meeting and Sunshine in case multiple Commissioners.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very much.

City Attorney Ramos: Mr. Mayor before you break, would you like to come back at 1:30 (p.m.) to vote on the resolution for the City Manager, or would you like to leave that for some other time?

Commissioner Keon: Can we do that like at 4:30 (p.m.) before...

City Attorney Ramos: We can do it at 4:30 (p.m.) or 4:45 (p.m.) right before the budget meeting.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We can do it at 4:30 (p.m.), is that a good idea?

Vice Mayor Quesada: We can do it at 4:55 (p.m.).

[Laughter]

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: 4:55 (p.m.).

Commissioner Keon: We can do it right before the Budget Hearing, yes.

[End: 12:08:56 p.m.]