

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting  
Agenda Item K – Discussion Items  
November 15, 2016  
City Commission Chambers  
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Jim Cason  
Commissioner Pat Keon  
Commissioner Vince Lago  
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada  
Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick**

**City Staff**

**City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark  
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen  
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman  
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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Agenda Item K – Discussion Items [5:05:14 p.m.]

Mayor Cason: Let me ask my colleagues since some people had to leave at 5, anybody have something pressing?

Commissioner Keon: Will you leave me your contact information again?

City Attorney Leen: I have to make one brief request. I do have to make an Executive Session request, not for the next meeting, I just have to make it in case something happens at this mediation and I need to meet with you; not at the next Commission meeting, I told the City Manager she has that Commission meeting, its Murhee et al v. City of Coral Gables, Case No. 13-20731 CA-01 Florida Eleventh Judicial Circuit. City Manager has a presentation at the next one.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Your December 6<sup>th</sup>, your Retail Development Workshop, so I told the City Attorney, no Executive Sessions at that one.

City Attorney Leen: We work together in scheduling these so you don't get too many.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Keon you have anything?

Commissioner Keon: I just wondered when we thought this item on the Public Service Building is going to – when did you want to bring it back to the Manager?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Without continuing the item it would be our hope to have it on the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Keon: OK. So it's not continued, but you will bring it back after you finish your....

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: It is our intent to have it on the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Keon: OK. Thank you. I want to also tell you that I went last night to the – you know I have been very involved in the whole renovation of the Kerdyk Tennis Center. When it first came forward and it was a multi-million dollar project, and we looked at it and said, no, no, no, that doesn't need to be like that, and they redesigned it, and can I tell you how happy the people are that are there. But because of the redesign there was enough money with the additional money we put in this year to actually redo the building also, which wasn't slated to be done, so last night staff had a community meeting with the user community to present the plans for the building and I was their only guest. So despite there were notices all over the tennis facilities, there were notices everywhere about this meeting and I was the only person there, but I really have to congratulate staff and tell them what a great job they have done in getting input and working with the pros and working with the people, because so many of the people that were there, they were picking up kids said, Oh yes, we saw the plans, because they've been on display there, we think it's great, we are so excited. They really had done just a great job of working with the tennis pros and the user community as to how to redesign that building, it's on the same footprint to make it just a much more usable space. It will be wonderful when it's done. I laughed when I got there and I said I knew this item was going to be on about holding Commission meetings at night and I thought, I was their only guest. Also, I wanted to congratulate the Manager, you know the Miami Today has their Book of Leaders for 2016, and in going through this Book of Leaders, it is impressive to see how many of the people that are here are actually business people or residents of our City, but in addition to that, our Manager was named the Leader of the Year for Government, so I'd like to congratulate her on that, it was well deserved.

[Applause]

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Lago.

Commissioner Lago: I want to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy and Safe Thanksgiving. I hope everything works out and that everybody enjoys time with their family. I

want to request from Assistant City Manager Fernandez that he highlight the NSA's and give us an update. I'm hearing great things from the residents. I hear crime is down in reference to the petty crimes that are going on, that were going on, excuse me. I'd also like to bring to the attention of the City Manager and staff and to everyone one here, we are having an issue with quorum in regards to the Waterway Advisory Board. My appointment is the Chairman.

Vice Mayor Quesada: My appointment was the one that didn't show up.

Commissioner Lago: Yes. I got somebody, so I'm going to be submitting the resume.

Mayor Cason: In regard to that too, I always take a close look at the 31 advisory boards and I read the minutes, I saw this time two or three of our appointees who has missed three meetings who are automatically off, and rather than embarrass them, I think those that have appointed them should find somebody else, because we don't want people who don't want to participate.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Of course. If you have somebody for the Waterway, please give the name.

Commissioner Lago: I do. I do. A gentleman Fortune, he lives in Coco Plum.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I know him.

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So moved.

Commissioner Lago: OK. Perfect. His business is in the Gables, he lives in Coco Plum.

Vice Mayor Quesada: No, no, I know who he is and I know he is on the water and he is in an area that we don't have another member that lives on, so....

Commissioner Lago: It works out perfectly.

Vice Mayor Quesada: There is a motion pending.

Mayor Cason: We can make a motion now if you want.

Commissioner Lago: He did.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I did.

Mayor Cason: City Clerk let's take care of this one.

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes  
Mayor Cason: Yes  
(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Cason: See how expeditious we do things.

Commissioner Lago: I had a conversation with a resident, with two residents who are having a little bit of a concern in reference to the amount of events that we are having in downtown, a little bit of a noise. What I would like to find out, I want to do my due diligence, can you get me a list of all the events that we have on a yearly basis and then maybe we can do a little presentation, something short before the Commission and make a decision on whether we pick or chose.

Commissioner Keon: I think the issue is they are now bringing in those stages, those big stages and....

Commissioner Lago: And the playing of the music, playing the music.

Commissioner Keon:...and the music is very loud and it goes to very late in the evening; and maybe we can look at what time we can allow music.

Commissioner Lago: How about, I know we'll have further discussion, but how about we don't have an event back-to-back on weekends. I'm saying like one weekend and subsequent weekend have another event. These are things that I just want to talk about. I want to see how many events we had last year, so just give me an idea from calendar year.

Commissioner Slesnick: And are you including Hartnett Park like downtown?

Commissioner Lago: Yes – anything in downtown.

Commissioner Slesnick: Amplified music.

Commissioner Lago: And the final point I want to make and please I need your information as soon as possible, speak to Martha. As your representative for the League of Cities it's been truly a pleasure to serve, I really enjoy it. They provided us with 20 certificates for turkeys and a food basket, so I want to make sure that each one of us has four of these certificates and food baskets. If you have anybody who is a retiree, anybody again, you have people who are on subsidized income, elderly, who can just use that little bit of boost over the holiday season. If you have anybody give the names to Martha and they'll deliver the certificates so that they can go and pick up their turkey.

Mayor Cason: And I also have 20 from a grocery store that are available.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Can we pass any extras to the Coral Gables Community Foundation, because they work with the high school and they know the under privilege families that are there.

Mayor Cason: I pass some to Letty on the Senior Advisory Board.

Commissioner Lago: So let's make a request that Martha and Chelsea work with Evelyn and these four turkeys and baskets – I asked the City Manager to give me some names. I know she had one individual who we've helped out in the past, an elderly individual, I think he's a war veteran as a matter of fact, he served this country with dignity and I'd like to help him out a little bit. So that's all I have. I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving, it's been a pleasure.

Vice Mayor Quesada: One item – Miracle Mile Streetscape, I have been speaking at length with Peter and with Cathy as well as the attorney for the contractor, so I just want to let you know speak to Peter, speak to Cathy, its hot and heavy right now. I have been trying to mediate a little bit; I just want to make you guys aware that I'm having those conversations so that we can get through this rough patch.

Commissioner Lago: So am I. I was on site last Friday reviewing.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So I just want to make sure if you can communicate to Peter and Cathy exactly what you've been discussing, so that we are, our forces are unified to make sure that this will continue to move forward in an expeditious fashion.

City Attorney Leen: We do have a pending letter to Ric Man.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Speak to staff. I would ask that you all speak to staff so you get fully updated.

City Attorney Leen: I did want to say demanding acceleration of the project and so we are pushing forward.

Commissioner Lago: Perfect – good.

Mayor Cason: Anything else? Commissioner Slesnick.

Commissioner Slesnick: Just want to remind you after you have your turkey and watch all those football games to come out Sunday night for the Junior Orange Bowl Parade, Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, down Miracle Mile and I hope they have a route down Miracle Mile and it winds up at City Hall, November 27<sup>th</sup>, Sunday at 4 o'clock.

Vice Mayor Quesada: In our Neighbors advertisement, can we get a nice big...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We have it...

Commissioner Lago: Just one last item, I'm sorry about that. I had the pleasure of attending with the Mayor the Down Syndrome walk, I think it was this past Saturday or Sunday, Sunday there was a fee that was charged which was \$600, which was an electrical permit fee. I wanted a little

bit more clarification in regards to that. Again, supposedly 100 percent of the money that they raise goes to help a spectacular cause, and I wanted to see if maybe there was any opportunity we could waive that fee.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And we are working on that sir, thank you for bringing it up.

Commissioner Lago: You guys are the best. That's why you are the best.

Mayor Cason: Since everybody has things to do, I will adjourn the meeting. Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you.

[End: 5:15:12 p.m.]