

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item I-2
September 28, 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)

Agenda Item I-2 [12:40:36 p.m.]

Charter Review Items – Information regarding upcoming November Ballot.

Mayor Cason: Let's do I-2 and then your request for Executive Session.

City Attorney Leen: So Mr. Mayor, Item I-2 involves the Charter Review items that are going to be on the November Ballot. The question we have for you is, they've already been included in the Herald, there have been an article about them. The article doesn't really say much about them, except what the ballot language is, and there is going to be an E-NEWS that's going to be issued that's going to have the ballot language for each of them and also a short legal description, the one that was provided to you when you considered them, as to what it does. The question that the City Manager and I had was, is there something more that you want the City to do related to these Charter Review items? Do you want us to have any sort of informational campaign? Under the law the City can't advocate any of the Charter Review items, but we can educate. So one thought was to use E-NEWS that's already being done with the legal description, but if there is anything more, we wanted guidance from the Commission as to what you wanted us to do.

Commissioner Keon: I think its fine the Herald usually covers it pretty well. Maybe in the E-NEWS if you could list the City Attorney's office is the reference point if there are, if someone has additional questions, you could list the City Attorney's office.

City Attorney Leen: Certainly. So what we'll do is just include the legal descriptions, the legal analysis that I did, if anyone has a question they can contact my office and that's what we are going to do.

Mayor Cason: I haven't had any e-mails on it; the Charter Review process we've had a lot of meetings on it, I think it's pretty well explanatory, but if they have a question call you, and it will be in the E-NEWS and certainly in the Miami Herald.

City Attorney Leen: We are going to focus on E-NEWS, that's what we'll focus on.

Commissioner Keon: And I think likely until the ballots come out people aren't going to really pay attention to it.

Mayor Cason: You may get a few now, because the model ballots been sent in e-mails to a lot of people, so some people may look and say, what is Trial Board?- those sorts of things.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And the Herald to their credit did a very good write-up on the Charter Review, so I think that will help educate the public as well.

[End: 12:42:45 p.m.]