

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item D-1
February 19, 2013
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Jim Cason

Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.

Commissioner Maria Anderson

Commissioner Rafael “Ralph” Cabrera, Jr.

Commissioner Frank Quesada

City Staff

City Manager, Patrick Salerno

City Attorney, Craig E. Leen

City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman

Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Barbara Stein, Executive Producing Director, Actor’s Playhouse

David Arisco, Artistic Director, Actor’s Playhouse

D-1 [Start: 9:15:10 a.m.]

Barbara Stein, Executive Producing Director and David Arisco, Artistic Director of Actor’s Playhouse Productions, presenting a plaque to the City in appreciation of their 25th Anniversary.

Mayor Cason: Personal Appearances – We have with us today Barbara Stein, Executive Producing Director and David Arisco, Artistic Director of Actor’s Playhouse Productions, who will be presenting a plaque to the City. Welcome Barbara and David.

Ms. Stein: Good morning everybody. Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, members of the Commission, Mr. City Manager we are so pleased to be here today, first of all we are so grateful for our relationship we’ve had for the last 18 years with the City of Coral Gables. Although in this year, Actor’s Playhouse is proud to celebrate its 25th anniversary, which I must say is a real milestone in our industry, and we attribute that much in part to the great relationship we’ve with the City of

Coral Gables in partnership to renovate and restore that beautiful Miracle Theater into a performance arts center, a 3-stage performing arts center. We thank you so much for the opportunity to work with all of the Commissioners over the years, government officials and I look at you Bill, and I remember your dad, Bill Kerdyk Sr., and he was there to originally set the agreement with the theater and I remember his words, he said it was the best thing he ever did while he was in office, and we remember that with great fondness and dearness and we think the best move we ever made was to relate with all of this wonderful City and to create culture and economic well being in the City, and to help our organization get to this point and to help us grow for the next 25 years. We thank you so much and each show we have this year, we are so honored to present a plaque to the City of Coral Gables with our other great sponsors of the theater, and today I have a plaque that we actually missed out in giving you, it's called the "Last Five Years", and we are just going to add 20 there...(laughter)...this is show for the last five years and we look forward to giving you a plaque every single show we have hence forward. Mr. Mayor, I'd like to present this plaque to you to add to your collection.

[Note for the Record: Presentation of plaque to the Mayor and Commission]

Mr. Arisco: Today, ladies and gentlemen, my name is David Arisco, gentlemen you can have a seat, I am the Artistic Director of the theater and today we have a special treat for you today, our next production is a production of "In the Heights", a Broadway musical that won the Tony for best musical just a handful of years ago, and we are in rehearsals for that right now, and we open in just a handful of weeks. Today I have one of the actresses from the show with us, Doreen Montalvo, and Doreen is – an interesting story with Doreen because she actually was in the original Broadway cast of "In the Heights" and she has played the show and all the different parts, many, many different parts, and we've brought her down to play the role of Abuela. This is a wonderful show that takes place in Washington Heights that tells the story of three different generations of Dominicans, Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Hispanics living in this area of Washington Heights. She plays the Abuela for the whole neighborhood, and she has this beautiful song in the show called, Paciencia Fay, and she describes her coming to this country and it really is a beautiful musical. It's funny, it's fun, the dancing is amazing, its hip hop, it's new, its fresh, it's salsa, it's got a little bit of everything wouldn't you say?- and we are going to let Doreen sing to you this morning, OK?- because she is absolutely wonderful.

[Note for the Record: Musical rendition presented to the Commission].

Mr. Arisco: Doreen Montalvo ladies and gentlemen, she's amazing. I know we have already taken up your time, but that was really special and I hope you appreciate it. This is a woman who has such amazing credits and such an amazing career and she is down here in Coral Gables for the five week run of playing Abuela "In the Heights" and the entire cast is absolutely amazing,

20 person, large musical, folks from New York, folks from down here, one of the most talented cast we've put together. So thank you for letting us sing that to you this morning and Doreen thank you so much for coming this morning and doing that.

Mayor Cason: Thank you, thank you very much, that was wonderful.

Ms. Stein: And we are so excited; very, very soon we are looking forward to seeing that beautiful marquee finished. Thank you so much, it's the final touch to the Miracle Theater, thanks to the City of Coral Gables and when we get it finished we know we are going to recognize everything going on there because the Heights is everybody's community; it's Washington Heights up there, but everybody knows that the Heights, the unique part of this community in Miami-Dade County is Coral Gables and we can't wait to see it finished and thank you again for all the effort and trouble and for keeping us so important to your hearts.

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: Thanks very much, thanks Barbara.

Mayor Cason: Thanks.

[End: 9:25:38 a.m.]