

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-12
July 11, 2023
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Commissioner Melissa Castro
Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez
City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Parks and Recreation Director, Fred Couceyro

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-12 [3:57 p.m.]

Update regarding Burger Bob's
(Sponsored by Commissioner Menendez)

Mayor Lago: F-12 – Burger Bob's.

City Manager Iglesias: Mayor, may I address it?

Mayor Lago: Yes, please.

City Manager Iglesias: Thank you. Thank you very much. Commissioner Menendez, we are just waiting for the final interior design touches by you, and we have two legitimate bids. The plans are about to go into the Building Department for permits and the new budget with the \$255,000 that the Mayor provided from Park Acquisition into the project and the \$3.48 million dollars that the Mayor and the Commission were able to obtain through the State of Florida has allowed us to augment our General Fund and fund Burger Bob's. With the permission of the Commission, I would like to, we have two good bids, two good contractors and I would like to start negotiations

City Commission Meeting
July 11, 2023

with the low bid now to see that as soon as permits are done, we can start construction as soon as possible.

Commissioner Menendez: I want to add that the last time we had a meeting, we discussed briefly Burger Bob's came up and the gesture of the Mayor and the great work that's been accomplished in Tallahassee, as you said, but at that meeting there was a little bit of lack of clarity and I appreciate your team's effort on creating the clarity between then and now, because I know a lot of people in the community reached out to me, and I'm sure reached out to others, looking forward to the day that they can go back to Burger Bob's. So, thank you for assuring the residents that the money is there, that the Commission will have the opportunity to make the decision going forward to move it along. On the interior design, I don't know, Fred, can you give me an update where we are, because I went with a few residents, put my heart and soul into it, you know. We're close to getting that completed.

Mayor Lago: And if I may add. I'd like to see the interior design, before any decisions are made.

Commissioner Menendez: I do too.

Mayor Lago: I'd like to see it; and number two, we, as I told you in the conversation, Mr. Manager, we have requested for solar panels to be installed on the property, with the additional money from the state, along with the \$255,000. I would like to see those panels installed if possible. Make it a priority because at the end of the day, they will pay themselves off.

City Manager Iglesias: We're looking at the solar panel installation, Mayor, on the west side, where you have a large solar panel array. I would like to see if with this item to get the authorization from the Commission to start negotiations on the contract. We would not wrap up the contract until those final interiors are approved by the Commission. I think there's a lot of work that we can do to move the project along.

Commissioner Menendez: After Fred speaks, if you need a motion, I'll be more than happy to give the motion.

Parks and Recreation Director: I don't have a lot to share. I do know, as you know, we did have that meeting there, came back with the initial design on that, which didn't really meet, we met with them twice, actually. So, after the second one, the design still wasn't where it needed to be, so they were making some more improvements to it. Haven't seen it yet, I'm hoping to see it any given day. I'll find out.

Commissioner Menendez: And when we left that second meeting with several residents for long-timers Burger Bob's passion been very involved. I know we walked away, and they walked away very happy with the concept of a subtle retro look, and there are folks that have been there for

*City Commission Meeting
July 11, 2023*

years, and a lot of back and forth, but a lot of progress. So, I think everybody here is excited to see what that final.

Parks and Recreation Director: We also found a vendor that has very similar furniture that was prior there, the same colors, the same look, that specializes in that diner-style furniture. So, we were able to find some vendors.

Commissioner Menendez: And with those residents when everything from the flooring, like every detail to get some input from the folks that have gone there for years. So, it was very helpful, so thank you and the team.

Parks and Recreation Director: They were all putting a new one together that's why we haven't got it yet.

Commissioner Menendez: Look forward to it.

Mayor Lago: With that being said, I'll entertain a motion.

Commissioner Menendez: Motion.

Commissioner Fernandez: Second.

Commissioner Castro: Yes

Commissioner Fernandez: Yes

Commissioner Menendez: Yes

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes

Mayor Lago: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

City Manager Iglesias: And the motion, Mayor, Commission, is to proceed with the negotiations on the Burger Bob's construction.

Mayor Lago: Yes sir.

City Manager Iglesias: With the current low bidder.

Mayor Lago: Yes sir. With the solar, as we discussed.

City Manager Iglesias: The low bidder does not work the option of moving to the second.

Mayor Lago: Perfect.

*City Commission Meeting
July 11, 2023*

City Manager Iglesias: They are very close.