

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item H-5**  
**June 12, 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, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark**  
**Assistant City Manager, Frank Fernandez**  
**City Attorney, Miriam Ramos**  
**City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman**  
**Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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Agenda Item H-5 [7:03:57 p.m.]

A follow-up and update from staff on previous discussions pertaining to the hiring of retired police officers to patrol Coral Gables schools. (Sponsored by Commissioner Lago).

Commissioner Lago: The item is H-5 and it's in regards to – may I have our respected Assistant City Manager Frank Fernandez, please come up. We put together a resolution that dealt with the issue of – as a Commission we voted 5-0 to try to find seasoned officers. I know that maybe this may not be in the best interest of the City, I know that maybe I heard from the grapevine, I didn't hear it from you that maybe we were having some troubles or that maybe we wanted to go a different route. What do you want to do exactly? What are you encountering out there? And, I want to tell you the information I heard. I heard also that the School Board reached out to us pertaining to an MOU, because they said that Miami Beach already signed this MOU and that we never responded and I told them there is a very good chance, not that we didn't respond that we didn't get the MOU. I'm always trying to make sure that we protect the City, because they said that Miami Beach is the first to make sure that everybody that every school has an office or an

SRO and that's not the case. This Commission a month ago with the School Board member here made that commitment. So have you heard that or no?

Assistant City Manager Fernandez: I have not heard that they sent us a MOU that we haven't received. I haven't seen one, but I can tell you that it's my understanding that the City of Coral Gables has had an MOU with the School Board Police for quite some time. And so, to respond to your request on the public schools and the request on private schools, we put together a task force. That task force is comprised of Police, Fire, the City Attorney, and Peter Iglesias' office in terms of zoning and regulations. The purpose of that task force was to go out to the private schools and assess what are the best practices that we could put forward and create a best practices manual that we either impose through zoning and provide it as an opportunity for them to self-impose. Additionally, we looked at the private schools, I'm sorry, public schools in partnership with Miami-Dade School Police. In that coordination that task force, we arrived at the conclusion that they are going to cover certain schools and we are going to cover other schools. At this point, it appears that we have all the schools covered for next year, but we are still finalizing that plan going forward. You want to see – we have an additional opportunity that we may need those part-time seasonal officers. However, on that issue of part-time officers or seasonal officers, we still have to meet with the union and impact bargain with them. So our Labor Relations Director is setting up a meeting to go over that. We still have time. Our goal is to have everything done by the beginning of June. So the manual hopefully will be done by the beginning of July, excuse me, not June, the beginning of July, but they are working on it. The sergeant assigned to that as the team leader for that task force has been given instructions to have it completed as best as he can by the last week of June, for the staff and the team to review, and then come back with a final product. So that's the update that we have on it, but you are absolutely correct we are definitely ahead of the game and we will have all of our schools covered by the beginning of the school year.

Commissioner Lago: One thing I just want to make sure; I want to make sure that we have an officer or retired officer, I apologize, I don't know the exact lingo, at all times in that one school. Not somebody who is covering at another school or two or three schools at the same time. And schools around the corner, I know they'll be gone for a month, so if you need anything from us now, make it known if it's a Sunshine meeting, you need a memo, you need somebody to push at the County, tell me what you need, so that I can make sure I'm there.

Assistant City Manager Fernandez: The City Attorney is part of that member of that task force, so she sits in. The task force has visited all these private schools. I can tell you that I heard you loud and clear. I made it very clear to the Police Department that they need to have a revision of the policy that reads these officers are assigned there full time to ensure safety and security and they'll revise it in that manner.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Assistant City Manager Fernandez: You are welcome.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you sir.

[End: 7:08:02 p.m.]