

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item 1-2
October 24, 2017
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Historic Preservation Officer, Dona Spain

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item: 1-2 [11:45:14 a.m.]

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I would like to, on the Arts Panel, I would like to get a report on how that works. I have been very, very unimpressed with the art that has been submitted to our panel for Giralda and for Miracle Mile, very unimpressed and I'd like to see how that was appointed and what procedure we use to invite artists to submit works. Again, I've been very unimpressed; maybe we can change the proceeding. Yes, Ms. Spain.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So is this related to H-1, the companion item or its related to the minutes?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, it's related to the minutes.

Mrs. Spain: The minutes are what he is talking about. So the Arts Advisory Panel was formed, I don't know, many years ago, it was a request by the Cultural Development Board. They were

accepting art and they really weren't knowledgeable in art, and so they asked that another panel be formed that consist of experts; and so the Cultural Development Board puts up names for that, we contact those individuals, see whether they are interested in serving and then it's a recommendation from the Cultural Development Board to City Commission and those people on the Arts Advisory Panel are confirmed by the City Commission.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: That's fine but they are not cutting it, and they are not cutting it because the submissions to that panel for possible art are frankly, as I said are equivalent to elevator music, and we are much better than that; and maybe we can look at what list of RFP's, or whatever that we use, because I'm very dissatisfied with the quality of the art and the quality of art that's going to be in Giralda. I think it's very, very boring and not worthy of such a fine street.

Mrs. Spain: Well as you know, the art that was proposed for Miracle Mile, they are not going forward with that after many months of trying to work with the artist, they decided not to.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Wonderful.

Mrs. Spain: And that was to their credit, because they didn't feel forced to put mediocre art there, and so we are not.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Why?

Mrs. Spain: They did not feel – so they are going to start over on that.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK.

Mrs. Spain: We do have two vacancies now on the Arts Advisory Panel, so if you have names give them to us and we can contact them and see whether they are available.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Salvador Dali and Andy Warhol.

Mrs. Spain: Great (Laughter)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you. Thank you very much.

[End: 11:47:58 a.m.]