

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item L
November 9, 2022
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Michael Mena

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Jorge Fors

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item L [12:45 p.m.]

Discussion Items

Mayor Lago: Do we have any final comments before we adjourn.

Commissioner Menendez: I do. Thank you, Mayor. I have two images to put up on the screen. There's the first one. As part of my Senior's Movie Series that's been a great success, we've gone from "Singing in the Rain" to "All the President's Men." A couple of months ago, I showed Mel Brooks "Young Frankenstein" and to my shock and surprise, the entire audience wanted that movie, "Blazing Saddles."

Mayor Lago: Love it.

Commissioner Menendez: So "Blazing Saddles" is going to be shown at the Gables Art Cinema, Monday, November 28th, that's the Monday after Thanksgiving, at 1 pm, popcorn thanks to the Coral Gables Community Foundation. Its truly one of the most memorable, hilarious comedies of all time. With regards to the Seniors Movie Series, I'm happy to announce that we are in the process of renewing for Season 2. So, in 2023 we'll be back to provide more movies for our

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residents 40 and older. And then for the next image, I'm happy to announce, there's a second image at some point, but its alright, there it is. My family and I in tandem with the Actor's Playhouse unveiling the Great Movie Ride Film Series, which is really geared to families and its in honor of those Block Buster movies we all grew up with that would have a line around the block, because back then there was only screen and there would be a line of people. So, I'm bringing back free to our residents on December 18th, the original "Star Wars," Sunday the 18th at 5 pm. We go to "Raiders of the Lost Ark" in January, more modern but one of the largest block buster movies of all time; "Avengers Endgame" in April; "Back to the Future" in August, and most likely "Rocky" November 2023 at the Miracle Theater, thanks to the Actor's Playhouse and its like you said earlier Mayor, folks are looking for ways coming out of the pandemic to enjoy life, enjoy community, be with their family, and we all are able to contribute and this is one way the city and our community can enjoy being together and enjoying life.

Mayor Lago: Thank you. Commissioner Anderson.

Commissioner Anderson: I don't have a fancy poster for you, but just a reminder, Monday at 7 o'clock we have "2040" film at the Gables Cinema available. Reduced ticket price at \$8.00, and we'll have some discussion. It's a hopeful film about all our efforts paying off, finally in "2040" for saving the environment. And for those of you who want to get in shape, there is the dolphin challenge coming up in February. You can get yourself in condition and get back on your bike and join the fun.

Mayor Lago: We sponsor a team, my company every year and it's a great cause, a great cause. Commissioner Fors.

Commissioner Fors: I have nothing to add.

Mayor Lago: Alright. Two quick things. Number one, everybody who went to go vote early or drove by the Youth Center was able to see, I'm not exaggerating, 100 to 150 signs throughout the Youth Center. I think we need to figure something out. I had a conversation with our City Attorney and City Manager. I don't want to limit free speech, but again, all these signs are on city property, and I got a lot of phone calls from residents, I know you did too, telling me, hey listen, this is horrible. Its like a sign war. I've engaged in it too, I'm guilty, I'm at fault, but I think we need to figure something out and see what is permissible in regard to state preemption. So, Mr. Manager, I'd like to if you can find something out with the City Attorney and see what's going on, because I'd like to, probably there are standards, especially with early voting. I don't have a problem with a handful of signs for candidate or two signs for candidates if there's multiple entrances, but all these signs right in front of the Youth Center throughout the entire property is just, I think it's a blight, in my opinion.

City Manager Iglesias: We'll look into it, Mayor.

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Mayor Lago: I don't know how you guys feel, but.

Commissioner Fors: Let me add something coming as just been a candidate and talking to other candidates about the sign war at the Youth Center. Most candidates, including myself would have preferred to not be allowed to do signs, because you are forced to go out there and engage in a sign war, because if you don't, then the other person is going to do it. So, you are kind of forced to do it when both sides would rather cut a deal let's not put up any signs at all.

Mayor Lago: Been there done that. So, I'm with you. My second point is, there will not be a meeting at the end of this month. I want to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving, a moment of reflection, a moment to enjoy with your families, a moment to enjoy, to remember that we are blessed beyond measure. We are blessed to serve this great city. We live in the greatest country in the world, and we have so many blessings that spending that moment in community with your friends, your loved ones, just really understanding and reflecting on the fact that, you mentioned it before, my blessings are incalculable. I just want to say that really quickly. I also want to mention that Veteran's Day is around the corner, an incredible and important day, not only for our city, but for this country, and I want to celebrate all the veterans that have served this great country through the decades, through the years and celebrate the fact that they chose a much more difficult path and in that path allowed for a lot of the freedoms that we take for granted, many times in our life. So Happy Veteran's Day. With that being said, Mr. Manager, Mr. Clerk, Madam City Attorney, do you have anything else for the record?

City Attorney Ramos: No Mayor.

City Manager Iglesias: We have an Executive Session.

Mayor Lago: Happy Holidays to all. Thank you. Meeting adjourned.