

City of Coral Gables
Virtual Commission Meeting
May 26, 2020
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli

Vice Mayor Vince Lago

Commissioner Jorge Fors

Commissioner Pat Keon

Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item G-1

A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, directing staff to assist in identifying a park, open space, public facility or room to name in honor of Arva Moore Parks. (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Lago).

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We're going to G-1 and Vice Mayor Lago, I fully agree with your suggestion and it would be very, very proper and very fitting for us to name a park after our distinguished historian, Arva Moore Parks. I would like, however, to propose that we defer this to hear from our Historic Preservation Board and Historic Preservation staff as to which park, we should honor her with by putting her name on it, as opposed to us picking any part. I'd like to hear expert testimony as to which park to choose, if you don't mind.

City Attorney Ramos: Mayor what this resolution does is it just directs staff to do exactly that. To identify a park and an open space that would come back to the Commission for approval.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. Perfect. Will you make a motion then Vice Mayor?

City Attorney Ramos: Also, I'd like to add some language, a change to the agenda title on the floor. It should read: "A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, directing
City Commission Meeting

staff to assist in identifying a park, open space, public facility or room, to name in honor of Arva Moore Parks, with collaboration and final approval of the selection official naming and associated timing from the estate of Arva McCabe.”

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you. I’ll be very brief. Basically, what you mentioned and what you defined, as what you were requesting, Mayor, is exactly what we are trying to achieve in this resolution here. So, at the end of the day, we’ve been in conversation with the family, and we’ve been meeting with Fred and his team, along with the City Attorney and City Manager, and what we are going to deliver here is just basically the next step forward, and then hopefully come back to the Commission in a few months, after we’ve gone through the proper vetting process of meeting with Historic Preservation, meeting with the Parks Board, and having a discussion that really pays the utmost respect to the legacy of Arva Moore Parks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Very good.

Vice Mayor Lago: I’ll make a motion in regard to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Very good – is there a second?

Commissioner Keon: I’ll second it. I would like us to also consider, and I’m sure they will, at some space within the museum, because Arva was their first director and she worked for a year there with no pay and was so dedicated and so involved in the development, along with Chip Withers, who really brought it forward, but Arva played such a huge part of that museum. So, I’ll include that also. But I’ll second the motion.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. Will you call the roll Billy?

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you.