

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-2
May 28, 2019
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli

Vice Mayor Vince Lago

Commissioner Pat Keon

Commissioner Michael Mena

Commissioner Jorge Fors

City Staff

Interim City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Planning and Zoning Director, Ramon Trias

Public Speaker(s)

Lee Garipoli

Agenda Item F-2 [0:00:00 p.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida authorizing Mankind Grooming & Services, located at 290 Aragon Avenue to add the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on premises as an accessory use to the barbershop and spa establishment, as permitted by state law, provided that total receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages not exceed 25 percent of the total annual gross receipts, and permanent bars or counters not exceed 45 square feet in surface area, subject to a valid Certificate of Use and local business tax; and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright, F-2.

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Agenda Item F-2 - Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida authorizing Mankind Grooming & Services, located at 290 Aragon Avenue to add the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on premises as an accessory use to the barbershop and spa establishment, provided that total receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages not exceed 25 percent of the total annual gross receipts.

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's a resolution. And I'd like to...

City Attorney Ramos: F-2 is a resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida authorizing Mankind Grooming & Services, located at 290 Aragon Avenue to add the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on premises as an accessory use to the barbershop and spa establishment, as permitted by state law, provided that total receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages does not exceed 25 percent of the total annual gross receipts, and permanent bars or counters not exceed 45 square feet in surface area, subject to a valid Certificate of Use, local business tax; and providing for an effective date. This is a public hearing item.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I'd like to make a comment on this. And I would like to limit the consumption of beverages or the sale of beverages to those people that are using -- using, not related or incidental -- using the facility for massage, a haircut, a shave, whatever it is.

Commissioner Keon: The current patrons.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes, current patrons.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The current...

Commissioner Keon: Current patrons.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What?

Commissioner Keon: The current patrons.

Vice Mayor Lago: So, what you don't want to see is...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Not necessarily current patrons, as opposed to new patrons.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yeah.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: But...

Commissioner Keon: No, but who's in there.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Those that are there...

Commissioner Keon: And they're using...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Huh?

Commissioner Keon: The facility.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah, they're using the facility for its intended purpose, which is haircuts, et cetera, et cetera.

Vice Mayor Lago: I think what...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: As opposed to somebody coming in and saying I feel good in the barbershop, and I'll have a drink.

Lee Garipoli: Mayor, I'm Lee Garipoli. I'm the owner of Mankind. (INAUDIBLE). We've been in Fort Lauderdale for 14 years. And what you just defined is exactly why we request a 2COP. Without a 2COP, the state allows any business to give away liquor of any kind to anyone of legal

drinking age, as long as that glass of liquor is not contingent upon a sale. So, what that means is that, at any time, any day of the week, anybody can walk in off the street and order a drink and if they're of legal drink -- legal drinking age, you have to give it to them. We are simply a barbershop and spa. And that is what we do. We are not a bar or a lounge. We don't aspire to be anything other than a barbershop and spa. And a glass of beer or wine is simply an ancillary offering to our water, soda and coffee that we currently offer. And so, this way, it helps us control and manage what our brand is and who we want to be by making sure that when someone walks in the door and wants a drink, they're not coming in to just get a drink and hang out. They're coming in to Mankind because they're here to get a service, and while they're there, they'd like to maybe enjoy an alcoholic beverage. And so, that defines exactly why we request a 2COP.

Vice Mayor Lago: Just another -- you know, to add a little bit more to the Mayor's comments. I also want to ensure that we're not rolling out like these bars during, for example, you know, an event that we have on Miracle Mile, where you're selling liquor outside on one of those movable bars. You know, I want to make sure we're not allowing that either.

Mr. Garipoli: Absolutely not. So, unfortunately, I didn't get a chance to meet with everyone prior to -- over the past several weeks I've attempted to and scheduled didn't simply work out. But I did mention that voluntarily when I met with a few individuals, letting them know that I'm happy to put those stipulations in the permissible use of the 2COP. We don't look to be anything other than an ancillary offering to clients coming in and getting a barbershop or spa service. So, we won't be opening up our doors to be some sort of event or other item, other than what we've been for 14 years in Fort Lauderdale. We have no issues, no violations. We are a well-respected company in downtown Fort Lauderdale, and it's one of the many reasons why I chose Coral Gables as my second location because I think it mirrors everything we have in downtown Fort Lauderdale. We're a block off of Las Olas Boulevard. We're a block off of Miracle Mile. We have a great downtown area, so does Coral Gables, surrounded by a really great community of residential. And so, I think it's a great second location for us to help with success and grow as a company. And the 2COP is just something that we identified early -- and I really believe in 2004, when I created the

concept and we opened in 2005, we were one of the first companies of its kind in the country that were doing something with a beer and wine ancillary offering in such an atmosphere and it really helped create us as a brand really early on and people identified it making us unique. So, it's just simply something that we want to continue doing. It's who our brand is, and we don't want to give away alcohol to the masses. We want to be able to control it, manage it and run our brand for what it is.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Commissioner Mena: Two quick things. So, I happen to go to a barbershop where they give beer -- liquor, excuse me, and it's free, right. And to his point, the state law is that because they don't have a license, they have to give it to anybody who walks in off the street, right. What the license that he's seeking here would allow them to do exactly what the Mayor addressed, which is control who they're selling to and who they're not selling to. So, I take -- your point's well taken.

Mr. Garipoli: Thank you.

Commissioner Mena: One question I had for you -- and we discussed this a little bit, but is there a reasonable sort of hours of operation limitation where, you know, I assume people aren't getting haircuts at 10:30, 11 at night, right? So, where we could...

Mr. Garipoli: Yeah, so...

Commissioner Mena: Cut this off and it wouldn't impede what you're trying to do with your business but would...

Mr. Garipoli: The nuts and bolts of our hours Monday through Friday, are 8 am to 9 pm. On Fridays, we actually close at 7 because we find that people are going out to dinner and doing other things. They're not coming in on a Friday night. So, we're open 8 until 9 all week, except for

Friday; we close at 7. Saturday, we're open 9 to 6; and Sunday, 12 to 5. We're a daytime business. People -- we're catering to executives in downtown, you know, escaping for a little while out of work early or whatever it might be. We're not a late-hour business. We don't desire to be a late-hour business.

Commissioner Mena: So, if we put a condition that was a 9 pm cutoff on liquor sales, would that...

Mr. Garipoli: I have no problem...

Commissioner Mena: Be reasonable?

Mr. Garipoli: With that. That would be (INAUDIBLE)...

Commissioner Mena: I would -- that's a suggestion I would make just to, again, avoid this -- I know it's not your intent and I...

Mr. Garipoli: Yeah. I'm fine with that.

Commissioner Mena: And I respect, you know, the fact that it's not your intention. But that way, we have some peace of mind that this is not turning into like a late-night bar. It's just a barbershop, and the latest it's going to operate is 9 pm, and it adds a little bit extra layer of control here.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Vice Mayor Lago: But we're not requiring them to have food. We're not...

Commissioner Keon: No.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Commissioner Keon: Could I ask one question? And maybe you can tell me, Mike. As part of that particular license, is the requirement -- this requirement about alcoholic beverages not exceeding 25 percent of the total annual gross receipts, is that part of that license or is that imposed on you by something else?

Mr. Garipoli: No, we fall strictly right into that municipality code and those requirements. Our...

City Attorney Ramos: That requirement's in our Code, Commissioner.

Commissioner Keon: That requirement's in our Code?

City Attorney Ramos: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: Okay. That -- you know, that's one requirement I'd like you to take a look at because, you know...

Mr. Garipoli: We are significantly under that number.

Commissioner Keon: Are you significantly -- but, you know, we -- that's what we regard as bars. And I want to tell you, if you go out to dinner, half your bill is what you drink generally when you go out to dinner. You have a bottle of wine -- a decent, nice bottle of wine, half your bill is going to be what the -- you know, what your -- the cost for your evening out. And so, this -- I will tell you that many, many of our restaurants in the City don't comply with this as it is now. And this Code provision should be looked at, and you should consider changing it.

Commissioner Mena: Do...

Commissioner Keon: I mean, I'm not going to ask you to do it now, but it...

Commissioner Mena: I'm not disagreeing...

Commissioner Keon: But I'm telling you what it is.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We should require our restaurants give haircuts.

Commissioner Mena: I'm not...

Commissioner Keon: Good idea.

Vice Mayor Lago: For one.

Commissioner Mena: I'm not disagreeing with you that they may or may not comply based on...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Sort of the anecdotal...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: But I got to be honest with you. I don't see a major problem out there. I don't think our downtown is...

Commissioner Keon: Because we don't enforce it.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah. I don't...

City Attorney Ramos: I just need to clarify. The 25 percent is for non-restaurant facilities. So, if you're a restaurant facility, it's a different number.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: If you're a restaurant...

Commissioner Mena: Isn't it 50 for restaurants?

Commissioner Keon: It can be...

City Attorney Ramos: For non-restaurant facilities.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, I'm sorry. So, for restaurants, it's 50 percent?

Commissioner Mena: What is the number...

City Attorney Ramos: I don't think we have...

Commissioner Keon: I think the...

City Attorney Ramos: Do we have the number?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No. Let's not touch restaurants.

Commissioner Keon: Okay. Well, we can talk about...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: (INAUDIBLE) going very, very well.

City Attorney Ramos: This is definitely for non.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Commissioner Mena: I don't see an issue, honestly.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Condition 5 allows for inspections to verify the conditions, if you look at the Code, so the City Manager may inspect the operations.

Commissioner Keon: I'd like you to take a look at this thing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: (INAUDIBLE).

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Vice Mayor Lago: So, this is going to be for full liquor, correct?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Mr. Garipoli: No, no, no. We're beer and wine.

Commissioner Mena: Beer and wine.

Commissioner Keon: Beer and wine.

Vice Mayor Lago: Beer and wine.

Commissioner Keon: No, that's what this...

Mr. Garipoli: And that's one of the things...

Commissioner Keon: The COP is.

Mr. Garipoli: I like about a 2 is...

Commissioner Keon: Beer and wine.

Mr. Garipoli: The 2COP allows us only to distribute...

Commissioner Keon: Only beer and wine.

Commissioner Mena: Beer and wine.

Mr. Garipoli: Beer and wine.

Commissioner Mena: So...

Mr. Garipoli: We can't sell beer and wine and then give away liquor. We are only allowed to house and distribute beer and wine. That's all.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. Do I hear a motion?

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

Commissioner Mena: I'll make -- yeah. Second.

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

Commissioner Mena: But again, with the...

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: With the condition.

Commissioner Mena: With the condition that...

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Nine pm.

Commissioner Mena: What was the start time you said?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Nine pm.

Mr. Garipoli: I'm sorry. Nine o'clock is when we close, so nine o'clock is fine.

Commissioner Mena: So...

Mr. Garipoli: Oh, we open at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Commissioner Mena: Okay, so during those hours, is that...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Is that the best way to state it?

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

City Attorney Ramos: Earliest 8 am; latest 9 pm.

Commissioner Mena: Right.

City Attorney Ramos: On any given day.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll, please?

Mr. Garipoli: Agree.

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Commissioner Fors: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Mr. Garipoli: Thank you very much.

City Manager Iglesias: And Commissioner Keon, to answer your question, it's 49 percent for restaurants.

Commissioner Keon: It's 49 percent for restaurants?

City Manager Iglesias: Restaurants. That's why there's no issue.

Commissioner Keon: I think it's -- okay. I think it's slightly...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright, F-3.

Commissioner Keon: If you audited it, it would be more.