

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item H-1
September 8, 2015
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

City Commission

**Mayor Jim Cason
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick**

City Staff

**City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Planning and Zoning Director, Ramon Trias**

Public Speaker(s)

**Ricardo Romero, Trail Theater
Jorge Angulo, Trail Theater**

Agenda Item H-1 [Start: 2:18:54 p.m.]

A Resolution authorizing Trail Theater to add the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, as permitted by State Law on the property legally described as Lots 28 to 33, Block 22, Coral Gables Flagler St. Section (3715 S.W. 8th Street), Coral Gables, Florida; and providing for an effective date.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Anytime a cultural venue needs to go for a beer and wine license, they have to go through a special process, and so Ramon, if you can explain Item H-1.

Mr. Trias: The special process is that staff reviews any potential impacts that this may have and then the City Manager approves the request and then you get to vote on it. So the request is to serve alcohol at the Trail Theater, which as you know it's a historic theater right on 8th Street, it's

been there for a while since 1930's, and as I understand it, they've been trying to do this activity for a while. There may have been some prior attempts, but this is the time that they actually are requesting it and they have fulfilled all the requirements of the Code, which includes a survey of areas within 1,000 feet, and so on. The information is here and available and I'm here to answer any questions.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We also have the Police Department review the application, just to make certain that we are doing the right thing for that neighborhood and yes, this is Coral Gables, it's immediately north of Douglas Entrance, next to where Miami Marlins used to be.

Mayor Cason: OK. We have three people from the theater, I guess, want to talk about the theater. Let's start with Ricardo Romero.

Mr. Romero: Good afternoon. My name is Ricardo Romero, 4250 S.W. 67th Avenue. I'm here representing the actual Trail, but I would rather give the work to Mr. Jorge Angulo, which is basically...

Mayor Cason: You all want to come up the same time. We have two more, Jorge and Marisol Correa. Might as well all come up and let's hear what you have to say.

Mr. Angulo: Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to let us introduce the Trail Theater, of course the Trail Theater is an icon of the City. It was abandoned for five years and we took it up five years ago and now has been a success and the programs, comedy, drama, all kinds of activities that we are performing. We already have more than 250,000 people who went through the theater to see all the comedy; and we don't have any support from the government, we do it all by ourselves and we think it would be very helpful for us to have the liquor license program. We have a very good relationship with the neighbors, because at the beginning it was abandoned, it was ugly, no paint, full of the homeless, and now it's a beautiful place, it's moving along.

Mayor Cason: When did you reopen?

Mr. Angulo: We opened five years ago.

Mayor Cason: I think I visited four years ago.

Mr. Angulo: Four and-a-half.

Mayor Cason: Right. So its going well? You are successful?

Mr. Angulo: Yes. We are.

Mayor Cason: You are still there.

Mr. Angulo: We are still working and we have a lot of actors and actresses and create employment and the people are very happy with the theater.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And Mr. Mayor, I misspoke. It is not only beer and wine it's full alcoholic service, that's a part of that.

Mayor Cason: Any discussion?

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'll make a motion.

Mayor Cason: Commissioner Quesada makes the motion, Vice Mayor makes the motion, second?- Commissioner Slesnick. City Clerk.

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Mayor Cason: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Mr. Angulo: Thank you very much. I'm very grateful.

Mayor Cason: Good luck.

Mr. Angulo: You are all invited to the theater. Its in Spanish, but we are going to do English also.

Commissioner Keon: Always a good reason to party – adds to the party. (Laughter)

[End: 2:23:05 p.m.]