

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item H-9
January 26, 2016
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
Parks and Recreation Director, Fred Couceyro

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item H-9 [1:29:00 p.m.]

A Resolution authorizing Satchmo Blues Bar and Grill, Inc. to sell alcoholic beverages from noon until 11 p.m., at the Plaza located at 60 Merrick Way from Thursday, March 17, 2016, through Saturday, March 19, 2016 and on Sunday, March 20, 2016 from noon till 8 p.m., during the St. Patrick's Day / Bluesfest event to benefit the Coral Gables Cultural Affairs Council, subject to Florida Department of Professional Regulation Requirements.

Mayor Cason: Let's move onto H-9, which is Satchmo Blues Bar.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And we didn't have this in consent because we wanted you first to understand what the new guidelines were for the special events process and then test it against that, so if you'd go ahead and present Item H-9.

Mr. Couceyro: It's a Resolution authorizing Satchmo Blues Bar and Grill, Inc. to sell alcoholic beverages from noon until 11 p.m., at the Plaza located at 60 Merrick Way from Thursday,

March 17, 2016, through Saturday, March 19, 2016 and on Sunday, March 20, 2016 from noon till 8 p.m., during the St. Patrick's Day / Bluesfest event to benefit the Coral Gables Cultural Affairs Council, subject to Florida Department of Professional Regulation Requirements. This will be an event of Fritz and Franz, it starts on the 17th, which is St. Patrick's Day, so it's the St. Patrick's Day/Bluesfest and it will till Sunday. The request is for music played outside and activities in the Plaza until 11 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday, and till 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Mayor Cason: Discussion?- motion?

Commissioner Slesnick: I think 11 o'clock on a school night is kind of late on a Thursday night and it stops at 8 o'clock on Sunday, you should stop at 8 or 9 o'clock on Thursday.

Mr. Couceyro: Thursday is St. Patrick's Day.

Commissioner Lago: I understand its St. Patrick's Day, but its still an issue for me personally. What's the nearest residence adjacent to?

Mr. Couceyro: There are two; you have 10 Aragon across the street and you have 55 Merrick Way on the other side, across the other street.

Commissioner Lago: What are we talking about in regards to the distance?

Commissioner Slesnick: Across the street.

Commissioner Lago: I know, it goes back to what we said, downtown area, you move in there understanding that there's going to be events, there is going to be a very vibrant community, but this is still a week, a school day.

Mr. Couceyro: Just for historical...

Vice Mayor Quesada:...typically is what we've done...?

Mr. Couceyro: On St. Patrick's Day we have had it not necessarily in that location, but we've had it on Salzedo, which is right next to the Gables Grand, we've had week day events, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, just because its St. Patrick's Day where we've had it and its gone on until up to midnight.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well John Martins used to have their....

Mr. Couceyro: That's what I'm discussing, it used to be along Salzedo.

Vice Mayor Quesada: That would go to at least midnight.

Commissioner Keon: But it was one day. It was St. Patrick's Day that was it.

Commissioner Lago: This is multiple days.

Commissioner Keon: This is a three day event, its almost like they use St. Patrick's Day to expand their event.

Mr. Couceyro: Yes, it's a four day event starting with St. Patrick's Day.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So you are saying with week nights you want to see 8 or 9 o'clock?

Commissioner Slesnick: I'd like to see earlier than 11.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I can meet you at 10.

Mayor Cason: 10 – that seems reasonable.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'm OK coming to 10, again its downtown. I don't want to stifle that in a downtown neighborhood. I know we have residential properties that are nearby, but....

Mayor Cason: Make a motion if you want to do 10.

Commissioner Keon: And you know what I think, really they usually do the Bluesfest, they traditionally do it, its usually on the weekend.

Mr. Couceyro: They usually do it from Thursday to Sunday.

Commissioner Keon: They do it from Thursday to Sunday?

Mr. Couceyro: Yes, just the fact that this Thursday fell on St. Patrick's Day, they wanted to celebrate the St. Patrick's Day portion of it as well.

Commissioner Keon: And do they usually go till midnight?- and have they gone to midnight?- what are they traditionally?

Mr. Couceyro: Well they've gone to 11 o'clock; the music and the selling of alcohol stops at 11 o'clock.

Commissioner Lago: But I know you are not Code Enforcement, but to give you an idea, the last few events that we've had in downtown, has there been an uptick or a downtick in regards to complaints? I know that we've made some changes and we've been more strict.

Mr. Couceyro: Right. We had a few, there has been an uptick, it hasn't been a considerable amount that has been an increase. It's been steady, but with our Code Enforcement deployment, we've deployed the officer already for a few events at this location as well, so that seemed to have helped.

Commissioner Lago: I'm fine – I'll meet you half way, I'm fine at 10 o'clock.

Mayor Cason: And 11 on Friday and Saturday?

Commissioner Lago: I don't have an issue with the weekend.

Commissioner Slesnick: And then Sunday at 8.

Commissioner Lago: To me it's not an issue. I don't have an issue at all with that.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Is it currently at 8 now for Sunday?

Mr. Couceyro: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: I don't have a concern with that, my concern was Thursday. So I'm fine with 10 o'clock, if Commissioner Keon and Commissioner Slesnick...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So moved on H-9 with the only amendment till 10 p.m. on Thursday nights.

Mayor Cason: Second?

Commissioner Lago: Second.

Mayor Cason: Vice Mayor made the motion, Commission Lago seconds to change to 10 o'clock on Thursday, otherwise keep the hours that are in the resolution. City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes
Commissioner Slesnick: Yes
Commissioner Keon: Yes
Commissioner Lago: Yes
Mayor Cason: Yes
(Vote: 5-0)

Mr. Couceyro: Thank you.

[End: 1:33:40 p.m.]