City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting Agenda Item 2-1

April 24, 2018

City Commission Chambers

405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli Vice Mayor Frank Quesada Commissioner Pat Keon Commissioner Vince Lago Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias City Attorney, Miriam Ramos City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Lisa Bennet

Agenda Item 2-1 [0:00:00 p.m.]

Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Library Advisory Board, madam. Hi.

Lisa Bennet: Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor, Commissioners. We have a visual presentation that was submitted, and now the Clerk's Office is telling me they can't find it, so they're looking -- can you hear me? -- so they're looking for it right now. But I do have...

City Commission Meeting April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'm sorry. If you know who you emailed it to, we'll try and pull it from their emails.

Ms. Bennet: Pardon?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: You emailed it to someone?

Ms. Bennet: I didn't do any of this. Eileen Hernandez...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Okay.

Ms. Bennet: Is our secretary.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: That's okay. I'm just trying to track it for you.

Ms. Bennet: Oh, yeah.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'm just trying to help.

Ms. Bennet: She said it was submitted through the usual channels to the Clerk's Office, and it

would be shown when we made our presentation.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We'll try and track it while you talk.

Ms. Bennet: I do have -- I did have two copies.

Vice Mayor Quesada: We can pass it around. Yeah, we'll pass it around.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Vice Mayor Quesada: Okay, no problem. We'll take a look and pass it down.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I'll pass it down, too.

Ms. Bennet: This item was supposed to be heard at the last meeting, and there was a mix-up

with our -- the time we were given, and you dismissed early, so we weren't here. And I

understand that Dona Spain made her presentation. We have a -- oh, here's another copy.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: There appears to be an attachment...

Ms. Bennet: Oh, I...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: In the electronic copy, so I'm checking...

Ms. Bennet: So, as you know -- you may have heard the Coral Gables Branch Library is going

to be -- is in the process of being major -- a major renovation. The Library Advisory Board

began...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Excuse me, one second. If the Commissioners go to their

items on the agenda, and if the public is watching, your PowerPoint is loaded, and I see this...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: In the agenda, and we'll ask CGTV to try and grab it. It's a

PowerPoint presentation. It's the last attachment. It's 11 pages.

City Commission Meeting

April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

Ms. Bennet: Okay. And it's going to just be up here. Okay, great.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: They're working on that right now.

Ms. Bennet: Okay, great. It's just -- look at the pictures.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Do you see it?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We're getting it.

Commissioner Keon: I've seen it, yeah. I've seen them at the library, too. I went over there to look at them.

Ms. Bennet: Okay, I know...

Commissioner Keon: So, I'm aware of them.

Ms. Bennet: Commissioner Keon...

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Ms. Bennet: Has spent a lot of time...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Ms. Bennet: Helping us with this project, as did Commissioner Quesada. But we began in the beginning of -- in January 2016, contacting the County, County staff, the City staff, advocating for this renovation because the library was in such poor condition.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, where are they now in the library?

Ms. Bennet: Well...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Where are they located? Or where have they been the last few years?

Ms. Bennet: What, these furniture items?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, these pieces -- items of furniture.

Ms. Bennet: They're in the library right now.

Vice Mayor Quesada: But I'm saying like in the general use that anyone can go and use them?

Ms. Bennet: Yes. They're in excellent condition. I mean, there are some pieces that are not that were stored upstairs that need to be renovated, but these are the best pieces in the collection. And when we started talking about the renovation, there was concern that because of the disruption in the library when it actually gets going, that the items needed to be maybe removed temporarily to protect them. But then, Dona Spain, Historical Resources Department, stated her intention that the City would remove these items from the library permanently and locate them in other buildings. And that's what the Library Advisory Board is objecting to. There's two main groups. There's the Merrick furniture, and there is the original book collection of the library. Now, the book collection has been stored in air-conditioned space and locked glass cabinets and is -- there is no place else in the city where they would be stored any better. We believe that the original book collection, which was -- it was -- the seed of the collection was 300 books that the garden -- I mean, the Women's Club, in 1927, obtained by writing letters to authors that were well-known at the time and asking them to donate their favorite book to the Coral Gables

Library. So, that was -- they got 300 books through that, and those are part of the collection, and

there's other books also. Go ahead, Commissioner.

Vice Mayor Quesada: No, no, no. Please finish.

Ms. Bennet: Okay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Please finish. I don't want to interrupt.

Ms. Bennet: So -- and many of these books have inscriptions from prominent citizens; David

Fairchild, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, George Merrick, and they're very special. They're part

of our history. They're part of our heritage, and we want them to stay in the library. Okay, now,

you can just...

Vice Mayor Quesada: I think we've all seen them now.

Ms. Bennet: Yeah, just...

Vice Mayor Quesada: We've seen the pictures, so thank you.

Ms. Bennet: Yeah. I'm not going to talk about them individually like that.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, we -- let me...

Ms. Bennet: So...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Let me just jump in for a second here. Thank you for caring about them.

Ms. Bennet: Somebody's got to care about them.

Vice Mayor Quesada: We appreciate that. That's first and foremost. Look, I agree. I just want

to make sure they're somewhere that they can be seen.

Ms. Bennet: Right. Well...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Our impression was -- is that they were off in some storage and no one

can see them and they're all collecting dust somewhere.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And that things have disappeared.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, exactly.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And kids sitting on them and, you know...

Ms. Bennet: Let me address...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Not well taken care of as part of our history.

Ms. Bennet: What happened to our thing? Why is it gone? Oh, because you're speaking, okay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah. When we -- yeah.

Ms. Bennet: Well, what's happened -- that's -- you know, that's not true. All these pictures

you're seeing are items that are in -- currently in the library. This is the inventory that the City

had for the historical artifacts. This is from ten years ago. This is the inventory that the board,

Jane Maranos, our vice chair, compiled this. She spent countless hours going to the library and

recording all these historical artifacts. Now, there have been a few -- in 1969, the Merrick

furniture was given to the library by Eunice Merrick. We have, in our materials submitted to

City Commission Meeting

April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

you, a resolution where the City accepted the furniture as a donation to the library. It was not just given to the City. It was a donation to the library for the library's use. The Library Advisory Board chair at that time, in 1969, put an ad in the Riviera News asking citizens if they had furniture they'd like to donate to the new library. So, these pieces, some of them were Eunice -- belonged to Eunice Merrick's parents, who were the Peacocks, a pioneer family from Coconut Grove, one of the eldest families in Miami. And they had a lot of meaning because they were associated with these pioneer families, with the Merricks, and they're beautiful pieces of furniture. People -- many people who go to the library, children, they don't see these kinds of furniture in their homes, you know. It's special. It adds to the character and the uniqueness of our library. When we were presented with the program for the renovation by the City's design team -- the County's design team, the library designers, one of the first things we brought up was can these historical furniture, the books, other artifacts be incorporated into the design. And they said yes, that's a great idea. We can do that. But they hadn't been asked to. And our position is this is a great opportunity that we're having right now where we can take all these items and we can showcase them. We can have labels on them. We can have explanations of where they're from and it can be incorporated into the existing library. This is a huge building. I mean, it has a whole second story that people don't even -- most people haven't even seen. We have a lot of square footage and it hasn't been utilized because it has -- and it's unfortunate. And at this point in time, we feel that along with the renovation of the building, that the entire site should be -have a site plan for the whole building so, in the future, we will have really a fabulous addition to this heart of Coral Gables, along with the Youth Center, along with the Venetian Pool, along with City Hall, that will -- it will continue to be a library. It will continue to be a repository of our historic artifacts and books, and it will also have all the new technology. It will have -- I mean, there are so many things you can do with libraries now. The digital age has not been a death knell to libraries. It's been an opportunity for -- it's been a renaissance for libraries all around the country. There's a terrific article in the last issue of the National Historic Preservation Association's magazine about historic libraries around the country and the things that they are doing. And I mean, there's no limit to what we can do with that property. And even though we're part of the County system, which is good, it doesn't mean we have to lose the

identity of the Coral Gables Library. We own the building. The City owns the building. We own the book collection. We own this furniture, and we want it to stay -- to have that unique character as being part of Coral Gables, and at the same time, be updated. If you look at the renderings by the design team, you know, they're fine. They're very nice. This is going to be a big improvement, but it's very generic. And if you just looked at that, you wouldn't know you were in Coral Gables. You could be anywhere. But when you use -- incorporate what we have, it's going to remain a special part of our heritage. I know the Mayor appreciates archives. You donate your archives to the City, which is wonderful. But these items belong in the library. They've been in the library for 50 years. Now, a few things have gotten lost. I mean, the leaves to the dining room table got lost. I don't believe anybody stole those. You know, the County has had -- been in charge of the libraries and they move things around for unknown reasons. But now that the City is taking a more active role in the library -- which I think you need to do because the County has 50 libraries. We only have one, so we should be more concerned with it than, you know, the County who's always juggling 50 libraries. So, we can have a new library. We can keep our historic artifacts and our historic books. They're not in any danger. As far as I know, there was only one thing that's ever been stolen from the library. There was a tapestry; 1982, there was a break-in. There was a lot of crime in the '80s, but nothing has -- that was 35 years ago. And if it had been framed correctly behind glass, attached to the wall, it wouldn't have been stolen. So, things have to be identified. They have to be watched, and -- but there's no reason you can't have valuable things in libraries. American libraries are the biggest repository of Americana and important documents, you know, from the Constitution on down around the country. They always have been. And we're not a very old city, but what we have is what we have and we should protect it. And the most important thing about the library is it has -- it gives access to everyone. There is no building in the City that we own that people can come in in the evenings. They can come on the weekend. It's all -- practically always open. There are people there to help you, and it's free. It's the most democratic institution in America, besides maybe public parks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Dona, you want to...

Ms. Bennet: Public parks...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Have a -- make a few comments?

Unidentified Speaker: Sure.

Ms. Bennet: And I'd like some rebuttal time, if I may.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Wow, absolutely. So, my recommendation is that the furniture and the books be moved from the library because the library -- I have to preface this by saying I spent many hours with my children when they were growing up at that library, so I love that. But they have not been responsible as far as taking care of this furniture. The lost the three -- the five leaves. I'm not saying someone stole them. I think they possibly were just thrown away because they were stored someplace and someone didn't know what they were, and they were tossed out. There were three straight chairs that were part of the Eunice Merrick furniture. They're not there, and it has a nice little label on each of the chairs saying donated by Eunice Merrick. They're gone. As far as the books go, we have a full-time archivist in my department. And if something is in the archives here with the City, the public can come and -- Amanda is great. She -- we have the white glove. She sits with them. They can go over -- so that would be accessible to the public. Right now, those books are stored in a storage room and air conditioned, but we can store them properly and have them accessible to the public, so I have a concern about the books. There are -- I think I submitted a photograph of two chairs -- of the original library chairs, if you could show that. There are two chairs that are also in storage that are from the original library that I think should be restored. I think the City should pay for that. They're our chairs, and that can be put on display. But as far as these other furniture -- I -- they have not shown that they're good stewards of the furniture. And so, for me, to preserve them, I think that they should not be in the library.

Ms. Bennet: Well, I'd like to say, when you say "they"...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: They -- I mean the library people.

Ms. Bennet: Right. Who is they? They is...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: That would be the people in charge of the library. No, I

submitted a photograph, just one single photograph. Not -- that's their PowerPoint. You should

have a photograph that Jessie sent you.

Commissioner Keon: I think the clicker is...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: If not...

Commissioner Keon: Behind you.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: It's alright. There's two chairs.

Commissioner Keon: You have the...

Ms. Bennet: Agree the County was not doing a very good job in taking care of anything in the

library, and that's what, you know, we've been talking about for two years. And now, things are

changing, and this is the opportunity where the archivist can walk over to the library. She can be

involved in the...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: She certainly...

Ms. Bennet: Being a watchdog...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: She would certainly -- she's not going to be involved with

being a watchdog for the Coral Gables Library.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Okay. So, this is a -- obviously, it's a passionate discussion.

We appreciate your -- the Library Advisory Board's love for the library and the good

stewardship that you're showing. I think -- oh, your pictures are here.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Oh, there they are, the two chairs. They're really -- they're

very old. They've fallen into disrepair. They have them tied up in a storage room. I think that

they would be -- regardless of the outcome of this meeting, I think that these should be restored

and put on display.

Ms. Bennet: Well, these are the chairs they want us to keep. The good stuff is what they want...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: (INAUDIBLE)

Ms. Bennet: Removed from the library. No, this is fine. They should be restored and they

should remain in the library. But the pieces that have been in the library that they are not in bad

shape at all -- some of them have been refinished -- and there's no reason why this -- when she

talks about the archivist, in order to go to the Historical Resources Department and look at

archives, you have to make an appointment. You have to sit there with the archivist. This is not

a situation that -- where there's real public access. The library, there's real public access.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: But Lisa, there's not public access to those books. They're

up...

Ms. Bennet: But there...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: In the storage room.

City Commission Meeting

April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

Ms. Bennet: Will be. That's what -- all I'm saying is give us -- don't take them away. Give us

the opportunity to work with the County and devise a system and a, you know, place where we

can have a whole room -- we can have an archival room. We can have a historic collection.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Let me see if I can bring this to a landing.

Ms. Bennet: To what?

Vice Mayor Quesada: To a landing, to a conclusion. Let me try. So, there's -- there are

renovations coming, so we have to move the furniture out regardless, correct?

Ms. Bennet: Not necessarily because they're doing it in stages. The first thing they're...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, we'd be bouncing it around the building?

Ms. Bennet: Well...

Vice Mayor Quesada: I think...

Ms. Bennet: You could do that.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I think you would agree with me that the final resting place will be

resolved, but during the construction, moving it around by someone that's not us is cause for

concern for losing or damaging or (INAUDIBLE)...

Ms. Bennet: Okay, that's fine.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, during the construction phase, I think we should take it out. Now,

where the final resting place of this -- of these historical items -- and I think we're all in

agreement with you, access. People have got to be able to see it, enjoy it. Like I looked at one

of the tables like maybe we should put that in the Mayor's office...

Ms. Bennet: (INAUDIBLE)

Vice Mayor Quesada: Because I think it's something that'll fit. But I'm just saying, something

like that -- why don't you -- why doesn't the Library Board come back with a plan -- because I

think the hardest part for the Library Board is it's County property, so there's only so much we

could do. So, in the interim, during the construction phase, why doesn't the Library Advisory

Board come back with a plan of where you're proposing to put it. We work with Dona. If we

feel it'll be comfortable and it'll be protected, then I think you'll have all of our agreement with

it.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: And I have to say, the County architects, they were really,

really good. I walked around with them, and they would be happy to put a plan together to...

Ms. Bennet: They would.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: They would...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Ms. Bennet: All you have to do is ask.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: They were...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, it sounds like we're...

City Commission Meeting

April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Quite good about it.

Vice Mayor Quesada: In agreement.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: I still have concern about the ability of the library to actually take care of the pieces. That's my only concern.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You want to come up with a plan for us?

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: I certainly can work on it with the architects.

City Attorney Ramos: So, the motion at the last meeting...

Vice Mayor Quesada: But hold up.

City Attorney Ramos: Was to re...

Vice Mayor Quesada: It's not only the architects. It's also...

Commissioner Mena: Is the plan to keep it in the library?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: The problem is then they end up in the library with the staff of the library not being -- really not being able to watch over them.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: That's the concern.

Vice Mayor Quesada: We don't want to happen.

City Attorney Ramos: So, right now, the motion at the last meeting was to reject the recommendation of the Library Advisory Board. Unless there's a motion to reconsider, that

motion stands, with further direction to come back with a plan.

Commissioner Mena: The -- my understanding -- let me make sure I understand something. The

books are currently not accessible, right?

Ms. Bennet: No, but they're not...

Commissioner Mena: But you...

Ms. Bennet: But they're safe and they're fine.

Commissioner Mena: Under -- right.

Ms. Bennet: Right.

Commissioner Mena: But your proposal is to make them accessible?

Ms. Bennet: Well, yes, and they're...

Commissioner Mena: And my concern is we've got leafs of these tables missing. We've got

chairs missing.

Ms. Bennet: This is...

Commissioner Mena: What happens when the books are accessible?

Ms. Bennet: No, no. Listen, these books -- for one thing, these books are not -- they're valuable

because they're connected to Coral Gables and the library. I mean, they're things like annuals

and, you know, they're things that are important to -- only because of where they are and

because of public access. Every library has a reference desk. They have valuable things in the

library. You go to the reference desk and you look at them in the library, and you give them

your ID and you sit there and you look at the books. There's nothing there that is going to be

stolen because, you know, it could be auctioned off at Sotheby's for hundreds of thousands of

dollars. There's nothing like that.

Commissioner Mena: I...

Ms. Bennet: But there are things...

Commissioner Mena: But there's chairs that have gone missing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's part of our history.

Ms. Bennet: No, but...

Commissioner Mena: Pieces of tables that have gone missing.

Ms. Bennet: No. Well, one of the chairs -- there was a chair that was missing recently, and it

turned out the County had lent it to the Pinecrest Library.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Yes. That was not part of...

City Commission Meeting

April 24, 2018

Agenda Item 2-1 - Request For Commission Action on Library Historic Furniture and Artifacts.

Commissioner Keon: And that's...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: The Eunice Merrick furniture.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Ms. Bennet: But that is just...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: We got that back.

Ms. Bennet: Because the City has not been paying attention. The City -- because of the interlocal agreement -- and this went for the maintenance of the building, inside and outside, for decades. The City just said, the County -- we get the dollar a year, and the County takes care of it. And because of the Library Advisory Board, Commissioner Keon's help, it came to the attention of the County that the City was unhappy and now we get -- you know, we get upper level staff at all of our meetings, and they want to know what we think. And the -- we talked to the design people. They said, if you want to do that, we can do that. And there's no reason -there's plenty of room. There's two big offices in the main reading room, even before the upstairs gets renovated, that the staff has already said they're happy to move out of and we can

use them for other purposes so we could have a room where these things are kept. And I think...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: But the...

Ms. Bennet: The County would be more than willing to work with Dona.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: The library staff is wonderful. They're just not equipped to

handle...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Historic furniture or archival material. I have to say those

books should be handled appropriately.

Commissioner Keon: I -- yeah, I have real concerns about the books, and I do -- I mean, I think

it's lovely that they might remain in the library, but I think the better aspect of those books is that

if they are with Historic Preservation and they are archived and handled properly, people can

actually come in. They can open them up. You can see the inscriptions from the authors, where

they were donated. You cannot do that now and not badly or negatively affect those books. You

can't just do it as a reference. Allow them to open the cabinets. Allow them to take out the

books. Allow them to go through the books because they're very old and paper will get -- it ages

and it will crumble. They will get torn. They will get ruined. To allow people to actually see

them, they belong in a place where they can be archived and handled properly. So, I feel...

Unidentified Speaker: But they are...

Commissioner Keon: I agree strongly with the -- with Dona Spain that that is the case. As far as

the furniture, that furniture will be used in other places in the City that are City-owned buildings

and are City-owned property, where they are -- people are still going to see them. They are still

available to people, and I think that, you know, the library is a public library. We don't have

staff at the public library. We don't watch over it. We don't have people there. The County has

all of their staff there. Every public -- every building that we have in the city that is a City-

owned space, we have City employees that will look after and take care of those things. I

understand your feeling and I feel -- I understand how you feel about it. But I do think that the

preservation of those artifacts are really of utmost importance, and I would continue to -- with

the motion made at the last meeting for that reason.

Ms. Bennet: Well, I...

City Commission Meeting

Commissioner Keon: It's not in opposition to you in any way. It is truly for the protection of those particular items. So, I...

Ms. Bennet: We...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. Let's conclude. And the motion stands from the last meeting, and we -- there's no...

Commissioner Keon: Well, unless anyone decides to change it.

City Attorney Ramos: Unless there's a motion to reconsider.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. The motion stands at the last meeting. And you know, we'll continue and see how we can get that back into the library.

Ms. Bennet: Well, can we just give us -- give us the opportunity to work with the County and to get a plan...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No. I mean, not the County.

Commissioner Keon: I think you can work with...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's a part of Coral Gables history.

Commissioner Keon: Dona -- through Dona...

Ms. Bennet: And Dona -- and Dona.

Commissioner Keon: To move forward, yes.

Ms. Bennet: And...

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: And Lisa and I go way back.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Ms. Bennet: If -- the thing is, the -- to put them in these other buildings -- we got a letter from a

gentleman named Mr. Gillis, who said he was work...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Gillis.

Ms. Bennet: Working with Dona to get a grant to refinish some furniture -- some Granada

furniture for the Fink studio. And it came to his attention that there was furniture in the library

that he thinks would look nice in the Fink studio. Well, maybe it would, but nobody is going to

have access to the Fink studio like the library. That's what makes the library so special.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: I don't think the Fink studio is the appropriate place for

those tables.

Ms. Bennet: Well, maybe not, but whether...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: But -- and we did get a Villagers grant to restore two

Granada...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: (INAUDIBLE) desks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very, very much.

Ms. Bennet: Why can't you restore the...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you, ma'am.

Ms. Bennet: Well, what is happening here? What are we...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What is happening is that we made a motion at the last time to take over the furniture and the motion stands that we will take over the furniture.

Ms. Bennet: Well...

Historic Preservation Officer Spain: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Ms. Bennet: Commissioner Quesada.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes.

Ms. Bennet: You know, you made some comments about giving us an opportunity to...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well, here's the thing...

Ms. Bennet: Come up with a plan.

Vice Mayor Quesada: You could -- for -- okay. So, for the interim period during the

construction, it's -- we're taking over the furniture. It doesn't mean we can go back -- we can't

go back from this. If you come up with a plan on how we would preserve it and it would still be

accessible to the public, that it wouldn't be damaged or lost, then we can -- then bring it back to

us and we'll hear it again. But for the time being, we're going to take it back.

Ms. Bennet: Well, the -- that's fine for the...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Ms. Bennet: As long as we have an opportunity to change that, not you know...

Vice Mayor Quesada: You will have...

Ms. Bennet: The email we got from Dona...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You will have that opportunity.

Ms. Bennet: Was permanently they will gone.

Vice Mayor Quesada: You will have that opportunity.

Ms. Bennet: And can you make that part of the motion?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well...

City Attorney Ramos: There's no motion...

Vice Mayor Quesada: The existing motion...

City Attorney Ramos: On the table.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, there's no motion on the table.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very much, ma'am. Thank you.

Ms. Bennet: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We'll be back at 2.