

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item G-2 and G-3
March 12, 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 Frank Quesada

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Assistant City Attorney, Gus Ceballos

Public Speaker(s)

Sarah Artecona, University of Miami

Agenda Item G-2 and G-3 [10:47:35 a.m.]

G-2: A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida approving the sale of alcoholic beverages at the University of Miami's Alex Rodriguez Park at Mark Light Field. (Sponsored by Commissioner Quesada).

G-3: A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida approving the sale of alcoholic beverages throughout the University of Miami's Watsco Center (Sponsored by Commissioner Quesada).

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And now we'll go onto G-2 and G-3 – Commissioner Quesada.

Commissioner Quesada: So you said G-3.

Vice Mayor Lago: G-2.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: G-2 and G-3.

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Commissioner Quesada: Oh, yes. Alright. So we have...

City Attorney Ramos: Commissioner can I read the item into...

Commissioner Quesada: Yes, please, go ahead.

City Attorney Ramos: G-2 is a Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida approving the sale of alcoholic beverages at the University of Miami's Alex Rodriguez Park at Mark Light Field; and G-3 is a Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida approving the sale of alcoholic beverages throughout the University of Miami's Watsco Center.

Commissioner Quesada: So currently at the University of Miami it is not a dry campus. They have a bar on campus and if you go to many different collegic sporting events throughout the country, you will see that they allow the drinking of alcoholic beverages in those events. Obviously with certain cut-off times and other restrictions and regulations. What I'm trying to do here is, I'm just trying to get the University of Miami on par with what the other universities allow throughout the country in this regard. Currently pursuant to our development agreement that the City of Coral Gables has with the University of Miami, it is allowed to have alcoholic beverages there in certain VIP sections.

City Attorney Ramos: For the Watsco Center – yes.

Commissioner Quesada: For the Watsco Center, so I just want to be able to apply that at the baseball stadium, which gets tremendous turnout for those games; and they are having a great year this year so far, so if you haven't seen UM baseball this year, you should really get out there. I think they've only lost two games.

Vice Mayor Lago: New coach.

Commissioner Quesada: New coach – they are doing spectacular. So that's it. So that's what this is. So item G-2 is going to be related to the baseball field and item G-3 is related to the Watsco Center.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Can you make a motion?

City Attorney Ramos: And I'm going to ask Mr. Ceballos to just explain what the difference is and what we'll need to do next meeting for the Watsco Center.

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Vice Mayor Lago: If I could just have one comment, just a quick question. When you go to a football game, they only sell alcohol to a certain time. I think after half time you are not allowed to have. Will this apply also here or it's just be through the entire...

City Attorney Ramos: They are not imposing it, but UM has offered to us.

Vice Mayor Lago: I want to put that on the record.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That would be a regulation that's not by the City. That's probably by NCAA and ACC probably has a regulation just like the NFL does.

Commissioner Quesada: And they do.

City Attorney Ramos: In addition to that the university has proffered to us that they do not intend on selling it after half time.

Commissioner Quesada: OK.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: In regards to the Watsco Center, it's basically just expanding, removing that restriction from...

Commissioner Quesada: Hold on – let's do one at a time. We are on G-2, so can we talk about the baseball stadium and then we'll do Watsco.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Sounds good. The baseball stadium is pretty straightforward. They still have to go through the entire process...go through that. As part of that process, one of the steps is getting the Commission approval. This basically eliminates the issue from the Commission, so they don't have to come back to the Commission. So this box has been checked. They still have to go through the entire process, but this is just step one.

Commissioner Quesada: I know you want to speak, but so moved.

Vice Mayor Lago: Second.

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

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

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Commissioner Mena: Yes
Commissioner Quesada: Yes
Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes
(Vote: 4-0)
Commissioner Keon: Absent

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: G-3

Commissioner Quesada: University of Miami wanted to address a point, Ms. Artecona.

Ms. Artecona: Good morning Mayor and Commissioners, just to address your question, Commissioner Lago. We will be concluding sales of alcohol at basketball games at the end of the half and at baseball games we'll be concluding alcohol sales at the beginning of...

Vice Mayor Lago: The reason why I put it on the record because I want to make people aware, this is the status, this is the norm and what we are doing currently does not fall with what other universities are doing.

Ms. Artecona: That's correct. Our 15 ACC peers, seven serve alcohol at their sporting events and we actually are being a little bit stricter than other schools are, because they end alcohol sales at the end of the seventh. We are stopping at the top of the seventh.

Commissioner Quesada: OK.

Commissioner Mena: I do believe the Watsco Center has concerts and other events.

Ms. Artecona: We already have alcohol sales at non-University of Miami events at the concourse.

Commissioner Quesada: A more important issue for me at the baseball games, we make it easier to buy the milkshakes. You are laughing, but this is a serious issue for me.

Ms. Artecona: Yes. Currently the milkshakes – we have added some milkshakes – no, no, we have taken your feedback seriously and currently milkshakes now can be delivered to your seat by texting. So please do come to our baseball games and enjoy our famous milkshakes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Make a motion.

Commissioner Quesada: So G-3 now.

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City Attorney Ramos: G-2 already passed on G-3.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: G-3.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: G-3 is a development agreement that will need to be amended that will come back for two readings. It is an ordinance. This is just step one for the expansion, the approval, but it will be coming back before you two other times.

Commissioner Quesada: Yes – and it's just modifying for more than just the VIP section.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: It is basically, as was just mentioned, for non-athletic events and non-university events. They can already sell throughout. The only restriction is for university events that it is restricted only to the VIP, this basically will remove that language.

Commissioner Quesada: Got it. So moved.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Second?

Commissioner Keon: Second.

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

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

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

[End: 10:52:53 a.m.]