

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 20, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution reappointing Ronald L. Book to the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Board of Trustees; waiving by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board of County Commissioners the term limit restriction of section 2-752(c) of the Code and the residency requirement of section 2-11.38 of the Code

Resolution No. R-1028-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Marleine Bastien.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp

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MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 20, 2024

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☒ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ☒, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)
11-20-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-1028-24

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING RONALD L. BOOK TO THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES; WAIVING BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE FULL MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THE TERM LIMIT RESTRICTION OF SECTION 2-752(C) OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 2-11.38 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Ronald L. Book’s (“Mr. Book”) dedication, service and professional experience have significantly contributed to Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book has served as a dedicated member of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust (“Homeless Trust”) since its inception; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book has successfully served as Chair of the Homeless Trust for over 12 years; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his work in leading the Homeless Trust, homelessness in Miami-Dade County has been reduced from more than 8,000 persons on the streets to fewer than 1,000; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Book’s leadership, the Homeless Trust has created the infrastructure to prevent, prepare for and respond to the many challenges facing those attempting to keep Miami-Dade’s most vulnerable persons safe and housed, including a worldwide pandemic, an immigration crisis, and a nationwide housing affordability crisis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book has spearheaded the Homeless Trust's implementation of a capital acquisition program through which the Homeless Trust has acquired properties, including Mia Casa located in North Miami, which houses over 100 seniors that were previously experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book has been instrumental in overseeing the recent amendment to state law which will allow voters in the municipalities currently exempted from Miami-Dade's food and beverage tax program to vote on whether to be included in the program, thereby adding much needed funds for the fight against homelessness; and

WHEREAS, while other cities across America have seen the numbers of persons experiencing homelessness expand exponentially, Miami-Dade County, through the efforts of the Homeless Trust under the leadership of Mr. Book, has not had such an expansion of persons experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, given the current housing affordability crisis throughout the nation and the increase in the numbers of persons experiencing homelessness, including first time homelessness, the work of the Homeless Trust to combat that pattern in Miami-Dade County is vital to the well-being of all of the residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book's experience, commitment, and compassion for persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness, make him uniquely suited to lead the Homeless Trust's ongoing efforts; and

WHEREAS, section 2-752(b)(8) of the Miami-Dade County Code provides that one representative of the academic or professional sector, shall be selected by the Chair of the Committee of the Board of County Commissioners overseeing homeless issues to serve on the Homeless Trust; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book is the member of the professional sector selected by the Chair of the committee of this Board that oversees homeless issues to serve on the Homeless Trust; and

WHEREAS, section 2-752(c) of the Miami-Dade County Code (the “Code”), provides that no member of the Homeless Trust shall be permitted to serve more than two consecutive and complete terms of three years each unless so authorized by two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Book has served more than two consecutive and complete terms of three years on the Homeless Trust; and

WHEREAS, section 2-11.38 of the Code requires that all members of County boards be permanent residents of Miami-Dade County unless so authorized by two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, although Mr. Book has demonstrated a decades long commitment to the residents of Miami-Dade County as it relates to homeless issues, he is not a permanent resident of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to waive the term limit and residency requirements set forth in sections 2-752(c) and 2-11.38, respectively, in order to allow Mr. Book to continue to serve on the Homeless Trust,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board waives, by a two-thirds vote of its full membership: (1) the residency requirement set forth in section 2-11.38 of the Code, and (2) the term limit set forth in section 2-752(c) of the Code.

Section 2. This Board reappoints Ronald L. Book to the Homeless Trust Board of Trustees.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Marleine Bastien. It was offered by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman	aye		
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	aye
Oliver G. Gilbert, III	aye	Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye
Keon Hardemon	aye	Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of November, 2024. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: **Basia Pruna**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Shannon D. Summerset-Williams