

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(B)

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

DATE: June 4, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution renaming the
African Heritage Cultural Arts
Center as the “Marshall L. Davis
Sr. African Heritage Cultural
Arts Center” by a three-fifths
vote of Board members present

Resolution No. R-471-24

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



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: June 4, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(B)

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 ____, 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) ____, or 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. 5(B)
6-4-24

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-471-24

RESOLUTION RENAMING THE AFRICAN HERITAGE
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER AS THE “MARSHALL L. DAVIS
SR. AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER” BY A
THREE-FIFTHS VOTE OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

WHEREAS, the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (“AHCAC”) is a Miami-Dade County owned and operated facility located at 6161 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33142; and

WHEREAS, Marshall L. Davis, Sr., (“Davis”) was born in Overtown and raised in Liberty City, and Davis graduated from Miami Northwestern High School; and

WHEREAS, Davis began studying art at Miami-Dade College, and eventually changed his major to theater, graduating from Florida Atlantic University with a BFA; and

WHEREAS, although Davis was a naturally gifted visual artist who could draw exceptionally well, throughout his collegiate education, Davis realized that he had not been trained in the technical fundamentals of art, placing him at a disadvantage compared to his peers; and

WHEREAS, Davis’s realization sparked a dream to provide similarly situated students with the opportunity to explore the arts and harness their creativity; and

WHEREAS, Davis would attain this dream in December 1983, when he joined AHCAC and soon thereafter became the Managing Director of the AHCAC, where he continues at the helm today, leading an outstanding team of dedicated staff; and

WHEREAS, while in this position, Davis has brilliantly designed a comprehensive developmental multi-arts educational program that provides high-quality instruction and artistic experiences for thousands of students—many of whom, crediting their success to Davis and their time at the AHCAC, have made their way to Broadway, film, television, and venues globally; and

WHEREAS, Davis was behind several structural improvements including the construction of the art gallery, a music hall with practice studios, and renovations to the black box theater; and

WHEREAS, Davis had a vision to create a catalytic arts center in an urban neighborhood with few other options available to its residents for accessing high-quality arts programs in a safe environment, and his vision inspired him to adapt a public space that was not equipped for cultural use and transform it into a vibrant arts incubator and vital resource that delivers excellent arts and cultural services while connecting the community; and

WHEREAS, over his 40-year tenure, Davis has been a pioneer in transforming the corner of NW 62nd Street and NW 22nd Avenue into an urban oasis in Liberty City for training children in the arts, serving as the premier talent incubator for Miami's young, Black artists and for convening residents to celebrate cultural heritage through extraordinary performances, exhibitions and exceptional training programs in dance, theater, visual arts, and music; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to honor Davis by renaming the AHCAC as the "Marshall L. Davis Sr. African Heritage Cultural Arts Center"; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 of the Board's Rules of Procedure provides that resolutions regarding proposed naming, renaming, or codesignation of Miami-Dade County roads, facilities, or property shall be sponsored by the district commissioner where the road, facility, or property is located and shall be considered at a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the AHCAC is located in Commission District 3; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 also provides that the Board may, by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present, name a County road, facility, or property after a living individual who "has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community"; and

WHEREAS, Davis has made direct, significant lifetime contributions to Miami-Dade County,

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

Section 1. Approves the foregoing recitals, incorporates such recitals into this resolution, and finds that Marshall L. Davis Sr. has made direct, significant lifetime contributions to this community pursuant to Rule 9.02(d).

Section 2. Having considered this matter at a public hearing and by a three-fifths vote of Board members present, renames the AHCAC as the “Marshall L. Davis Sr. African Heritage Cultural Arts Center”.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Oliver G. Gilbert, III** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of June, 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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "JO", is written over a horizontal line.

Jose I. Ortega