

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, PROVIDING REGULATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION, MAINTAINANCE, AND OPERATION OF PICTURE MACHINES, PICTURE SHOW PLACES, REGULATIONS AS TO THE BOOTH AND EXHIBITION ROOMS IN WHICH SUCH MACHINES ARE OPERATED AND PICTURES EXHIBITED, THE LICENSING THEREOF, DEFINING A PICTURE MACHINE, AND PRESCRIBING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The term "Picture Machine," as used in the following sections of this ordinance means any machine or device operated by or with the aid of electricity, calcium light or other illuminant, and adapted or used to project upon a screen or other surface pictorial representations in which inflammable films are used.

Section 2. From and after the passage of this ordinance no picture machine shall be installed, maintained, operated or licensed unless the same shall be installed, maintained, operated in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 3. Every picture machine installed or operated shall be enclosed within a booth, to be not less than 6 x 8 feet in size and 7 feet high, the frame of which shall be composed of angle iron not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, properly braced to secure rigidity, and securely riveted or bolted at the joints. Every such booth shall be sheathed and roofed with sheet iron of not less than No. 20 U. S. T. In metal gauge, or with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch hard asbestos board securely riveted or bolted to the angle iron frame, or 2 inches of solid metal lath and Portland cement plaster may be used, or any other materials that are approved by the National Board of Underwriters and the Chief of the Fire Department.

Section 4. The booth shall be floored with the same material as the sides and roof, riveted to the iron frame and covered with some non-conducting material. The aggregate width in feet of such exits shall be not less than one foot to each twenty persons to be accommodated thereby.

Section 5. The entrance door into the booth shall be no larger than 2 feet by 5 feet, of the same construction as the booth, and arranged as to close automatically by metal rope and weight attachment, or by a spring of sufficient strength and tension to keep the door securely closed and to meet the National Underwriters Standard for fire doors.

Section 6. The orifice or opening for the operator's view, or through which the picture is thrown, shall not be larger than 6 inches by 12 inches, and shall be provided with a gravity door of the same construction as the booth, which door shall be held open by fusible links placed in series with fine cords, so arranged that one of the links is suspended directly over the film when in the slide of the apparatus, or the door shall be so arranged as to be normally closed and held open by pressure of the operator's foot.

Section 7. All shelves, furniture and fixtures within the booth shall be constructed of non-combustible material, and no combustible material of any sort whatever shall be permitted or allowed to be within such booth, except the films used in the operation of the machine.

Section 8. Each booth must have an opening not less than twelve inches in diameter, for ventilation, which must be flanged to carry standard conductor pipe for exhausting the hot air generated in operating the machine. Connection for ventilation should vent to chimney or outside of building, in order to carry off hot air or explosive gases.

Section 9. All picture machines shall be equipped with non-combustible magazines for receiving and delivering the films during the operation of the machines. A shutter must be provided and placed in front of the condenser of the machine, so arranged that same can be instantly closed by the operator. Films not in the machine shall be kept within the booth enclosing the machine in metal boxes, with tight-fitting covers. Hot carbons taken from the lamps shall be deposited in a metal receptacle.

Section 10. Portable cords shall not be allowed within the booth unless the same is pertinent to a proper connection to the lantern itself, and in all other respects the electrical wiring must be in accordance with the rules and requirements for electric wiring embodied in the National Electrical Code.

Section 11. Each lamp connected with a picture machine must be provided with a separate switch located within the booth. There shall also be two switches controlling the lights in the exhibition room, one of which shall be operated from the booth and the other so placed that it is within the reach of the ticket taker or other person stationed at the entrance door. There shall be provided a separate system of lighting, controlled by switches located within the reach of the ticket taker operating red signal lamps, and there shall be one such lamp placed at each exit, with a sign marked "EXIT" in letters not less than five inches high. The location of these signs and lights shall be determined by the Chief of Fire Department.

Section 12. No picture machine shall be installed, maintained or operated in any building that does not abut directly upon a street, and in no case shall the main floor of such exhibition be more than four feet above or below the adjoining level. To overcome any difference of level on the ground floor gradients shall be employed of not over one foot in ten feet; no steps shall be permitted. Exit doors must be at the level of the side walk. In exhibition rooms directly abutting upon one street, the booth enclosing the picture machine shall be placed at that end of the room which is opposite and farthest from the street, or on a balcony. No room to be used as an exhibition room unless it has at least one separate and distinct exit in addition to the front exit. In exhibition rooms located at the corner and directly abutting upon two streets, or a street and an alley, the booth enclosing the machine may be located at the end of the room opposite to and farthest from either street or alley. Every such room shall be provided with two exits, one upon each street or alley. All exits and entrances shall open directly from the exhibition room upon the street or alley or into a vestibule or lobby opening immediately into the street or alley. No exit in exhibition halls for picture machines shall be less than five feet wide and all exit doors shall be arranged to swing outward. The aggregate width in feet of such exits shall be not less than one foot to each twenty persons to be accommodated thereby. All aisles shall lead directly to exits and all exits shall be directly accessible to aisle. No aisle shall be less than three feet in width.

All seats in any exhibition hall for picture machines shall be securely fastened to the floor and shall be so arranged that there will not be more than six seats between an aisle and a wall and not more than twelve seats between two aisles. There shall be a minimum of 32 inches back to back of rows of seats.

No stage, platform or scenery shall be placed, maintained or allowed to remain in any exhibition room for picture machines unless of fireproof material. Seats shall be provided for all persons permitted in the exhibition room.

Section 13. Incandescent electric lamps shall be used throughout for border lights, footlights and stage purposes,

Section 14. No individual, partnership or corporation shall be permitted to conduct the business of moving picture exhibitions, as herein described, until the applicant therefor has procured from the Chief of the Fire Department his certificate that the premises where the exhibitions are to be given and the apparatus used in connection with the said exhibitions are in compliance with this ordinance.

Section 15. The Chief of the Fire Department shall have authority and it shall be his duty to revoke the license issued to any person, firm or corporation for conducting or maintaining picture machine exhibitions when he shall be satisfied that such licensee has violated any of the provisions of this ordinance. Provided, however, before revoking such license opportunity shall be given such licensee to appear before said Chief of Fire Department and show, if possible cause why the same should not be revoked.

Section 16. The requirements herein named so far as installation of moving picture device and the construction and location of booth are concerned shall apply to theatres, churches, schools and public halls.

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Section 17. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this ordinance or who shall fail to comply with the terms thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Five nor more than Twenty-five Dollars, or imprisoned in the City Jail not more than twenty-five days, or both such fine and imprisonment, and every day a person maintains any of the things prohibited shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

Section 18. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

Section 19. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of March, A. D. 1921.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

By W. E. Brown
President

ATTEST:

C. W. Tomlinson
City Clerk

APPROVED this 16th day of March, A. D. 1921.

J. E. James
Mayor



RECORDED
MARCH 16 1921

ORDINANCE #153

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, providing regulations for the installation, maintenance, and operation of picture machines, picture show places, regulations as to the booth and exhibition rooms in which such machines are operated and pictures exhibited, the licensing thereof, defining a picture machine and prescribing a penalty for the violation of this ordinance.

Passed and adopted 3/16/21

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