

EXCERPT

DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:00 a.m.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES & CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT
2327 Salzedo St., Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F
	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18
Silvia Karman Cubiñá^	-	P	-	-	-	E	-	^	^	^	^	^
Dr. Carol Damian	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P
Dr. Jill Deupi	-	E	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P
Lauren Hall	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	E	P
Jacek Kolasiński*											P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	-	P	-	-	-	P	-	P	-	-	E	P
Freda Tschumy	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P

LEGEND: A = Absent; P = Present; E = Excused; * = New Member; ^= Resigned Member;
- = No Meeting + = Special Meeting

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts
Carlos Mindreau, City Architect
Peter Iglesias, Assistant City Manager
Ernesto Pino, Assistant Director of Public Works

GUESTS:

Mark Trowbridge, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce President and CEO; Patrick O’Connell, EWM Senior VP and Chair Elect of the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce; Laura Russo, Esq.; Sandra Cardona, VP of Development and Capital Planning at Hersha Hospitality; Aaron Yassin, studio of Michele Oka Doner; Jorge Navarro, Greenberg Traurig; Zaba Castro, Greenberg Traurig; Jerad Graham, NP International; Ninoska Huerta, gallerist; Nella Daes, Logistics Fine Arts

MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION: Catherine Cathers, Arts & Culture Specialist, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department

Dr. Damian called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and read the False Claims Ordinance into the record.

DEVELOPER AIPP PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR PASEO DE LA RIVIERA:

Dr. Damian welcomed the developers of the Paseo de la Riviera project. Jorge Navarro introduced himself representing Greenberg Traurig; Zaba Castro, also with Greenberg Traurig; and Jerad Graham, with NP International, a part of the ownership team.

Mr. Navarro stated that one of the features of the project is a large public open space in the center of the project with a residential tower and a hotel tower. In the middle, he said, is a plaza about the size of a football field, a large public open space surrounded by retail stores and tenants, designed as a congregating space.

Mr. Navarro went on to say that this is the same team as Gables Station, using the same art consultant who came from Minnesota, looked at the site, and recommended artist Jaume Plensa, who focuses on large public open spaces. The team, he said, agreed and selected a piece titled "Storm." They then chose a center location visible from pedestrian and vehicular traffic as the entry to a signature, destination piece that would draw people who are visiting for Art Basel, etc.

Dr. Damian commented that it should be more visible, noting that this is a major artist. She expressed appreciation to have an installation by him in Coral Gables. Mr. Graham stated that it is set back because of a fountain feature buffering traffic sound and wanted to create a pedestrian friendly experience within the Paseo. Mr. Navarro added that the location also serves as security and protection for the piece. Ms. Spain asked if there are examples of fountain installations used to block sound that are proven to work. Mr. MIndreu added that a large wall would be needed to effectively block the noise. Mr. Graham stated that "buffer" may not be the right word, but rather as white noise to equalize the sound.

Ms. Hall asked if the piece will have the brushed, soft, matte finish as presented and asked who is responsible for the maintenance. Mr. Graham confirmed that the property owner is responsible for maintenance. Mr. Navarro stated that it is not complex maintenance and that he believes there will be a covenant ensuring regular maintenance.

Mr. Kolasiński observed that the structural complexity has the possibility of items getting trapped inside and some kind of cleaning system will be needed to remove them. Ms. Hall agreed and would not consider the maintenance "not complex" with there being so many intricacies for things to get stuck. She also shared that even though this is stainless steel, in this environment, spot corrosion occurs. Ms. Hall asked to consider what (landscaping) overhangs the piece as well and whether or not it's accessible for the public to touch; all factors that will affect conservation. She recommended spot cleaning by hand once a month. Mr. Navarro responded that as a large open space, it will need to be cleaned out every night and will have maintenance crews available. Mr. Graham stated that the landscape around it will be Palm trees lining the plaza, with nothing overhanging the artwork.

Ms. Cathers asked where the piece currently is. Mr. Navarro and Mr. Graham said they believe it's in France of Spain.

Ms. Spain asked how the connections are joined, and Mr. Navarro responded they are spot-welded. Ms. Cathers emphasized the environmental concerns and climate effects on stainless steel. Ms. Hall stated that however it's finished, there is a misconception that since it's stainless it won't corrode; however, it will.

She asked what grade of stainless steel it is as 316 tends to do best in a marine environment. Mr. Graham reminded the Panel that the piece is already complete and he will ask about the grade of the steel.

Ms. Cathers asked if it will be installed at grade or on a base. The Panel discussed public interaction with the piece and if people will be encouraged to touch the work. Mr. Navarro said they are still discussing and have spoken with the artist about it as well. Dr. Damian stated there are ways to discourage interaction and Dr. Deupi added that people will want to sit on it and take selfies. Ms. Tschumy recommended a shallow moat to delineate the space for the sculpture

Dr. Deupi referenced a piece by the artist in the same series in the Alford Collection at the Rollins Museum in Winter Park. She suggested speaking with them about the upkeep. Ms. Cathers asked if other pieces by the artist were considered. Mr. Graham responded that they looked at other pieces and this was the one that fit best with the architecture and height limitations. Dr. Deupi commented that in terms of signature, the works that are heads are more recognizable.

Mr. Graham stated that they will look at protection around the piece and will follow up to the Panel regarding the grade of steel and maintenance.

Ms. Cathers asked how publicly active the space is. Mr. Navarro answered that it will be activated by the ground level retail, housing, and hotel, and reads as a combination of paseo and plaza, accessible from both sides.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Tschumy made a motion recommending approval of the waiver request to incorporate artwork as presented by artist Jaume Plensa into the Paseo de la Riviera development project. Ms. Hall seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director