

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 4, 2008, 8:00 a.m.

City of Coral Gables Development Department

95 Merrick Way, Suite 450, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Members:	M	A	M	J	J	A#	S	O*	O**	N	D	J	F	Appointed By:
José R. Garrigó	P	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	-	-	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Bobbi Litt	P	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	-	-	P	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Bernice Matalon	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	-	-	E	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Carol Damian	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Beatriz Pereira					P	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers
Andrea Cole						-		E	P	P	-	-	E	Board Appointee
Christine Rupp	P	P	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	A	City Manager David L. Brown

A = Absent

P = Present

E = Excused

- = No Meeting

* Regular Meeting and FY2006-2007 Final Reports

Regular Meeting + FY2007-08 Grants Workshop

** FY2007-2008 Cultural Grant Applications Review & Scoring

Staff In Attendance:

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, Development Director
Florence Dawson, Development Department

Recording Secretary:

Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Dr. Damian called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

I. Meeting Attendance:

Mr. Garrigó made a motion to excuse Bernice Matalon and Andrea Cole from meeting attendance. Ms. Litt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Review and approval of Cultural Development Board minutes of November 29, 2007:

Ms. Litt made a motion to approve the Cultural Development Board meeting minutes of November 29, 2007 as written. Ms. Pereira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. Recap and discussion of cultural grants process:

Dr. Damian reported that Ms. Cole forwarded written comments about the process. It was agreed that Ms. Cole should be present for the discussion.

Mr. Garrigó made a motion to postpone the discussion until Ms. Cole was present. Ms. Litt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion of proposal by Arcoart Visual Art Promoters:

For discussion and direction, Ms. Rivenbark presented Arcoart Visual Art Promoters' proposal to place angel sculptures on various City properties. Currently, with BID approval, angels were placed on the 10th floor of the Colonnade. With encouragement from the BID, Arcoart made a proposal to the City to have angels created by several artists displayed publically. Placement, including permanent bases, would be done at Arcoart's cost. If approved, the art would be first reviewed by the Arts Advisory Panel and the Board for selection. It was agreed that the City should benefit from the initiative. Location of the art should not be the decision of Arcoart, and the bases should be installed and owned by the City for future uses. Arcoart would need to provide insurance, with no liability to the City. The owner of Arcoart will meet with the Board to further discuss the idea. Mr. Garrigó suggested that if

Arcoart was not agreeable to holding the City harmless and paying for the base costs, discussion should not proceed further.

V. Status Reports:

1. **Jean Ward Sculptures:** Ms. Rivenbark reported that the base for the sculpture to be placed in Pittman Park is scheduled for installation, to be followed by installation of the sculpture. The Commission approved the Board's recommendation and permitted the final three sculptures to be installed at Ingraham Park. Parker Thomson is willing to help raise funds for proper bases. Dr. Damian will accompany Dan Keys to site the locations.
2. **Art in Public Places:** Ms. Rivenbark reported that the Art in Public Places Coordinator for Coral Springs will provide material for scope of services on the art master plan. The next steps for the City will be development of the art master plan in order to implement the Art in Public Places program. The Arts Advisory Panel needs to be re-determined and approved by the City Commission. The Board also needs to determine if the Arts Advisory Panel will be involved in the review of the master plan. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Dr. Damian distributed and described Michael Spring's recently published guide to public art, which will be widely distributed throughout the community. Copies will be obtained for the Board. Dr. Damian also spoke of the South Dade Cultural Center, a 900-seat, all glass performing art center with an adjacent three-room building with classrooms/performance rooms/rehearsal rooms, an excellent facility.

Mr. Garrigó inquired about the City's inventory of art, which generated discussion about the archives. Ms. Rivenbark will seek information about inventory from Ms. Kautz, Historic Resources Officer.

3. **Cultural information on the City web site:** Communications indicated the Board should submit a design for cultural information on the web site, an option Board members unanimously deemed unacceptable. Ms. Rivenbark will contact Richard Chemelis, liaison from Communications, for input about the Board's next step. Dr. Damian pointed out that culture should be a priority of the City, stating that the concierge of the premier hotel in the City had no information about cultural opportunities or art galleries and knew nothing about where information could be found.

Ms. Rivenbark reported a recent meeting with the restaurant group at the Chamber of Commerce, where the lack of knowledge among concierges and restaurant staff about cultural opportunities was discussed. The Chamber is working on devising and coordinating a remedial solution.

4. **Mr. Garrigó participated in the First Conversation discussion held during Saturday's Farmer's Market,** commented on his conversation with the City Architect, and posed a question about the City's architectural style as part of the wider definition of culture. Dr. Damian suggested that Board members gain input from their appointing Commissioners.

VI. Additional Board Business:

- a. **General City Update:** February 12, 2008 is set for Art Cinema's first reading at the Commission meeting. Ms. Rivenbark described funding options, the drafted lease and terms that would apply to the City and the tenant. At second reading, the Commission will authorize the bids, rename the plaza and sign the lease.
- b. **Other Board Business:** Dr. Damian requested a brief meeting among Board members, aware that the tape recorder would provide a record of the conversation. When staff returned, Dr. Damian announced that Mr. Garrigó requested that the minutes formally reflect the Board's sincere appreciation for exceptional service provided to the Board by staff. With unanimous approval of all Board members, Dr. Damian stated the

following as a resolution the Board would present to the City Commission: The Board wishes to formally recognize the wonderful support received by the Cultural Development Board from the staff of the Development Department and wishes to formally express appreciation for that support, which consistently reaches beyond the call of duty.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 3, 2008, 8:00 a.m., Development Department Conference Room

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting of the Board, the meeting concluded at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Swanson Rivenbark, AICP, CEcD
Development Director and Secretary to the Board