

**DRAFT**

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING  
Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:00 a.m.**

**CORAL GABLES MUSEUM  
285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

*Historical Resources &  
Cultural Arts*

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<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>
	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>
Herbert Brito*	E	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Dr. Carol Damian	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	A	A
Dr. Jill Deupi	P	P	P	E	-	P	P	E	E	E	P	P
Emily MacDonald-Korth*				P	-	E	E	P	P	P	P	P
Jacek Kolasinski	P	P	P	P		P	E	P	P	P	P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	E	E
Freda Tschumy	P	P	P	P	-	A	P	E	P	P	A	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  
Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS:**  
Burton Hersh, Architect; Bill Brady, Gallerist; Olga Granda, Sanctuary of the Arts

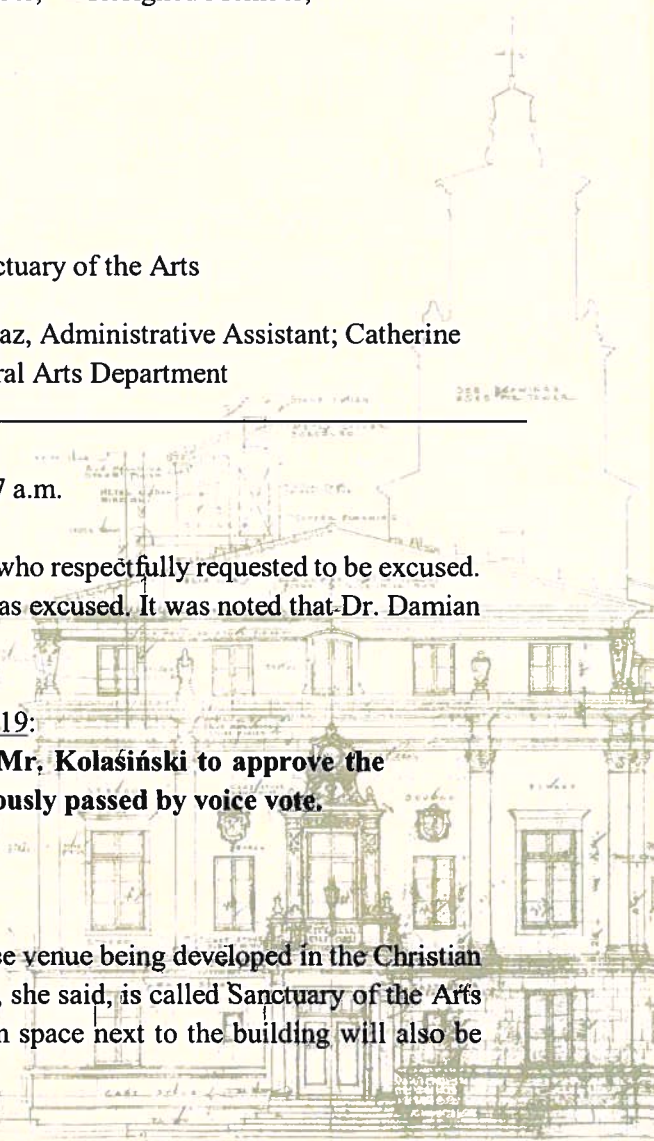
**MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION:** Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant; Catherine Cathers, Arts & Culture Specialist, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department

Dr. Deupi called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

The Panel was advised of the absence of Mr. Roselione-Valadez, who respectfully requested to be excused. The Panel-as-a-whole accepted Mr. Roselione-Valadez' absence as excused. It was noted that Dr. Damian was absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 26, 2019:**  
**A motion was made by Mr. Brito and seconded by Mr. Kolański to approve the meeting minutes of June 26, 2019, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.**

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES:**  
a. **OLGA GRANDA – SANCTUARY OF THE ARTS**  
Ms. Granda introduced herself and discussed the new performance venue being developed in the Christian Science building across from City Hall. The name of the project, she said, is called Sanctuary of the Arts and is scheduled to open in December. She stated that the green space next to the building will also be



activated with performances and public events. Ms. Spain asked if an agreement has been finalized with the church and was told it is close to being signed. Ms. Spain mentioned the upcoming historic designation of the property.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST REQUEST – STEPHEN BAKER

The Panel received pre-qualification materials for the artist Stephen Baker. Mr. Hersh introduced himself as the architect of the buildout of an Australian micro-brewery at Columbus Center called Bay 13. He provided background about the project and stated that the artist being considered, Stephen Baker, is a well-known Australian artist.

Ms. Spain added that the project will come to the Panel for a recommendation; however, it is not within the (percent for art) requirements of the Art in Public Places program and that the Panel is only considering pre-qualification today. Mr. Hersh provided renderings of the project with an example of what the artwork treatment on the structure could look like. He spoke about how the artwork would activate the courtyard and provided additional information about the artist's specific connection to Melbourne, Australia.

The Panel discussed briefly and asked for additional information about the artist. Dr. Deupi asked for a more detailed resume including educational background, museum exhibition experience, and work in private collections. The Panel overall expressed that a decision could not be made based on the materials presented. Mr. Hersh stated that he would be return with further information. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Kolasiński made a motion to defer the item until more information is provided about the artist and his background. Ms. Tschumy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Mr. Hersh thanked the panel, who thanked him for his time, and left the meeting.

b. AIPP WAIVER REQUEST – THE PLAZA

Bill Brady introduced himself as the gallery representative working with the developers on the selection of artists and artwork for The Plaza and provided his professional background. It was noted that proposed artists were presented and pre-qualified at the previous Arts Advisory Panel meeting. Mr. Brady stated that three projects are being requested at this time for approval in compliance with the Art in Public Places program.

Mr. Brady explained the process of artist selection and stated that fifty artists were considered and eventually narrowed to a select few.

i. TONY CRAGG

Mr. Brady presented the first proposal, a large-format sculpture by artist Tony Cragg. Mr. Cragg, he said, is from Liverpool with commissions around the world including an exhibition along Park Avenue in 2013. The piece being considered for this installation, he said, is from the Park Avenue exhibition and is titled "Mean Average." Mr. Brady provided further background about the artist's interest in materials and science. The developers, he continued, viewed Cragg's sculptures in Dallas

and selected this piece. The placement of the artwork is being proposed on the corner of Ponce de Leon in the front of The Plaza and will include a bench surrounding the piece.

Dr. Deupi asked if the piece is being anchored at grade or on a concrete foundation. Mr. Brady responded that it would be installed on concrete and possibly on a (raised) plinth. He stated the dimensions as approximately nineteen feet high by eight feet in diameter.

Ms. Tschumy asked where the work was cast. Mr. Brady stated that it was cast in Germany at a cost close to \$400,000, it could cost \$15,000 to ship from Europe and another \$17,000 to install on site. Ms. MacDonald-Korth advised the importance of including a maintenance plan. With no further questions the following motion was made:

**Mr. Brito made a motion recommending approval of the waiver request to incorporate artwork as presented by artist Tony Cragg into The Plaza development project facing Ponce Circle Park. Ms. MacDonald-Korth seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

ii. JEAN-MICHEL OTHONIEL

Mr. Brady presented a second proposal for artwork by artist Jean-Michel Othoniel. The artist, he said, is a famous French artist with major pieces around the world and is the only living artist with a permanent piece in Versailles. He stated that the intent of the developer is to commission a piece by the artist for placement at the base of the (outdoor) escalator and within a fountain. Mr. Brady stated that the artist will not start work on the piece without receiving 10% payment down and that it is the first artwork that needs to be completed. He mentioned that Mr. Othoniel has a connection to Coral Gables, having lived here for a short while. The owners, Mr. Brady said, have requested that the artwork be fabricated of blue and clear glass balls.

Dr. Deupi stated that she was unsure of what the Panel would be approving. Mr. Brady explained that he was asking for pre-approval of the artwork. The Panel discussed and agreed that artwork can't be approved based on the strength of the artist's background and without seeing an actual proposed concept rendering. The Panel asked for a site-specific contextual visualization, showing how it relates to the overall building. Dr. Deupi mentioned the importance of considering aesthetics, public interaction, maintenance, conservation, and how sympathetic to the environment it is. The Panel agreed and asked Mr. Brady to return with a more complete proposal.

Mr. Brady responded that he would advise the developer to move forward with the 10% and return with further information to the Panel. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Brito made a motion recommending the proposal be brought back with specific information. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

iii. MICHELE OKA DONER

Mr. Brady then presented a third proposal for artwork by artist Michele Oka Doner. He described the work as a series of bronze benches surrounding live oak trees with impressions of different

fossils and plants incorporated into the design of the benches. Dr. Deupi said she appreciates the concept and has seen them elsewhere. It was pointed out that oak trees can be very dirty and Panel members asked if someone is advising the artist on the type of oak tree being planted, their potential height, and how maintenance of the artwork is being addressed. Mr. Brady did not know and responded that the developer will maintain the sculptures. Dr. Deupi also mentioned the material's high heat retention. Ms. MacDonald-Korth asked if the artist has worked on other pieces surrounding trees and expressed concern about falling debris from the tree affecting the artwork and how the tree roots may affect the piece. The Panel recommended that a tree specialist be consulted and added that oak trees have a bad track record in hurricanes. Ms. Spain stated that the City tree experts could be involved.

Ms. MacDonald-Korth asked about the details of the benches and if all the benches will be around trees. She suggested they could be designed in pieces that could be bolted together underneath. The Panel asked for clarification on the proposed locations and emphasized seeing schematics for the rings and (how the footings would affect) the root system. Mr. Brady said he would return with an answer. Ms. Tschumy added that using a system that could be dismantled would be beneficial to allow access to the tree or allow for growth. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**A motion was made by Mr. Brito expressing support of the project and requesting additional information about the project and tree specimens, including provision of site locations of all the artwork and recommending the artist look at a modular design that may be easily dismantled. Ms. Tschumy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### a. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Ms. Spain reported that the proposal for the Public Safety Building by Ivan Toth DePena's was presented to the City Commission on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and did not pass. She shared the intent to conduct workshops with the Police and Fire departments and explained that the Police Chief would like a figurative piece. Ms. Spain stated that some Commissioners may want something different. Staff was instructed to start again with no time restraints.

##### b. ART BASEL 2019 – RAFAEL BARRIOS

Ms. Spain informed the Board that staff met with Mr. Barrios, who is proposing one piece in the triangle area at Le Jeune Road and Coral Way across from Miracle Mile. An additional new piece was presented in response to the suggestion of the Panel. A temporary (smaller) piece, she said, would be placed in the Museum Plaza along with an exhibition in the Museum displaying additional artist's work. Ms. Spain said additional artworks are being considered but need clarification from the artist. She reported that the artist was approved as the artist to work with for Miami Art Week/Art Basel.

The Panel reviewed the proposal, which was explained as a temporary exhibition. The Panel discussed at length and Ms. Spain clarified that the piece on Le Jeune Road would be temporary. She stated the Mayor's desire to have a piece by the artist placed at Ponce de Leon Park. The Panel took no further action, commenting that they had already recommended one piece.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES

a. SUN STORIES

Ms. Spain advised the Panel of the new opening event for the public art exhibition “Sun Stories” at Giralda Plaza on Friday, July 26<sup>h</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

a. ARTS ADVISORY PANEL - RESOLUTON

The Panel was advised of the passing of the Arts Advisory Panel resolution, amending the number of members to 9. Ms. Spain advised the Panel that Dr. Deupi’s email was not read into the record; however, she expressed the Panel’s lack of support for the item. The two additional positions, she said, are for residents and will be appointed by the Commission as a Whole. Ms. Spain asked the Panel for recommendations of art professionals to sit on the Panel.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Dr. Deupi asked that staff create a template for proposal submissions.

**A motion was made by Ms. Tschumy requesting staff to develop a proposal template for artist submissions. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Dr. Deupi asked if any concern has been expressed regarding the Silence exhibition. Ms. Spain responded that she was not aware of the exhibition until it was on display.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no items.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director