City of Coral Gables

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

9:30 AM

https://coralgables.zoom.us/j/88687811677

427 Biltmore Way - 1st floor meeting room

Cultural Development Board

Chairperson Jose Valdes-Fauli
Vice Chairperson Frank Rodriguez
Board Member Eric Fliss
Board Member Sergio Gonzalez-Arias
Board Member Armando Hassun
Board Member Barbara Perez
Board Member Amanda Requena

The Cultural Development Board will hold its regular meeting commencing at 9:30 a.m. Board Members and City Staff will be physically present. All interested persons may be heard via the Zoom platform used by the City for live remote comments.

Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom at https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88687811677.

A dedicated phone line will be available so that any individual who does not wish (or is unable) to use Zoom may listen to and participate in the meeting by dialing: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 886 8781 1677.
To speak on an Agenda Item, please "Raise your Hand" or send a message to one of the meeting hosts using the Zoom Platform. If you joined the meeting via telephone, you can "Raise your Hand" by pressing *9.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Board Member Fliss,Vice Chairperson Rodriguez,Board Member Perez and Board Member Gonzalez-Arias

Excused: 3 - Board Member Requena,Chairperson Valdes-Fauli and Board Member Hassun

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

26-1722 Cultural Development Board Meeting of May 14, 2026.

Attachments: CDB Minutes May 14, 2026 Draft

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez-Arias and seconded by Mr. Fliss to approve the meeting minutes of May 14, 2026.

Yeas: 4 - Board Member Fliss,Vice Chairperson Rodriguez,Board Member Perez and Board Member Gonzalez-Arias

Excused: 3 - Board Member Requena,Chairperson Valdes-Fauli and Board Member Hassun

B. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-182

B.-1 26-1654 A Resolution of the City Commission approving "Intervals", a Coral Gables Art Series, as part of Miami Art Week and for an application to Art Basel for an official event, further approving funding up to $110,000 from the Art Fund toward the program and marketing materials (unanimously recommended by the Cultural Development Board approval/denial vote: 4 to 0); and authorizing an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Operating Budget to recognize the transfer of funds from the Art in Public Places Reserve and to appropriate such funds to put towards the cost of the project.

Attachments: Commission Cover AiPP Art Basel 2026
R-Draft-AiPP Art Basel 2026.doc
R-2026-182 - Signed

The Board was presented with an summary of the Intervals 2025 public art exhibition and proposed galleries and artists under consideration for Intervals 2026.

Staff advised the Board that although the Arts Panel did not have a quorum, they discussed the item and were in agreement that it should continue, opening for Miami Art Week, be included in an Art Basel application, and remain installed for a minimum of two months. Staff shared the discussion of the Panel and recommendations for additional activations.

The Board was advised that the item would move forward at the next City Commission meeting. Following a brief discussion, the Board made a motion recommending the item to the City Commission for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Fliss and seconded by Ms. Perez to recommend approval to the City Commission of the Intervals public art exhibition as part of Miami Art Week and for ana application to Art Basel for an official event.

Yeas: 4 - Board Member Fliss,Vice Chairperson Rodriguez,Board Member Perez and Board Member Gonzalez-Arias

Excused: 3 - Board Member Requena,Chairperson Valdes-Fauli and Board Member Hassun

C. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

D. CULTURAL GRANT UPDATES

25-8543 Cultural Grant Updates 2025-2026 / 2026-2027

Board members reviewed an updated change request letter from Area Stage. Members discussed the importance of grantees staying with the same programming as presented in their applications and requested staff to emphasize this in upcoming information to applicants (and grantees), specifically asking that staff discuss directly with this grantee. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Ms. Perez and seconded by Mr. Gonzalez-Arias to accept the Area Stage change request as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A representative from Ruta Teatral, Manuel Mendosa, attended the meeting and requested that the Board change their recommendation of no FY26-27 cultural grant funding for the organization. It was noted that the Board based their decision on the application missing required documents. Following a brief conversation, including the importance of being fair and consistent throughout the process, the following motion was made.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez-Arias and seconded by Ms. Perez to uphold the Board's decision not to recommend cultural grant funding for FY26-27 to Ruta Teatral. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff requested direction from the Board regarding how to disperse any remaining funds available after the calculation is revised for the CGYAP categories. Following a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made b Mr. Gonzalez-Arias and seconded by Ms. Perez to allocate remaining funds within the CGYAP categories to the highest scoring applicant with CGYAP. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members were reminded of the nominations of Board members Ms. Perez and Mr. Fliss, depending on availability, to speak on behalf of the Board at the upcoming City Commission meeting.

Discussion continued regarding the Cultural Grant process overall and staff presented minor updates, requesting direction by the Board to incorporate in the next grant season. The following items were presented and agreed on by all:

- Mandatory Webinar participation / Maintain

- Mandatory Consultation for new applicants / Maintain
- Recommend staff review of Administrative Review process
- Missing documents should not be considered a technical correction
- Public Comment period was discussed (following the meeting, per the City Attorney's Office, public comment will be included at the beginning of the review and scoring meeting
- Request of staff to review criteria of maximum $5,000 request for project budgets under $50K for consistency between all categories
- Review possibly splitting the review and scoring meeting into two days

The Board emphasized that the application submitted is solely the responsibility of the applicant.

Staff provided an overview of Senate Bill No.1134 regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Board was advised that the City Attorney's Office will give direction of how to address this in the current and upcoming grant process. Mr. Fliss asked if the application includes a question regarding diversity. Staff confirmed it does and will look at the language for possible modification.

Invitations were shared from Fine Arts of Miami and the Community Art Program at the Coral Gables Congregational Church.

Motions were made for items related to the Cultural Grants program and included in the Action Notes. All were unanimously approved.

Yeas: 4 - Board Member Fliss,Vice Chairperson Rodriguez,Board Member Perez and Board Member Gonzalez-Arias

Excused: 3 - Board Member Requena,Chairperson Valdes-Fauli and Board Member Hassun

E. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES

25-8544 AiPP Active Project Lists

Attachments: AiPP acquisition update March 2026 2 per
AiPP Projects_Municipal & Private May 2026

Board members received a copy of active Art in Public Places projects.

Staff shared the Ponce Circle Park presentation that was presented at the most recent City Commission meeting and advised that the presentation would be shared with the Arts Advisory Panel for their feedback and direction regarding potential locations for additional artwork.

F. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

The Board was advised of the City Commission approval of the second Agustin Cardenas sculpture.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no further discussion items.

I. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY

There were no further items from the Secretary.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 21 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

NOTE