



DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
Hybrid Meeting in City Commission Chambers & Virtual via Zoom

Historical Resources & Cultural Arts

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Table with 13 columns: MEMBERS, S, S O, N, D, J, F, M, A, M, J, J, J A, APPOINTED BY: and 9 rows of member attendance data.

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

STAFF:

Warren Adams, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist

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

Dr. Roth called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members welcomed Geannina Burgos and introduced themselves.

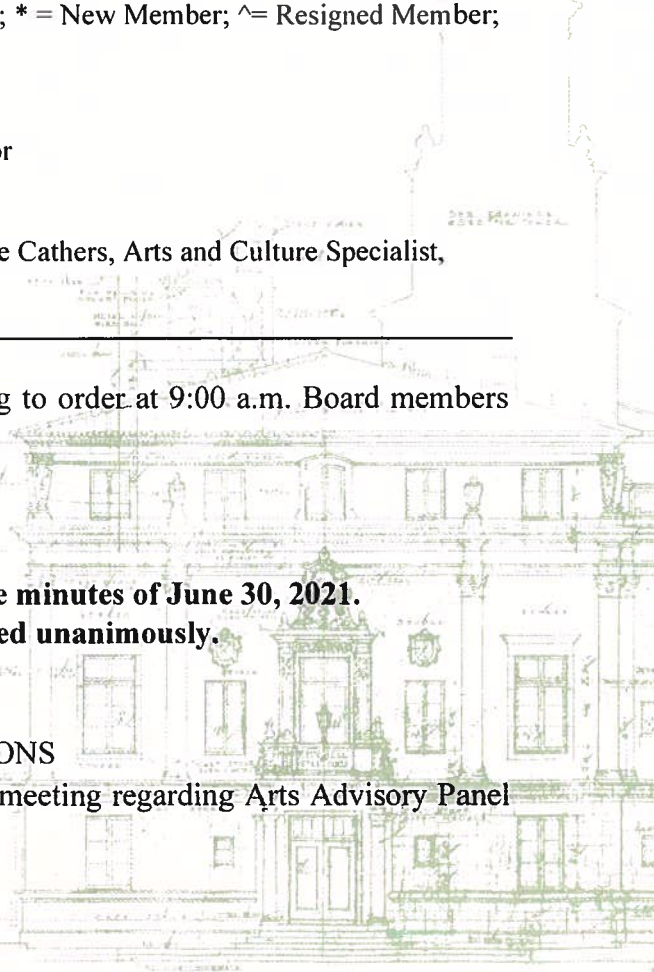
APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JUNE 30, 2021:

Mr. Valdes-Fauli made a motion to approve the minutes of June 30, 2021. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER NOMINATIONS

The Board continued their discussion from the previous meeting regarding Arts Advisory Panel membership.



Board members were provided in advance with a copy of the Arts Advisory Panel (AAP) resolution and CVs of those interested in serving on the Panel. Ms. Cathers informed the Board that current eligible AAP members are interested in re-appointment, with one open vacancy; adding that Dr. Jill Deupi has met her term limit and may not be re-appointed. She continued, saying nine members serve on the Panel with seven arts professionals nominated and recommended by the Cultural Development Board. The other two, she said, are City Commission-as-a-whole appointees who have been confirmed (Manny Mato and Maggie Hernandez). Ms. Cathers stated that the existing Panel may continue to meet; however, they are not obligated to do so.

Staff responded to Mr. Valdes-Fauli's request to provide a copy of the Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places code. Board members received a copy of the code prior to the meeting, along with an email response from Patricia Romeu, with Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. Mr. Valdes-Fauli read sections from the email noting the importance of impartiality and the Trust's tendency to shy away from practicing artists on the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC), while having sole discretion to appoint anyone deemed appropriate. Board members agreed that members with a conflict of interest need to recuse themselves. Dr. Roth suggested revisiting the issue in January after the (new) Panel has had an opportunity to work together.

Mr. Rodriguez suggested evaluating whether the existing members should be recommended for re-appointment and consider the current Board members' experience with the current membership. Dr. Roth responded that she, and Mr. Pantin, have attended AAP meetings and observed that they work well together and have made recommendations that have consistently moved forward. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Mr. Valdes-Fauli made a motion to recommend re-appointing eligible members of the Arts Advisory Panel: Nelson de León, Adler Guerrier, Jacek J. Kolasiński, Emily MacDonald-Korth, Marijean Miyar, and Juan Roselione-Valadez. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the two additional submissions from Eugenia Incer and Justo Sanchez. The Board discussed Ms. Incer's relationship with the Lowe Art Museum, recognizing it as a major cultural arts institution in Coral Gables (and South Florida). Mr. Sanchez' background was recognized as a writer and art critic with the Los Angeles Times. Staff noted that that the Panel has consistently had members representing art history, museum leadership, fine art creation, curation, conservation, and architecture/design. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Mr. Martinez made a motion to recommend appointing Eugenia Incer to the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Burgos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Ceballos confirmed that four members of the Panel overall need to be Coral Gables residents;

if not, a waiver request could be included in the motion to the City Commission. Residency was confirmed and there was no need to re-state the motions.

b. CHAIR & VICE CHAIR NOMINATIONS

Dr. Roth stated that the Board needs to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair. Mr. Martinez asked if the previous Chair and Vice-Chair would be interested in continuing to serve and they agree. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Mr. Pantin made a motion nominating Dr. Roth for the position as Chair and Geannina Burgos as Vice-Chair. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

The Board was updated on items being presented at upcoming City Commission meetings including acceptance of a Florida Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture grant; an Ordinance amendment to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code, Article 9, "Art in Public Spaces", Section 9-106 to redefine "Extraordinary Maintenance"; discussion regarding the Passion/Passiflora Incarnation installation on Segovia; a Resolution approving Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Cultural Grant recipients; and a Resolution approving artists for public art proposal submittals associated with Parking Garage 7/Minorca Garage.

Ms. Cathers introduced Gus Ceballos to speak on the Ordinance amendment regarding Art in Public Places. Board members were provided with a copy of the proposed revision prior to the meeting. Mr. Ceballos stated that at the request of Commissioner Anderson, a change was made to allow the art in public places fund to allow maintenance and restoration of (artworks). Currently, he said, the code is restrictive regarding this, and the change broadens it to allow for more intense cleaning that falls (beyond the current code). The Commission asked that it come before the Boards for any comment and questions.

Mr. Valdes-Fauli said he thought it applied to two artworks in the City's collection. Mr. Ceballos responded that he is not aware of any restriction, and it applies to all art in public places. The Board discussed the current definition of Extraordinary Maintenance and Mr. Ceballos read the new definition out loud. Staff clarified that the current code applies to restoration. Mr. Valdes-Fauli said he felt it was open ended and wondered who determines whether the maintenance is extraordinary (or not). Ms. Cathers noted how this impacts the current collection and the maintenance for the artworks by Alice Aycock and Carlos Cruz-Diez. She said these costs would now come out of the art fund rather than the general fund.

Mr. Pantin stated that he's in favor of the change and that the City needs to take care of the art it owns. Dr. Roth stated that she isn't in favor of using the fund to initiate restoration and agreed that the City needs to maintain what we have.

Ms. Cathers noted that the Ordinance has passed on first reading and the Commission asked that it be taken to the Board for comments and questions that could be addressed on second reading.

Staff asked for clarification on the added Whereas Clauses regarding historic landmarks and whether the intent is for the fund to be used for restoration of historic landmarks. Mr. Ceballos said he didn't believe that is the intent and offered to modify the Whereas Clause.

Mr. Martinez asked where the money was coming from before and expressed concern about over burdening the art fund. Dr. Roth asked for an itemized list of the annual maintenance and restoration. Ms. Cathers stated the estimate for the restoration work is around \$150,000 and after restoration there will be a better idea of regular maintenance moving forward. She clarified that most of the pieces will fall under regular maintenance with regular cleaning and that there is a small budget to take care of those works. Ms. Cathers stated that the Arts Advisory Panel recommended having the restoration done by one company. She also emphasized that (accessible) art fund monies are generated by private development fees and not taxpayer fees.

Mr. Martinez recommended spending time doing an overview of the collection, getting to know the pieces better, and including a list of the historic artworks. Mr. Pantin agreed and stated that restoration, the website, and the program overall should be addressed. He continued, asking how certain works like the DeSoto Fountain integrate with the (art) and look of the City, and asked who takes care of the entrances, such as the one on Granada and Eighth Street, Douglas Entrance, etc. Staff responded that Public Works maintains the entrances. Staff stated that pieces need to be designed by a professional artist to be considered part of the public art collection. The Board agreed that the big picture needs to be looked at to understand who is responsible for what.

Staff stated that a public art workshop is being scheduled in September for the Board and Panel in response to the Board's request and that a motion was made to move forward with a Cultural Arts Master Plan where the items mentioned may be addressed as part of that process.

Ms. Burgos stated her understanding that one of the Board comments to the Commission is to address the language regarding historic landmarks. The Board agreed and staff added that per the code pieces need to be created (as artwork) by a professional artist. The Board discussed looking at the language and clarifying it moving forward.

Mr. Ceballos thanked the Board and left the meeting. The Board was advised that the ordinance will move forward for second reading on September 14, 2021.

Continuing discussion of Commission items, Dr. Roth noted the following deferred items from the previous meeting that will be addressed:

- Discussion regarding the Passion/Passiflora Incarnation installation on Segovia Street.

- A Resolution of the City Commission approving Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Cultural Grant recipients and setting in place a funding mechanism contingent on the City's approved budget.
- A Resolution of the City Commission approving artists for public art proposal submittals associated with the new public Parking Garage 7, Minorca Garage.

Dr. Roth stated that if it's late in the morning or afternoon, she is still available to speak on behalf of the Board for these items.

Dr. Roth mentioned that the Illuminate Coral Gables was presented late in the Commission meeting and that the City will not have Illuminate Coral Gables in 2022.

The Board was advised that the August 24th meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

The Board was provided with updates regarding Art in Public Places projects.

Ms. Cathers reported that the ground level treatment of the bases of the Hank Willis Thomas artwork benches are being completed and the artwork signs have been removed through tropical storm season.

Staff advised that re-installation of the Barrios sculpture from City Hall to Ponce de Leon Park is ready to move forward.

The Board was advised that procurement assistance is being sought to prepare documents for a Cultural Arts Master Plan consultant.

Mr. Martinez asked for the status of the Coral Carpet artwork installation at Balboa Plaza. Ms. Cathers replied that it is in permitting and she will check on the installation timeline. Dr. Roth asked if it's known how many people are using the site and that it's difficult to see the artwork at the location. She asked if a map can be designed for distribution at the Farmers Market. Ms. Cathers said she is working with the Economic Development Department on a walking tour of artwork downtown that will be accessible through the kiosks located on Miracle Mile and Giralda Avenue. She said there is an up-to-date Google Map of the Public Art Collection that has been switched on the website with the previous map.

Ms. Burgos asked about the previously discussed walking tour of the UM public art collection. Ms. Cathers said she will reach out to see if it can take place again. The Board requested a date in late September or October when it's cooler.

Ms. Cathers updated the Board on a partnership with the Business Improvement District (BID) to design uniform signage for the public art collection. She noted that the design will go through the City's approval process and is scheduled to start in August.

Mr. Valdes-Fauli asked if there was information regarding the Commission item for discussion of the Alice Aycock sculptures. Staff stated that they have not heard from Commissioner Fors regarding the item. Mr. Valdes-Fauli asked for an update on the sculptures' condition. Ms. Cathers said she has spoken with the artist and shared the information in a previous Board meeting (prior to Mr. Valdes-Fauli's appointment). She said there was an expectation of color loss and that photos were sent to the artist as well as the artist visiting the site. Ms. Cathers said she spoke with the artist again recently and the artist said she is fine with the color and does not want anything done with it at this time, saying she feels it blends in well with the landscaping. Ms. Aycock also stated that she is open to continuing discussion. Ms. Cathers reported that the smaller piece was recently struck by a vehicle for the first time and that the driver's insurance is covering the repair, which is being conducted by the fabricator. Ms. Cathers said pieces are being re-fabricated in the studio and will be brought back to complete the repair on site. Mr. Valdes-Fauli asked if the whole sculpture was damaged and Ms. Cathers said no, the main damage was to the bulb on the back of the flower.

Mr. Rodriguez asked about the approval of the sculpture. Dr. Roth stated that it did not go through the Cultural Development Board. Staff confirmed, and said it went through a separate panel and was approved by Commission. Ms. Cathers noted that the Cultural Development Board submitted a resolution regarding the artwork and process a few years ago and offered to email it to the Board. Mr. Rodriguez said he would like to see the resolution. Dr. Roth confirmed that the Board was not involved; however, it can address the maintenance.

Mr. Valdes-Fauli expressed his dislike for the artwork and noted that certain views are only from the back of the artwork. He stated that if one is approaching the artwork, it should be visible from all sides upon entering the traffic circle. He clarified that these are his personal feelings.

Mr. Rodriguez said he is a believer in art in public places and understands that it can be polarizing with not all people agreeing on everything all the time. He expressed concern about how the process took place and if there are experts in the area of public art weighing in, they should take into account the sensibilities of the citizens of the City. He concurred with Mr. Valdes-Fauli and said it would be worthwhile to look at it again.

Ms. Burgos asked for the Board to review the related resolution(s) and event timeline before determining if it's appropriate to bring up. Staff agreed to email the previous resolution to the Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Board discussed moving regular meetings to the third Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. Staff stated that the Arts Advisory Panel would move to the second Wednesdays of the month to keep

the flow of information and presentations moving. In addition, staff said, the move will avoid conflicts with City Commission meetings and most holidays. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Mr. Martinez made a motion to change Cultural Development Board meetings to the third Tuesdays of the month at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Moving forward, meetings will take place at the new Public Safety Building in the Community Meeting Room.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no further updates from the Secretary.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the Cultural Development Board meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine J. Cathers
Arts & Culture Specialist