

EXCERPT

DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, May 01, 2018 8:30 a.m.  
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department  
2327 Salzedo St., Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	J	J	A	S	O	N+	D+	J	F	M	A	M	APPOINTED BY:
	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	
Leslie Pantin *					P	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Betty Horwitz	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor Pat Keon
Dr. Fernando Alvarez-Perez	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Alfonso Perez	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Michael Mena
Geannina A. Burgos	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	-	P	E	P	P	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	City Manager Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	E	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee

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

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Director  
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

GUESTS:

Ninoska Huerta, gallerist; Nella Daes, Logistics Fine Arts; Jorge Navarro, Greenberg Traurig; Zaba Castro, Greenberg Traurig; Jerad Graham, NP International; Emilio Sauma, Jr., Gables Hispanic Cultural Foundation; Ricardo Barredo, Gables Hispanic Cultural Foundation

RECORDING AND PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

Dr. Roth called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and read aloud the False Claims ordinance statement.

Ms. Horwitz and Dr. Mayorga attended the meeting remotely via conference call.

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a. ART BASEL PROPOSAL: HANK WILLIS THOMAS

Ms. Cathers reported on the recommendation of Art Basel to partner with the Lowe Art Museum, stating that she has met and discussed with Dr. Deupi, director of the Lowe, about various artists considered for the Lowe's annual Art Basel lecture that could also produce a significant public art project. Hank Willis Thomas was recommended. After reviewing his experience and body of work, a proposal request was sent to his studio.

Ms. Cathers referenced the proposal that was given to the Board and reviewed the two components. The first, she said, is a project being presented around the world and customized for each city. The project is a poem fabricated in a series of speech bubble installed on light posts along a street with one side of the street presented in English, and the other side translated into languages represented in the community.

She went to describe the second component of the project as a series of speech bubbles created into benches. Ms. Cathers noted that the proposal has given the artist the opportunity to expand on an existing project by creating new benches in direct response to the City's request for a proposal.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez asked about the location siting and Ms. Cathers answered that the poem is proposed for installation along Miracle Mile with the benches proposed throughout the City. She added that the artist's studio team came for a site visit and after a tour of Coral Gables, the artist decided to propose placing the benches in various open spaces (rather than focus primarily downtown). The concept, she said, also expanded from one bench to four benches.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez asked about the possibility of acquiring the benches, to which staff responded that they will speak with the artist and ask.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez expressed concern about the locations and desire to have them more central and accessible, especially the Dutch South African Village. Ms. Spain stated that the artist was intrigued with the villages and the artist expressed the intention for people to find them throughout the community, in residential areas. Ms. Cathers commented on the opportunity to have accessible art in the community and in surprising spaces, with one of the benches being at (or close) to Miracle Mile. The Board liked the idea of keeping at least some of the benches more centrally located.

Ms. Cathers provided further details about the proposed application for this year's Art Basel event, including the morning reception now established for the last day of Art Basel Miami Beach and an interpretive exhibit at the Coral Gables Museum.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Perez made a motion recommending approval of the public art exhibition proposal by Hank Willis Thomas as presented and recommended by the Arts Advisory Panel and of its application to Art Basel for inclusion as an official event. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

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Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director