



**CITY OF CORAL GABLES**  
**CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, March 07, 2017 8:15 a.m.**  
**Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department**  
**2327 Salzedo Street, 2nd Floor, Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

*Historical Resources &  
 Cultural Arts*

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MEMBERS	A	M	J	J	A+	A	O	N+	D+	J	F	M	APPOINTED BY:
	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	
Claudio Pastor	P	P	E	-	P	P	E	P	A	P	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Geannina A. Burgos	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	Vice-Mayor Frank C. Quesada
Alfonso Perez	P	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick
Betty Horwitz*						P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Pat Keon
Dr. Fernando Alvarez-Perez	P	P	P	-	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	E	Commissioner Vince Lago
Dr. Bernice Roth	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	City Manager Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	P	P	P	-	E	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:**

Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Pola Reydburd, Miami Symphony Orchestra

**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. Mr. Pastor participated via conference call.

The Board was advised that Ms. Burgos asked to be excused due to a prior commitment. Mr. Perez and Dr. Alvarez-Perez also asked to be excused due to illness.

**Dr. Mayorga made a motion to accept the absences of Ms. Burgos, Mr. Perez, and Dr. Alvarez-Perez as excused. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Dr. Roth asked Ms. Cathers to review the attendance policy on behalf of the Board.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 07, 2017:

**Dr. Mayorga made a motion to approve the minutes of February 07, 2017. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

CORAL GABLES CULTURAL GRANTEE REQUESTS, UPDATES, & REVIEWS:

**Miami Symphony Orchestra**

Ms. Cathers introduced Pola Reydburd, representing the Miami Symphony Orchestra, and reviewed the organization's request to change the date and venue of their FY2016-17 Cultural Grant proposed project. Ms. Reydburd described the situation, stating that their contact with the City had gone on maternity leave and communication was disrupted. Issues arose regarding the use of the venue, parking, permits, set-up expenses, etc. that would make it a hardship for the organization to fulfill the grant as originally described. Since then, the organization has connected with the Coral Gables Adult Activity Center at the Palace and confirmed the location availability for Saturday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m. The program remains the same.

Dr. Roth remarked that sometimes costs don't appear so readily. She then asked about marketing for the event. Ms. Reydburd stated that it will be promoted through the Activity Center's newsletter, adding that the Palace has a track record of full houses for similar programs. Dr. Mayorga asked about the venue's capacity, with Ms. Reydburd responding that it's about 170-180. She went on to add that the original proposal was for a ticketed event, whereas this one will be free and open to the public. The Board commented on the benefit of the orchestra performing indoors as opposed to the original outdoor location.

**Dr. Mayorga made a motion to approve Miami Symphony Orchestra's request for a change of venue and date as noted on their FY2016-17 grant application to the new venue at the Coral Gables Adult Activity Center on the date of May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Ms. Cathers encouraged Ms. Reydburd to work in advance to check costs, budget, location, etc. Dr. Roth added that as the grant writer, questions need to be asked of the organization to ensure a complete proposal. Dr. Roth asked permission to use this situation as an example at the next Grants workshop. Ms. Reydburd agreed, thanked the Board, and left the meeting.

**Cultural Grantee Updates**

Ms. Cathers reported that on February 14<sup>th</sup> the City Commission approved the Resolution as recommended by the Board for FY2016-17 Cultural Grant funding.

Ms. Cathers updated the Board on the City Attorney's Resolution as discussed in the last meeting, informing the Board that the Resolution passed and tickets offered by cultural organizations may now be accepted by staff for distribution to Board members. Ms. Cathers read aloud Section 2 of the Resolution as follows:

That the City Commission hereby directs that members of the Cultural Development Board and a corresponding staff member, in their official capacity, attend events that are illustrative of the work of grant applicants, in order to properly review and evaluate their programming as well as their compliance with grant requirements. This includes evaluating the quality of the performance and the number of people in attendance along with any other relevant factors. Any tickets provided by the applicants for said events shall be sent to the Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department for distribution to Board members and a staff member.

Dr. Roth reiterated that tickets (of a monetary value) offered directly to Board members should be forwarded to staff. Dr. Mayorga added that a response may be sent to the organization requesting, in the

future, to contact staff directly. The Board discussed the value of attending as many programs as possible, regardless of whether tickets have been made available. Staff will work to address this situation as needed.

To assist with the Commission's directive, Ms. Cathers presented an evaluation review form that encompasses items requested on the application and used for the Final Report review. The items in the form were read aloud for Mr. Pastor's benefit. Board members discussed how best to complete the evaluation and the importance of quantifying and qualifying their experience. The Board approved using the form moving forward.

Ms. Cathers distributed a spreadsheet of Grantee events organized month to month and asked Board members to note ones they have attended. She also highlighted organizations that have proposed dates and stated that they've been asked for confirmed dates.

The Board spoke briefly about Bike Walk Coral Gables. Ms. Cathers informed the Board of the activities of the organization, including promoting the use of bikes and installing repair stations throughout the City. Ms. Cathers spoke about her recent experience leading a public art bike tour as a guest for the organization and noted the extensive involvement of the Coral Gables Museum in the administration of the event. The Board emphasized the importance of Cultural Grant requests to focus on cultural content rather than recreation.

Dr. Mayorga recalled the desire of the Board to have a public art trolley tour and an organized visit to Montgomery Botanical Center. Staff will follow-up.

Ms. Horwitz asked for an update on the Opera Atelier's new dates. Staff will follow-up.

Ms. Cathers commented on the Miami International Film Festival and this year's collaboration with the Coral Gables Art Cinema. She commented on the great number of films being presented, including representation from a majority of categories within the festival.

Dr. Roth reported on attending GableStage's latest, and sold-out, production. She mentioned Mr. Adler commenting on moving out of the Gables and the loss to the City.

Ms. Cathers remarked that the Greater Miami Symphonic Band has been working hard on improving their grant application to the City. As a result of funding this year, they're presenting an award to the City based on the threshold of support they're receiving. Ms. Burgos will be attending.

The Board was reminded of the St. Patrick's Day Festival this weekend and encouraged to attend.

Ms. Cathers shared a letter received from Seraphic Fire, thanking the City for their support.

#### CORAL GABLES CULTURAL GRANT (DISCUSSION):

Dr. Roth asked that this item be tabled until more Board members can be present. Ms. Cathers reminded Board members to forward any comments prior to the next meeting.

#### ART IN PUBLIC PLACES, PROJECT UPDATES:

##### **Miracle Mile Streetscape**

Ms. Cathers informed the Board that the date for the initial concept review is being re-scheduled. Artists have been forwarded comments from the public and are working on their initial designs.

##### **Jean Ward**

The Board was informed that Mr. Volsky requested locating the three recently restored Jean Ward

sculptures in the new park located north of the Country Club on Granada Boulevard. The sculptures could be placed along a path currently included in the design. A neighborhood meeting will take place.

Ms. Horwitz asked about the (Jean Ward) works in Ingraham Park in great need of repair. Ms. Cathers said they will most likely be addressed in FY2018/19.

**Marc Andres Smit**

Mr. Pastor shared information about the passing of artist, Marc Andres Smit, the sculptor of the Jose Marti bust and monument located at Freedom Plaza. He commended Mr. Smit's commitment to art in the City and mentioned that the artist had recently contacted the City regarding the maintenance of the artwork. Ms. Cathers shared that she had a couple of wonderful conversations with Mr. Smit, including receiving extensive maintenance instructions for his piece. She also stated that his work was showcased on the public art bike tour and that a lovely article about Mr. Smit was included in the Miami Herald.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Pastor stated that the Mayor invited him to meet with the delegation of (Sister City) Cartagena this afternoon to inform them about the City's cultural community. The Board agreed that information about the City's Cultural Grant program and grantees, along with information about the public art collection would be helpful. Ms. Cathers asked that Mr. Pastor express the enthusiasm residents have for Cartagena's donated sculpture *Old Shoes*, noting that it's regularly stated as the most popular public artwork in the City.

BOARD ITEMS / CITY COMMISSION UPDATE / CITY PROJECT UPDATES:

Dr. Roth reported on her meeting about the City Website. She expressed to the design team a desire to see a direct link to a cultural calendar on the main page for the benefit of residents as well as visitors. Examples of other City websites were reviewed and a more sophisticated and easier to navigate design is being planned.

Ms. Cathers advised Board members that the term for appointments to the Board is this spring and to contact new or standing officials to express their interest in staying on the Board. The Board-as-a-whole appointment will be made after all other appointments are in place.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no additional items.

**A motion was called by Dr. Mayorga to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Horwitz. The motion was unanimously approved.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director