

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 9:00 A.M.**

**Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
Hybrid Meeting & Virtual via Zoom**

MEMBERS	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J
	23	23	23	23	23	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Nelson de León	-	E	P	A	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eugenia Incer	-	P	P	A	A	-	E	P	P	E	P	P
Adler Guerrier	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	P
Maggie Hernandez	-	P	E	A	A	-	P	P	A	P	P	P
Dr. Jacek Kolasiński – Vice Chair	-	P	P	A	P	-	P	P	E	P	E	P
Dr. Jill Deupi* - Chair		E	P	P	A	-	E	P	P	P	P	P
Manny Mato	-	P	E	A	P	-	A	A	A	A	A	A
Marijean Miyar	-	P	P	A	A	-	P	A	P	E	E	E
Alexandra Perez*		P	E	P	A	-	P	P	P	P	A	P

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

STAFF:

Anna Pernas, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist
Yvelisse Bonilla, Administrative Assistant

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

The Arts Advisory Panel meeting was called to order by Chairperson Deupi at 9:02 AM.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mr. Kolasinski, seconded by Ms. Incer, to approve the June 5, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

A. NEW BUSINESS:

A.-1. AIPP WAIVER REQUEST: 719 BILTMORE WAY – CAVALIERI

Jorge Evaristo, representing 719 Biltmore Way, approached the Panel with a request to waive the required Art in Public Places fee in lieu of commissioning and installing artwork at the project. Mr. Evaristo presented a proposal of artwork by artist Alberto Cavalieri.

The artwork, titled “Anemoscopic”, was described as an over 15-foot-high, galvanized steel sculpture resembling a knot, constructed of modular, welded parts, and anchored to a concrete base. The artwork is proposed for installation at the entrance of the building along Biltmore Way.

The Panel expressed their appreciation of the developer responding to their previous comments and after a brief discussion, made the following motion.

A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Kolasiński, to recommend approval of the waiver request of the 719 Biltmore Way development project to commission and install artwork by Alberto Cavaliere as presented. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

A.-2. CORAL GABLES GARDEN CLUB – XAVIER CORTADA, PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL

Teresa Zohn, Co-Chair of the Centennial Committee of the Coral Gables Garden Club, introduced herself and spoke about the Club’s initiative to commission and donate public art to the city in celebration of the centennial. She gave an overview of the Club’s commitment to work with artist Xavier Cortada on a piece that could be installed at the Coral Gables branch library in the butterfly garden. Ms. Zohn was joined by members Maureen Gragg and Kristal Meyer. She introduced artist Xavier Cortada, and his studio assistant Michael Gray, and Mr. Cortada presented his most recent concept.

Mr. Cortada discussed the proposed piece, “Blooming Legacy”, envisioned as a hand-carved and painted, double-sided high-relief ceramic tile (vertical) mural depicting five iconic flowers. The piece was proposed for placement on the west side of the library within the butterfly garden, visible from Segovia Street. The artist brought in samples of the ceramic and glazing techniques that would be used for this project.

Panel members discussed the concept and structure, recommending further exploration of how the artwork is set within the space and integrates with the garden’s use. The artist and Garden Club members expressed appreciation of the feedback and asked that the item be deferred.

A.-3. CORAL GABLES CENTENNIAL – COMMEMORATIVE ARTWORK PROPOSAL REVIEW, REVISED

Panel members reviewed the most recent proposal revisions by artist Morel Doucet for the city’s centennial, commemorative public artwork, “Secrets That the Wind Carries Away.” Mr. Doucet spoke about revisions that were made based on community feedback, including a request that flowers remain outside of the boat form, not inside of it. They further requested certain items be included such as a bible, musical instruments, tropical fruits, tools for farming or masonry, that the figures represent a family unit, and expressed a preference the patina. He spoke about different

surface treatments and use of clothing styles from the 1940s through 1960s. Mr. Doucet said he is working with a 3D modeling program to complete the design and details.

Mr. Carl Prime, president of the Lola B. Walker Homeowner's Association, was in attendance and relayed the enthusiasm of the community. It was reiterated that the artist will continue to work with the H.O.A. to confirm the final list of names to be added to the side panels of the boat.

Dr. Deupi commented on the lyrical quality of the artist's work and the importance of capturing the artist's magic and energy while still listening and responding to input. Panelists agreed and asked about the activation of the figures within the work. Mr. Doucet responded that in addition to addressing specific features as he continues to work, the boat will sit at an acute angle to capture movement and structurally aid drainage. Mr. Guerrier stated the importance of articulating the narrative of the piece, conveying what journey is, what the piece is saying overall. He encouraged the artist to keep this as a top priority. Members agreed and asked for one fully realized concept including what the artist wants the boat to look like; the placement, ages, and actions/interactions of the figures; items and their placement; choice of patina; etc. Mr. de León suggested this could be a (concept) sketch (without the need to apply 3D modeling at this stage).

Discussion continued about how the work relates to the centennial and the city at large as a story of commemoration. Mr. Prime agreed and said that the work has a larger story to tell.

Panel members provided additional input and spoke about how the piece will be read from a distance vs. up close. They stated that from afar, the sense of direction and broad actions will be seen, while details will draw viewers closer to explore the work and its meaning. It was noted that an important element of the artwork is seeing the figures and understanding what they are doing independently and as a unit.

With no further discussion, the Panel made the following motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Guerrier, seconded by Mr. Kolasiński, to recommend moving the proposal forward to the Cultural Development Board with the following conditions: present one concept including the boat design, figure placement and details including age and actions, the botanical feature surrounding the piece, and choice of patina. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Panel asked that the piece come back to them for a final review.

B. OLD BUSINESS:

None

C. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

C.-1. AiPP UPDATES

The Panel was provided with a list of municipal and private development public art projects.

Of note, Panel members were advised of the following:

“Eternal Vigilance” – The Artists’ team returned and in-filled the letters of the quote for greater readability. They are continuing to explore options to enhance the flame element.

“Whispering Through a Stone”, Janine Antoni – Artist has been out of the country for an exhibition and is continuing to work on the sculpture.

D. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

José Bedia Sculpture – The proposed sculpture acquisition is being presented to the Commission on July 9, 2024, with a proposed location within the William H. Kerdyk, Jr. and Family Park.

Carlos Cruz-Diez – A resolution is being presented to the Commission on July 9, 2024, to establish maintenance of this artwork as “extraordinary maintenance” and allow use of the Art Fund for this purpose.

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

E.-1 PONCE CIRCLE PARK

Following up from a previous meeting, the Panel continued discussion about potential artists and/or artworks for Ponce Circle Park.

Responding to the previous presentation from the Robert Indiana Legacy, Dr. Deupi suggested commissioning two Robert Indiana artworks, LOVE and AMOR, and placing them across from each other in the park. She expressed that the works would embrace the community, feel purposeful, and intentional while inviting people as a destination.

Discussion continued and included the budget for the park overall and the possibility of dividing it for different opportunities, including commissioned artwork. Members discussed looking for new, innovative and impactful sculptures for the city and the possibility of considering local artists. It was agreed to compile a list of artists to be circulated and added to at the next meeting.

Panel members suggested several artist names to consider, including: Sanford Biggers, Simone Leigh, Wangechi Mutu, Teresita Fernandez, Jorge Pardo, Mark Handforth, Shaia Sikander, Chris Carter, Alexandre Arrechea, Sarah Sze, and Ursula von Rydingsvard, in addition to keeping Robert Indiana and Frank Stella on the list.

E.-2 ART BASEL – CITY PROPOSAL

Staff proposed hosting an exhibition of Janine Antoni’s work as the city’s Art Basel project for 2024. The artist has stated her availability to be present for related programming. Staff advised that it will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

F. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Cathers
Arts & Culture Specialist