

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 23, 2009, 8:00 a.m.
Development Department Conference Room
95 Merrick Way, Suite 450, Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

MEMBERS	J#	A	S	O*	O**	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	COMMISSIONERS
José R. Garrigó	P	-	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Bobbi Litt	E	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Dr. Bernice Matalon-Roth	P	-	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Dr. Carol Damian	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Beatriz Pereira	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	P	Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers
Andrea Cole	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	A	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Ginger Jochem >	-					-							P	City Manager

* FY2007-2008 Final Reports
Regular Meeting + FY2008-09 Grants Workshop
** FY2008-2009 Cultural Grant Applications Review & Scoring

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused
- = No Meeting
^ = Resigned Member
> = New Member

Guests: Mike Thompson; Ms. Yufen Lee

Staff In Attendance:

Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist
Dona M. Spain, Assistant City Manager

Recording Secretary:

Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Motion Summary:

Minutes of the May 18, 2009 Cultural Development Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Garrigó's absence was excused.

Andrea Cole was selected as the Board's appointee for a second two-year term of service on the Cultural Development Board.

It was recommended that the Shenandoah Middle School Student Book be included in the special collection of the Coral Gables Library.

A motion was passed not to recommend acceptance of a sculpture donation from artist Manuel Millares.

Chair Carol Damian called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

I. Introductions:

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Damian welcomed Ginger Jochem, the Board appointee of City Manager Salerno, and selected in place of resigned Board member Miguel Diaz de la Portilla.

II. Review/Approval of May 18, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes:

Ms. Litt made a motion to approve the May 18, 2009 meeting minutes as presented. Dr. Matalon-Roth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. Meeting Attendance:

Dr. Matalon-Roth made a motion to excuse meeting attendance of Mr. Garrigó. Ms. Jochem seconded the motion, which passed.

IV. Board Appointment to CDB:

Ms. Litt made a motion to select Andrea Cole as the Board appointee for another two-year term of service on the Cultural Development Board. Ms. Pereira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. Coral Gables: Building a Dream – Shenandoah Middle School Student Book Project Presentation:

Ms. Cathers reported that Chris Rupp and the Coral Gables Museum engaged in a project with Shenandoah Middle School students to create a book depicting the City and its history. One of the 20 handmade books was presented as a gift to the Cultural Development Board of the City. Included in the book were the results of the students' community interviews, archival photographs, students' photographs and historical research. In addition to the English version, the book was prepared in Spanish and will be given to Spanish-speaking cities in the Sister Cities program. Funding to publish the book is being sought.

Ms. Cathers said the Board was asked to accept the book and make a recommendation about its safekeeping, adding that both the Mayor and the Coral Gables Museum had copies. Consensus was that the Coral Gables Library should keep a copy in its special collection. Ms. Cathers agreed to ask Chris Rupp for her recommendation as well.

Ms. Cole made a motion to recommend that the Shenandoah Middle School Student Book be included in the special collection of the Coral Gables Library. Ms. Jochem seconded the motion, which passed.

VI. Donation Proposal – Artist Manuel Millares:

Ms. Cathers reviewed the artistic work of Mr. Millares, distributed a photograph of a sculpture proposed as a donation to the City with a request that it be installed and maintained in the Coral Gables Library.

Discussion issues:

- The Board had the option of referring the donation request to the Art Advisory Board.
- Coral Gables Library is a Miami-Dade County building.
- The City has a Library Advisory Board.
- A recommendation was made not to encourage artists to donate works, particularly with placement in mind. The Board will first consider the work and, if it can be recommended to advance to the next step in the process, would consider recommendations of placement.
- The Board was not generally supportive of the proposal.

Ms. Cole made a motion not to recommend acceptance of a sculpture donation from artist Manuel Millares. Ms. Litt seconded the motion.

During discussion, Ms. Cathers advised that the City's policy states that criteria is based on the aesthetics of the piece with artistic and cultural merit. The artist followed the process, and may approach the Coral Gables Library since it is a separate entity. Ms. Cathers encouraged the artist, when an opportunity arises, to submit a proposal to the Art in Public Places program.

VII. Exhibition – Chen Yujun, through Taipei Economic and Cultural Office:

Ms. Cathers explained that the original proposal was to exhibit Chen Yujun's artwork, as a celebration of his 80th birthday, in City Hall; however, space was inadequate for the exhibition size (approximately 200 pieces of artist Chen Yujun and other calligraphy artists). Chen Yujun has had a studio in Coral Gables for nearly 30 years. Ms. Lee discussed

the artist's first U.S. exhibition, venue challenges, and the possibility of gaining the Mayor's endorsement and introduction.

During discussion with Ms. Lee, Dr. Damian shared news that the exhibition will take place at the Frost Art Museum at Florida International University, opening October 16, 2009, one week after the opening of the Dalai Lama exhibit.

VIII. Coral Gables Art Stroll Proposal and Discussion: Mike Thompson:

After introducing Mike Thompson, Ms. Cathers advised that his proposal was to add a feature to the First Friday Gallery Night events beginning in September 2009. Mr. Thompson was present at the meeting to gain Board approval. Mr. Thompson relayed his background and described the proposal to add an energetic and expanded dimension to Gallery Night as follows:

- to display art on easels for three hours during Gallery Night in front of several downtown businesses;
- endorsements received from the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, numerous gallery owners, 25 local businesses and Mayor Slesnick, who requested that it be a no-cost event;
- 10% of artwork sales will be donated to the Coral Gables Community Foundation;
- Coral Gables' student artwork will be featured in front of the AT&T store on Miracle Mile, overseen by the teachers of the various schools;
- funds from sales of students' artwork will be used to purchase school art supplies;
- Mr. Thompson will be responsible for all work related to the artists, publicity, business and restaurant sites, with the goal of attracting people to Coral Gables to stroll and enjoy art.

Ms. Cathers explained that the Board's endorsement was requested, though not necessary. Issues being examined by the Special Events Committee, comprised of various City staff, are those of safety, security, and liability. Unanimous Board consensus was to endorse Mr. Thompson's concept and plan.

Ms. Cathers summarized her conversation with entertainment lawyer David Bercuson, who said the County formed a task force to provide music for gallery nights throughout the County. Mr. Bercuson will attend the next Board meeting to explain details.

IX. Public Art Master Plan – Update:

Ms. Cathers reported that the RFQ was issued for the Public Art Master Plan consultant, with a submission deadline of July 16, 2009. An evaluation panel will meet July 24.

A highly-competitive Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, Culture Builds Florida grant application was submitted to boost funding for the project. In addition to the grant's consultancy component, a public art banner kickoff project was added that would also bring attention to City cultural arts grantees. Ms. Cathers explained the link between the Art in Public Places program with the Board's suggestion and support of assisting grantees in Coral Gables through strategically placed cultural art themed banners.

X. Donation Policy – Update:

Ms. Kautz and Ms. Cathers met and agreed to align general portions of the City's donation policy, allowing each department to include their proprietary policy issues. Ms. Spain said the City was looking forward to having an inclusive policy that specifies process. In response to information about the County's bar-coded inventory system, Ms. Spain expressed confidence that the IT Department could facilitate a similar program for the City. Dr. Damian recommended consulting with Michael Spring, who had one staff person assigned to manage the County's inventory system, maintained via specific software.

XI. Status Reports:

- a. **Art Cinema Project:** Art Cinema received its 501(C)(3) designation. Public Works indicated completion of its work by September 2009. The current opening of Art Cinema is October; however, the date could change,

depending on unforeseen circumstances. Ms. Cathers submitted a capital development grant for ADA accommodations to the County, and the City was ranked third among 17 applicants. As yet, there is no confirmation of funding.

- b. **Cultural Grant Updates:** The 2007/2008 final report was received from the Spanish consulate, and other final reports are being received as well. City funding for cultural grants for the 2009/2010 fiscal year is not yet determined.

XII. Additional Board Business:

- a. Ms. Cathers advised Board members to submit completed financial disclosure forms to the City Clerk's office.
- b. The bi-annual Boards and Committees seminar will be conducted September 18. Ms. Cathers will provide details about location and time.
- c. The Development Department's new name was announced as the Economic Sustainability Department. The Director's position was announced and will remain open until the position is filled.

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

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 3:00 p.m.; Mandatory Cultural Arts Grant Workshop: Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 4:00 p.m. Coral Gables City Commission Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Cathers
Arts & Culture Specialist and Secretary to the Board
City of Coral Gables

Prepared by: Nancy C. Morgan,
President, Coral Gables Services, Inc.