

**DRAFT**

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:00 a.m.**

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

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>
	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>
Nelson de León	E	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eugenia Incer*						P	P	E	P	P	E	P
Adler Guerrier	P	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Maggie Hernandez* - V. Chair	P	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	A	E	P
Dr. Jacek Kolasiński - Chair	P	-	P	E	-	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
Emily MacDonald-Korth	P	-	V	P	-	E	E	E	E	P	P	P
Manny Mato	E	-	V	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Marijean Miyar	V	-	V	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	P	-	V	P	-	P	P	P	E	A	P	P

**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 & Culture Specialist,  
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department

---

The Arts Advisory Panel meeting was called to order by Mr. Kolasiński at 9:04 a.m. The Panel was advised that Ms. Miyar asked respectfully to be excused.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:**

**A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez and seconded by Mr. Guerrier to approve the meeting minutes of January 12, 2022 and accept Ms. Miyar’s absence as excused, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.**

NEW BUSINESS:

a. PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST REQUESTS – ZILIA SÁNCHEZ, CARMEN HERRERA, AND VAUGHN SPANN

The Panel received pre-qualification materials for artists Zilia Sánchez, Carmen Herrera, and Vaughn Spann. Panel members reviewed the materials prior to the meeting and agreed that the artists presented meet the criteria.

The Panel commented that these artists are primarily known as painters. Ms. Hernandez noted that any approved artworks should be of a notable scale. With no further discussion, the following motions were made:

**Mr. Mato made a motion to accept Zilia Sánchez, as a pre-qualified artist. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Mr. Mato made a motion to accept Carmen Herrera as a pre-qualified artist. Ms. Incer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Hernandez made a motion to accept Vaughn Spann as a pre-qualified artist. Mr. Mato seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

b. KIOSK ART

The Panel was scheduled to walk to one of the kiosks on Miracle Mile; however, due to rainy weather, the Panel discussed re-scheduling and continued their discussion about the kiosks in general.

Mr. Kolasiński noted that at the previous meeting he mentioned using the kiosks as possible display stations for non-fungible tokens (NFT) or exploring a partnership with a commercial entity, exploring how it adds to the value of interaction with public art that is ephemeral in nature. He noted that a uniform decision had not been made by the Panel.

Ms. Hernandez stated her opinion that if it is going to be purely artistic, then it should be purely artistic, and if it is a mixture of art and commerce with advertising and information about the City, then the art plays a different role and artists may not want to be involved. Mr. Kolasiński noted that it does have a mixed use.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez said his issue is allocating funds when the commercial entity should be paying for the provision of cultural content. Mr. Kolasiński said it was a valid point, with it generating funds, but it is also soliciting paid advertisements. He suggested the option of talking with NFT companies to rent and display works that are created in the City's zip code (or region).

Continuing, he discussed how it would change the idea of the novel position of information technology and the intersection of technology art as an ephemeral art form.

Ms. Hernandez suggested using it for pictures or video of the public art that is not on Miracle Mile and suggested that galleries could rent the space to promote their shows.

Ms. Cathers stated the project is being proposed as an opportunity for area artists. She shared her experience working on a similar program with a Federal public art agency and said the proposed project is a way to engage an existing space in an economical way. She thanked the Panel for their conversation and said if the Panel doesn't feel it is a viable opportunity for the reasons mentioned at the previous meeting and now, then staff will not pursue it.

Mr. Kolasiński stated interest in developing a framework for the project that can work for the community and align with the purpose of the (art in public places) program. He mentioned the benefit of creating a pipeline of new artists who are being trained in a process of intertwining with art in public places. Mr. Kowlasinski stated that there are plenty of ideas artists come up with when opportunities are given to them.

Mr. Guerrier questioned the opportunity (as currently proposed) and asked that it be stretched to feel less like advertising and more like a moment that matters, so that artists feel like they have a moment to speak to an audience they probably don't have.

Mr. Kolasiński mentioned the many people currently studying digital art and who want to find new venues, saying the NFT craze shows that a lot of artists are looking at it that way – (seeing the kiosk) as a new device that artists can conquer. Ms. MacDonald-Korth agreed, saying the screens give an interesting opportunity for digital based media artists and is the key to its success; it is digital-born, not translating a three-dimensional object or a painting into digital content.

Ms. Incer noted the importance of building a framework around the program and looking at senior level artists, adding that it would be a fantastic opportunity for exposure and new engagement.

The Panel overall agreed that the opportunity deserved to be explored more with a focus on digital media. They asked for the technical specifications and shifting it to a commissioned opportunity for digital media artists.

Mr. Kolasiński spoke to having committed (screen) time for the work being shown so there is ample representation. Ms. Cathers reviewed how the kiosk works for wayfinding and information, which she said includes a walking tour for public art downtown. It would still need to work within the framework of its purpose on Miracle Mile and Giralda Plaza, she said.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez thanked staff for looking at other opportunities in the core of the Gables and wondered if the Panel should walk Miracle Mile, applying the collective experience of the Panel to identify sites for activation. He also asked if it makes sense for Panel members to be more active overall with their recommendations. He wondered if there could be sights, such as Giralda Plaza, that that could rotate (public artworks). Continuing, Mr. Roselione-Valadez commended the Coral Gables Museum on their programming and mentioned them as a partner to lead this initiative. Ms. Cathers said the Mayor will be attending the next Panel meeting and one of the projects being following up on regards partnering with the Museum on a program for the temporary exhibition of artworks. She stated that he also mentioned the possibility of exhibiting Botero sculptures along Miracle Mile.

Staff encouraged input whether for new initiatives or responding to ones that come before the Panel. She expressed her appreciation for the Panel's experience and contribution.

Mr. de León mentioned wanting more artworks owned by the City that are integrated throughout downtown, including artist-designed bike racks and other surprise artwork elements.

Mr. Kolasiński supported the idea of walking the downtown area and responding to see if a plan could be proposed, building a vision as a group of people who are interested in the visual culture of the City.

Ms. Hernandez suggested identifying a wall, maybe with a new building, that could permanently be activated in different ways and is big enough and impactful enough to start promoting digital art in a significant way. Ms. MacDonald-Korth responded that she loves the idea and had mentioned it before. She shared that the kiosk could be a case study for having a larger screen installed that may be used for digital work. Mr. Kolasiński mentioned that Vienna had a project relating to the history of the City, using a similar kiosk.

Ms. Hernandez expressed concern about the time required for a successful kiosk program, considering artist selection, production, activation, etc. Mr. Kolasiński said working with a university may help and if there is openness to possibilities, then solutions can be found. He asked if the City should consider a pilot project to see what works and what doesn't. He recommended the University of Miami or another school that could connect it to a training experience, building a kind of ecosystem of artists as entrepreneurs. Ms. Hernandez also suggested working with Coral Gables High School. Mr. Kolasiński wondered about how to engage aspiring artists from the community and educate them to walk through the process of what it is to become an artist in public places, noting that this isn't being taught at the university level. Mr. Roselione-Valadez agreed that it would be great to reach out to Coral Gables High School, with the generation of kids that are regularly generating digital content. Ms. MacDonald-Korth commented that they may have a studio art advanced placement program. She offered to assist with finding other art schools, noting

her role as a high school art judge, and knowing art instructors in the various programs. Mr. Kolasiński also offered to help with a contact for Coral Gables High.

Mr. Guerrier suggested identifying locations for a dedicated art screen and sites where artworks may be places on a recurring cycle.

CGTV played a video of the kiosks to show the Panel the scale of the kiosks and how they are activated.

The Panel continued their discussion and revisited the benefit of walking around downtown as a group. The Panel-as-a-Whole agreed to meet next Wednesday, February 16 at 8:45a.m. at the southeast corner of Miracle Mile and LeJeune Road. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Ms. Hernandez made a motion recommending that the Arts Advisory Panel meet and walk along Miracle Mile on Wednesday, February 16 at 8:45 a.m.  
Mr. de León seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

There were no updates.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

There were no Commission items to report on.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There was no further discussion.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

The Panel was reminded that Mayor Lago will be attending the next meeting. Ms. Hernandez added that the Mayor is available on Fridays with open office hours.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Cathers  
Arts & Culture Specialist