



DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, October 25, 2017 8:30 a.m.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES & CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT
2327 Salzedo St., Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Historical Resources & Cultural Arts

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Table with 13 columns (MEMBERS, N, D, J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, S, O) and 10 rows of member attendance data.

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

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts
Carlos Mindreau, City Architect

GUESTS:

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli; Laura Russo; Sandra Cardona, Hersha Hospitality; Aaron Yassin, Michele Oka Doner Studio

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

Dr. Damian called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and welcomed the Mayor and guests.

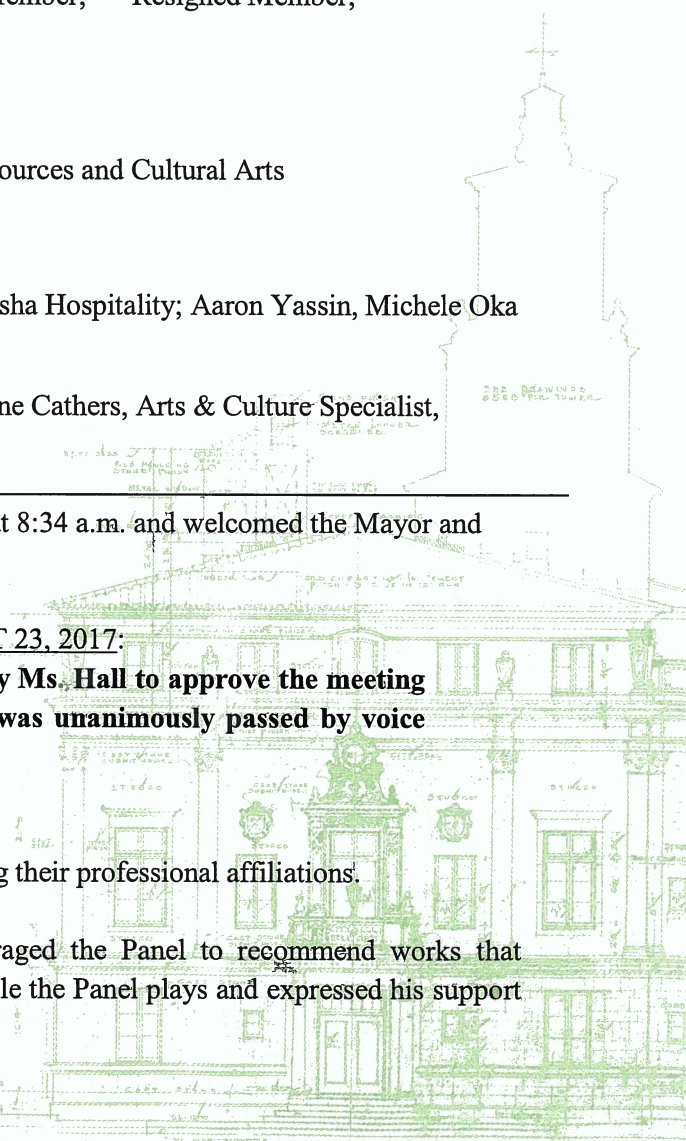
APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AUGUST 23, 2017:

A motion was made by Dr. Deupi and seconded by Ms. Hall to approve the meeting minutes of August 23, 2017 as presented, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.

DISCUSSION WITH MAYOR RAUL VALDES-FAULI:

Panel members introduced themselves to the Mayor, including their professional affiliations.

The Mayor expressed his passion for the arts and encouraged the Panel to recommend works that contemporize the arts in Coral Gables. He commended the role the Panel plays and expressed his support



following examples such as the Park Avenue's public art program. Dr. Deupi suggested the Panel also look at aspirational cities that are attracting the best and brightest artists of today.

The Mayor applauded the Panel on their decision to reconsider the art on Miracle Mile and spoke about his involvement with the Carlos Cruz-Diez exhibition for Art Basel this year.

The Panel expressed their gratitude and Dr. Damian welcomed the Mayor to forward further recommendations of art or artists to the Panel.

The Mayor then spoke about initiating an annual event that celebrates Coral Gables as-a-whole with art and music. Dr. Deupi noted the significant message of celebrating the City rather than any one person. The Panel agreed and supported use of the arts to further this concept. Ms. Spain stated that the City was incorporated in the month of April (making it a possible time for an annual event). Dr. Deupi suggested that establishing it now would provide time to "warm-up" for the larger forthcoming centennial celebration.

Ms. Spain stated that two positions are open on the Arts Advisory Panel and asked for recommendations. The Panel also discussed local artists in Coral Gables and asked to revisit the pre-qualified artist list to recommend additions. Ms. Cathers stated that she will forward the existing list to the Panel.

The Panel thanked the Mayor, who then left the meeting.

#### MIAMI ART WEEK & ART BASEL

##### **Carlos Cruz-Diez Exhibition**

Ms. Cathers gave an overview of the upcoming Carlos Cruz-Diez temporary public art exhibition, stating that thirteen (13) Cruz-Diez designed banners will be hung on City Hall and eight (8) designed crosswalks will be painted between City Hall and the Coral Gables Museum. The Museum, she said, will have images of the artist at work on similar projects. The exhibition will run mid-November through January. Ms. Cathers informed the Panel that Dr. Damian is giving a lecture about Carlos Cruz-Diez at the Museum on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

##### **Art Basel VIP Event**

Ms. Spain stated that the Art Basel VIP event will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in front of City Hall adjacent to the Cruz-Diez crosswalk. The artist is no longer travelling, she said, but will be available through a video call to attendees and his family will be in attendance at the event. Ms. Cathers added that a Coral Gables trolley will be offered for those wanting to go from the event to the Lowe Art Museum.

##### **Lowe Art Museum, Art Basel Miami Beach Bubbles & Brunch**

Ms. Cathers confirmed the sponsorship by the City of the Lowe Art Museum's Art Basel Miami Beach Bubbles and Brunch and stated that a Coral Gables trolley will be provided to transport interested attendees to Miami Beach following the artist lecture given by Michele Oka Doner.

### TEMPORARY ART EXHIBITIONS

A revised draft of the Temporary Exhibition Application was provided to the Panel and discussed. Ms. Cathers stated that once approved, it will go to the City Commission along with an agreement that will be drafted by the City Attorney.

Staff discussed modifications that were incorporated based on the Panel's previous review. The Panel agreed that it gives those applying a good idea of the process.

The Panel discussed additional changes to further clarify the intent of applicants and expectations of the City. Dr. Deupi recommended including a paragraph describing the City's Art in Public Places program with the Goals and Objectives listed on the application along with clearly articulated criteria. The Panel agreed that the Exhibition Statement/Purpose should include how the exhibition responds to this information. Ms. Cathers said she will forward the Master Art Plan to the Panel for review and possible updates.

### DEVELOPER AIPP PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR MERRICK PARK HOTEL:

Laura Russo appeared before the Arts Advisory Panel to submit a public art proposal for the Merrick Park Hotel development in fulfillment of the City's Art in Public Places requirement. Ms. Russo introduced herself, Sandra Cardona with Hersha Hospitality and Aaron Yassin with Michele Oka Doner's (the artist) studio.

Panel members were provided with an updated concept and proposal for artwork to be integrated into the Merrick Park Hotel point of entry. Mr. Yassin addressed the concerns the Panel previously conveyed to Ms. Russo regarding the material and integration of the art with the building. He stated that while the design is the same, the material and process has been modified to use glass with a hand-painted gold-luster glaze on the inside of a double layer of glass. The artist (Michele Oka Doner), he said, is using Franz Mayer of Munich as the architectural glass fabricator. Mr. Yassin brought a sample of the design with the modified treatment, which was passed around to Panel members and was extremely heavy. Mr. Yassin stated that the system would meet the required code for impact resistance and no maintenance beyond normal glass-cleaning would be required.

Ms. Cardona stated that the artwork is no longer attached to the (building) system, but is part of the system itself and comprised of three panels to comprise one complete visual work. The door piece, she explained, is now experienced when both entering and exiting the building. Mr. Yassin added that the door handles remain as originally proposed pieces (in cast bronze) on both sides.

Ms. Spain asked if the door is part of the envelope of the building and if so, it would require product testing to receive a Notice of Approval (NOA) by the County. Ms. Cardona responded that it's possible for it to go through the same approval process as the windows. Staff spoke with Ms. Cardona in greater length regarding the need to have an impact door behind the work as part of the envelope sealing the building.

Dr. Damian expressed that the concerns being discussed are outside the scope of the Panel and that staff should address separately. Dr. Deupi stated that the advance of the design itself is very positive. Ms.

Cathers asked that Mr. Yassin leave the sample for presentation to the Cultural Development Board, and subsequently, to the City Commission.

Ms. Cardona walked through the elevation drawings and indicated to the Panel where the artwork is currently sited. The Panel and staff commented on the lack of clarity regarding the location and asked that revised drawings clearly define where the artwork will be placed.

Ms. Hall commented on the elegant solution to the Panel's previous comments and expressed concern about how the weight of the glass for a door might affect the framing size needed to hold the work; and therefore, may adversely affect the overall aesthetic.

With no further discussion, the Panel thanked the presenters, who thanked the Panel members and left the meeting.

The Panel agreed that the technical, location, and presentation issues need to be clarified prior to making a recommendation. Ms. Cathers stated that a budget is also pending for the complete proposal packet.

ADDITIONAL PANEL BUSINESS:

The Board discussed whether to adjust the monthly meeting time and unanimously agreed to meet from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. the fourth Wednesday of every month. Staff stated that meetings may be cancelled if there are no business or action items pending.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Following up on the discussion of art galleries in Coral Gables, Ms. Spain advised the Panel that a previous tax based on inventory has been rescinded due to the Mayor's initiative. Dr. Damian stated that many galleries left due to this tax and now that it's gone, it may be an incentive to encourage galleries back.

The Panel discussed how the City can reach out to the galleries. Dr. Deupi suggested a marketing campaign clearly targeted to galleries, including an informal event where the Mayor could share his support. The Panel discussed how the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Department could be involved. Mr. Roselione-Valadez suggested reaching out directly to galleries who are representing artists during Art Basel.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no items from the secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director