



DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING  
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:00 a.m.**

**CORAL GABLES MUSEUM  
285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

*Historical Resources &  
Cultural Arts*

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MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18
Herbert Brito*												P
Dr. Carol Damian	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P	-	P
Dr. Jill Deupi	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P	-	E
Lauren Hall	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	E	P	-	P
Jacek Kolasiński*									P	P	-	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	-	-	-	P	-	P	-	-	E	P	-	P
Freda Tschumy	-	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	P	P	-	P

**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:**

Ninoska Huerta; Jose Moreno, Logistics Fine Arts; Nella Daes, Logistics Fine Arts; Jorge Navarro, Greenberg Traurig; Zaba Castro, Greenberg Traurig; Jerad Graham, NP International; Jose Antonio Perez Helguera, Agave Holdings, LLC; Carlos Beckmann, Agave Holdings, LLC

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

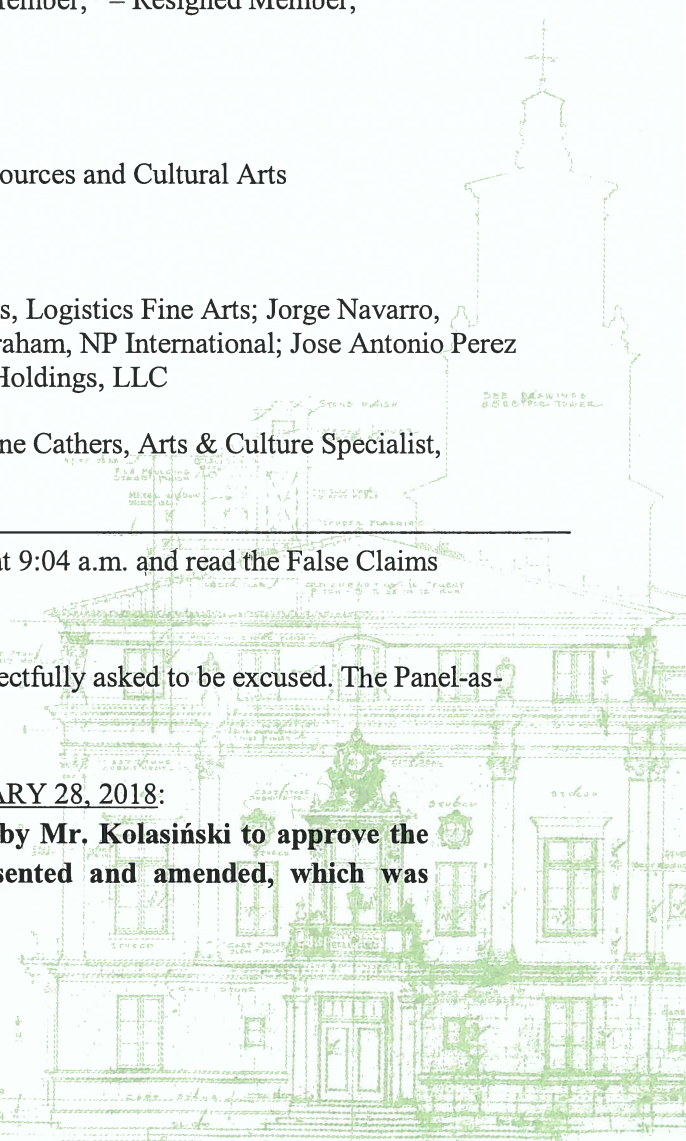
Dr. Damian called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and read the False Claims Ordinance into the record.

The Panel was advised that Dr. Deupi is out of town and respectfully asked to be excused. The Panel-as-a-whole accepted Dr. Deupi’s absence as excused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 28, 2018:**

**A motion was made by Mr. Brito and seconded by Mr. Kolasiński to approve the meeting minutes of February 28, 2018 as presented and amended, which was unanimously passed as amended by voice vote.**

Dr. Damian read aloud the False Claims Ordinance.



PROPOSAL FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATION OF CARLOS CRUZ-DIEZ CROSSWALK:

Dr. Damian introduced the item, referencing the previous discussion of the proposal to maintain the Carlos Cruz-Diez painted crosswalks as permanent installations and the Panel's concerns regarding the cost and durability of the paint. She stated that the proposal team has returned to address the concerns and reiterated that the concerns are only about the monies spent and durability; they not about the significance of the artist or the work.

Ms. Spain stated that the Mayor wanted to be here and expressed his regrets.

Dr. Damian asked the proposers how they are responding to the concerns. Ms. Huerta introduced herself and Jose Moreno and Nella Daes with Logistics Fine Arts. Mr. Moreno spoke about the manufacture of the paint, and said he estimated that after applying the proper primer, it will last for about a year depending on the traffic. There are other options, he said, including tiles of the same color, saying they are more durable.

Ms. Spain reviewed the proposed fee of \$18,000 per year for painting of the crosswalks.

Ms. Tschumy asked about the specifications of the paint, noting that it's for concrete and the crosswalks are on asphalt. Mr. Moreno responded that the performance is the same.

Ms. Hall asked about the logistical concerns of the installation during daytime hours and traffic closures. Ms. Spain responded that that staff will address those items.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez asked if they have the cost of using tile and Mr. Moreno said, no. Ms. Cathers asked if the studio has installed tiles on a roadway before. Mr. Moreno said no, the Marlin's stadium has tile; however, it isn't a roadway. Mr. Mindreau stated that the tile would not adhere properly to asphalt, as it remains fluid. For the crosswalks on Miracle Mile, he said, concrete was set down first and requires major construction. Mr. Brito suggested another option could be tinted concrete.

Dr. Damian stated that the proposers are aware of the concerns and expressed that the Panel could move it forward to the Cultural Development Board.

Ms. Spain reminded the Panel that the proposed installation is contingent on County approval.

Dr. Damian restated the concerns regarding the high cost, durability of the materials, and installation time requirements.

Ms. Huerta commented that the crosswalks, after six months, are still there. Ms. Spain said if the item is approved, they will be repainted.

Mr. Kolasiński asked if the original design needs to be removed prior to re-painting and Ms. Tschumy expressed concern of the project requiring painting every year.

Mr. Brito expressed that he's familiar with the artist's work, loves it, and has noticed that his works are best experienced in a dynamic view when traveling the same direction as the art work; noting that when

you drive over them, there is no bearing. He asked if there was an exploration of having something on a vertical surface along City Hall rather than horizontal, so that when driving by you're driving in the same direction as the artwork. His thought was of something seen as more permanent. Mr. Brito stated his concern that after five years, the City will have had enough of the maintenance and the work would be gone. Ms. Spain said she can't imagine that the City would let that happen and if it gets approved, money would be allocated in the budget to maintain the work.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez asked if four coats of paint could be applied as a test sample with the primer and checked in four months to see how it looks so the Panel would know how the new material wears. He expressed concern about the aggressive use of the roadway.

Mr. Moreno referenced that the painting is already there and Mr. Roselione-Valadez said it's not the same material, sufficient for a year, and still unknown. Dr. Damian added that she wouldn't be surprised if the County requested a test as well. Mr. Roselione-Valadez added that it's not fair to the installer either, since the request is for something that hasn't been done before.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Brito made a motion recommending the proposal move forward through the process to acquire the Cruz-Diez crosswalks as a permanent installation with the recommendation to implement a test area using the proposed material. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

DEVELOPER AIPP PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR GABLES STATION:

Jorge Navarro introduced himself and Zaba Castro with Greenberg Traurig, and Jerad Graham, NP International as the project manager. Mr. Navarro referenced the previous approved recommendation by the Panel for a piece by the artist Blessing Hancock to be incorporated into the Gables Station development project. He thanked the Panel and asked the Panel to consider the proposed companion piece, also by Blessing Hancock, that would be sited in relation to the Underline, directly across from the entrance to Gables Station. The Panel was provided with a copy of the proposal to reference during the presentation.

Mr. Navarro spoke about the content of the piece, as incorporating messages from the Bahamian community, and as a sister piece complimenting the originally proposed artwork. He said the intent is to have the proposed messages that will be used within the artwork prior to the resolution going to the City Commission.

Dr. Damian asked for further details regarding the location. Mr. Navarro and Mr. Graham provided details of the proposed location on City property between the Gables Station entrance and the Underline. Mr. Navarro stated a desire to further the tie between the Underline and Gables Station.

Ms. Cathers stated that the proposed piece is the larger of the two and is an addition to yet another work that will be sited on the west end of the project.

Ms. Spain read into the record the segment of the development agreement referencing the requirement to have approved artwork designed, fabricated, and installed prior to issuing the project a TCO (Temporary Certificate of Occupancy).

Mr. Navarro added that the pieces will be lit from within.

Ms. Cathers stated that the additional piece, as sited on City property, would be a donation to the City and asked about maintenance of the artwork. The Panel discussed at length the feasibility of the maintenance. Mr. Graham added that the artist is designing access points to the interior of the piece for easier cleaning.

Mr. Kolasiński expressed concern about the substantial vegetation around the piece. Mr. Brito agreed, asking for clarity of the scale and if the vegetation would overwhelm it. The developers responded that one piece is estimated to be twelve feet tall and Mr. Graham stated that the work is more for a pedestrian and bicyclist viewing experience.

Mr. Brito asked how frequently the light display will change and who will control it. Mr. Graham answered that it can be programmed to change at any time. It was agreed that the developer would control the light to coordinate it with the companion piece

Ms. Hall asked if the City would be responsible for the maintenance of the lighting component as well. There was a discussion about what is in the best interest of the artwork and Ms. Spain commented that it sounds very complicated. The developers said the maintenance of the Underline will be under a separate agreement, contracted out, and could possibly include its care. Ms. Hall observed that the two pieces are in dialog with coordinated lighting, yet the responsibility for their care is with multiple entities. Mr. Navarro responded that they would work with the City and County to maintain both sculptures. Ms. Hall said that would be the most appropriate.

Ms. Cathers mentioned that in the previous meeting, monthly cleaning of the sculpture was recommended. Mr. Kolasiński said with the addition of the lighting electronics it would make cleaning and maintenance even more complicated. Ms. Spain stated the importance of having a maintenance and insurance plan if the piece is going on City property. Mr. Graham agreed, noting that the property owner has an interest in the works being properly maintained.

Dr. Damian summarized the concerns of the Panel regarding the maintenance and safety concerns previously stated at the last Panel meeting.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Ms. Hall made a motion recommending approval of the waiver request to commission and donate artwork as presented in the proposal by artist Blessing Hancock in relation to the Gables Station development project, further recommending ongoing maintenance of the artwork by the property owner that would transfer with the property rights and remain in coordination with its companion piece at Gables Station. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

DEVELOPER AIPP PRESENTATION FOR THE PLAZA:

Ms. Cathers introduced the item, stating that the developers of The Plaza requested to speak to the Panel about the project for the Panel's input prior to presenting public art proposals. Ms. Spain gave a brief overview of the location. Jose Antonio Perez Helguera and Carlos Beckmann from Agave Holdings, LLC, introduced themselves and provided history and background about The Plaza project.

Ms. Cathers reviewed the agreement with the City, reporting that the developer will need to have artwork approved, completed, and in place prior to receiving their TCO (Temporary Certificate of Occupancy).

Mr. Helguera and Mr. Beckmann spoke about the creation of the main plaza area as a gathering place with the historic office building to remain in the center, currently being used as the project's construction office. The developers showed computer renderings of The Plaza to the Panel and remarked on the natural light facing the plaza, events activating the space, and creation of a public place that is at the heart of the project with food and beverage services and locations for artwork. They discussed the budget and the possibility of addressing the design of Ponce Circle Park, including a concept to use the space for outdoor events.

The developers discussed various public art options including opportunities to incorporate hi-definition screens with interactive qualities; sculptures that interact with the plaza; interactive fountains; and pieces that could also function as sound barriers.

Ms. Cathers referenced previous discussions with the developers where areas were being considered for more traditional sculpture as well as a screen location. She commented that the current site of the screen in the lobby is challenging for Art in Public Places purposes due to its lack of visibility and accessibility 24 hours a day. She asked if there was more thought about it and that the Panel has expressed interest and support of new media and technology. She noted that Mr. Kolasiński is well-versed in this area and may have some additional thoughts. Mr. Kolasiński spoke about the New World Symphony (NWS) screen on Miami Beach and their success with various content programming, encouraging the developers to explore the relationship between Miami Beach and the organization. The Panel agreed that the NWS model works and is successful.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES, WAIVER FOR ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM:

Staff presented the Panel with a request to recommend an amendment to the current Art in Public Places code, adding a waiver for payment into the art acquisition fund if incorporating an Artist in Residence program. Ms. Spain referred to the Mayor's comments at the previous Commission meeting encouraging the initiative.

Panel members were provided a copy of the current Art in Public Places ordinance and reviewed the current waiver list. It was pointed out that this would be a fifth waiver option. The Panel discussed various parameters of establishing an Artist in Residence program, including an exhibition of the artist's work and provision of artwork to the City. The Panel stated that details need to be established including time limits of the program, artist stay, and definitions

The Panel discussed other Artist in Residence programs and the uniqueness of making it a part of the public art in private development program. They asked staff to look into what makes other programs competitive and what their admission requirements are. Ms. Spain stated that the Arts Advisory Panel should have input on the process. The Panel agreed. Mr. Kolasiński asked that students have access to the artists as well. Ms. Cathers spoke about the City developing its own Artist in Residence program and this would be a great step toward integrating one into the City. With no further comments, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Kolasiński made a motion recommending an amendment to the Art in Public Places Ordinance; adding a waiver option for the fee requirement if used toward an Artist in Residence program as outlined by the Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department. Mr. Brito seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

b. ART BASEL MIAMI, ARTIST & PROPOSAL:

Ms. Cathers stated that Art Basel staff has consistently recommended that the City work closely with the University of Miami's Lowe Art Museum regarding the City's Art Basel event application. She stated that she has met with Dr. Deupi, director of the Lowe, to discuss and review artists that would work well as a speaker for the Museum's annual lecture and who also have the experience and ability to design and execute a temporary work of art for exhibition in Coral Gables. She described the process of reviewing various artists and noted that Hank Willis Thomas was a great match to implement this year's temporary public art exhibition.

Panel members were given material referencing the artist's extensive background and initial concept. Ms. Cathers asked the Panel to consider including Mr. Thomas as a pre-qualified artist and to recommend moving forward with the submitted temporary public art proposal for Art Basel and Miami Art Week season.

Ms. Spain and Ms. Cathers informed the Panel that the artist's studio team came to Coral Gables for a site visit last week, were given a tour of the City, and were excited about the different locations along Miracle Mile and within residential areas. The studio, they said, sent an updated proposal earlier today.

Ms. Cathers described the two components of the proposal, the first being a poem presented in a series of speech bubbles and installed on light posts along Miracle Mile. One side of the street, she said, would have the poem in English, with the other side of the street having the poem translated into different languages represented by the community. This is an exhibition, she added, that has shown around the world.

Ms. Spain noted the site specificity of the work and that the artist researches each city the project is displayed in and finds out what languages are spoken there. Ms. Cathers added that although it's exhibited in other parts of the world it is unique to each community.

The second component, Ms. Cathers went on, is a companion to the project in the form of benches fabricated to look like speech bubbles. Hank Willis Thomas is proposing to design and fabricate new speech bubble benches and install them throughout the City and has identified preferred locations.

Ms. Cathers stated that the City originally asked the artist to prepare a proposal within a budget of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). After the site visit and with the addition of the bench project, the proposed budget expanded proportionately.

Dr. Damian shared her experience of a recent trip to the Boca Raton Museum where she saw an installation by the artist that took up an entire wall as a quilt that reinterpreted (the famous painting) *Guernica* with sports memorabilia. She stated that the piece was extraordinary and suggested all go see it.

Mr. Brito asked if both the speech bubbles and benches are temporary. Ms. Cathers responded that the poem is definitely temporary and it would be nice to have at least one bench as a permanent installation.

The Panel discussed the locations and all agreed that the locations are great.

Ms. Hall expressed the total cost of the project may be higher than what was anticipated; however, looking at the itemization, it's reasonable. The Panel agreed.

Ms. Tschumy asked about the material. Staff stated that it's treated steel.

With no further discussion, the following motions were made:

**Mr. Kolasiński made a motion to accept the qualifications of Hank Willis Thomas for inclusion as a pre-qualified artist. Ms. Hall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Tschumy made a motion to recommend the temporary public art exhibition proposal by Hank Willis Thomas as presented, with the option of purchasing artwork, and as the City's applicant for Art Basel 2018. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

c. **NOMINATION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:**

The Panel briefly discussed the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Panel and made the following motion:

**Ms. Tschumy made a motion to nominate Dr. Damian as Chair of the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Hall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Hall made a motion to nominate Dr. Deupi as Vice-Chair of the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Tschumy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Panel members were reminded of the Venice in the Gables exhibition opening on May 18, 2018 and were invited to attend.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

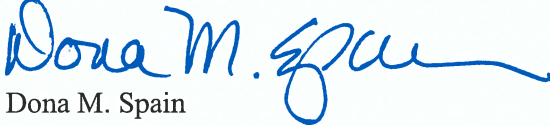
There were no discussion items.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no items from the secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dona M. Spain". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dona M. Spain  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director