



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
August 24, 2021**

ITEM TITLE:

Arts Advisory Panel meeting minutes of June 23, 2021.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mr. Roselione-Valadez called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Dr. Deupi arrived at 9:17 a.m. and proceeded to chair the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS MAY 26, 2021:

A motion was made by Ms. Miyar and seconded by Ms. Hernandez to approve the meeting minutes of May 26, 2021, and accept the excused absence of Mr. Kolasiński, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. FIRE STATION 4 – ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (AIPP) OPPORTUNITY

Ms. Cathers introduced the project team for Fire Station 4, who appeared via Zoom: Mr. Ernesto Pino, Fire Chief Marcos de la Rosa, and Ana Alleguez. Ms. Alleguez shared her screen to show the site plan and elevations that were previously submitted to the Board of Architects. Panel members were provided with select pages of the concept drawings for easier reference. Ms. Cathers gave a brief overview of the Panel's previous conversation and areas that Panel members mentioned as potential locations for artwork including the front façade, free standing work at the front of the building, and retaining walls. She shared the Panel's questions of possibly shifting the handicap parking to allow for artwork closer to the street or the possibility of moving the structure back to allow more space in front. They also discussed, she said, the sight lines from Sunset Road, desire to have artwork that is visible from pedestrian and vehicular viewpoints, and the contextual relationship between the building, neighborhood, and proposed art. Discussions continued regarding the façade of the building, placement of the artwork and making the front area more inviting. It was asked if an artist could do a rendition of the signage, to which Ms. Cathers responded that it could be proposed as an addition to the art, but not as the art itself. Panel members discussed different types of interventions artists could consider. Ms. Cathers said another meeting would be set up with the design team once proposed artists are approved for the "eyebrow" element. The Panel discussed the possibility of using the bay doors for artwork and it was determined that the doors are not an option; however, the mahogany tree is not in the way of this area. Discussion was had regarding the type of artwork and whether or not the property necessarily needed public artwork.

A A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez to pursue the option of developing a pre-qualified roster of national artists with Panelists presenting up to three artist names for consideration and a project budget of \$100,000. Mr. Roselione-Valadez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. ILLUMINATE CORAL GABLES 2022

Ms. Cathers introduced Lance Fung, appearing via Zoom, and stated that Patrick O'Connell, co-founder of Illuminate Coral Gables (ICG), was previously on Zoom and needed to leave. She asked that the Panel consider a motion like last year, to recommend the proposed artists for ICG 2022 to the Cultural Development Board. She stated that the City is also requesting \$200,000 from the art acquisition fund to be used toward ICG 2022. Mr. Fung shared his screen and presented a PowerPoint of the curatorial draft of the project, artists, and proposals. The Panel discussed the timing of the exhibition. Mr. Fung mentioned a new collaboration with the Business Improvement District (BID) and the possibility of restaurants offering prefix "Illuminate Dinners" before or after seeing the exhibition.

Ms. Hernandez made a motion recommending approval of the proposed artists for Illuminate Coral Gables 2022 as presented. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. ART BASEL 2021

The Panel was advised that Kiki Smith's "Blue Night" public artwork is scheduled for its second exhibition. Staff asked the Panel to consider recommending the installation of "Blue Night" to coincide with Art Basel and Miami Art Week 2021, with a recommendation to submit an Art Basel 2021 VIP event application. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Miyar made a motion recommending installation of Kiki Smith's "Blue Night" for Miami Art Week and Art Basel 2021, including the submission of an Art Basel VIP event application. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

d. PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST REQUESTS

The Panel asked that this item be deferred.

e. AIPP PROJECT LIST UPDATE

Panel members were provided with a spreadsheet noting the breakdown of funding received to date with projects that have been completed and are proposed. Ms. Cathers pointed out the area specifying the Miami-Dade County public art project requirements. She clarified that while commissioning or acquiring public art is required per the County, the artwork is not required to be at the project site generating the funds. Staff thoroughly reviewed each project and its related funding status, noting hard and soft costs and temporary vs. permanent projects. The Panel discussed the restoration of the historic white way lights and the costs associated with it. Ms. Cathers responded that the artistic element of the lights was designed by Denman Fink, who was an artist. She stated that the funding is part of the Capital Improvement Budget that will go through two public Commission meetings. Ms. Cathers said she will place the item on the next agenda and noted the great interest from the public and Commission for this project.

f. AIPP COLLECTION ASSESSMENT

Panel members previously received a copy of the public art assessment report and discussed it at length, including the priority of artworks to be restored. Ms. Cathers stated the intent to pursue an RFP to have restoration of the remaining works completed per the assessment. She reported that the Cultural Development Board asked for a recommendation from the Panel regarding any de-accessioning of artworks.

The Panel discussed the Jean Ward sculpture collection, their restoration and storage and how many works by a single artist is appropriate in the City's collection.

Staff asked for direction on the collection of Venetian Posts, whether they should be cleaned, touched up or considered for de-accessioning. Ms. Cathers responded that when people have expressed interest, she

shows them the works and have continued to sell them. Ms. Cathers said she will return to the Panel with a report on the Jean Ward sculptures and Venetian Posts.

Overall, the Panel recommended bundling the restoration work and supported having the hired conservator prioritize the projects as indicated on the assessment. Ms. Cathers thanked the Panel for their expertise and direction.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

The Panel was advised of the status of the Hank Willis Thomas artwork benches and the recent crash that affected the smaller Alice Aycock artwork.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

The Panel was advised of City Commission items related to public art on the July 13th agenda.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no discussion items.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

Panel members were advised that Arts Advisory Panel nominations will be discussed at the next Cultural Development Board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.