

EXCERPT

DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, August 28, 2019 9:00 a.m.

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

MEMBERS	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A
	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Herbert Brito*	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Dr. Carol Damian	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	A	A	A
Dr. Jill Deupi	P	P	E	-	P	P	E	E	E	P	P	E
Emily MacDonald-Korth*			P	-	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jacek Kolasiński	P	P	P		P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	P	E	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	E	E	P
Freda Tschumy	P	P	P	-	A	P	E	P	P	A	P	A

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

STAFF:
Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:
Venny Torre and Patrick O’Connell, Illuminate Coral Gables, Nick Sharp and Burton Hersh,

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

Mr. Brito called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

b. DONATION REQUEST – JOHN HENRY SCULPTURE

Following up from a previous presentation to the Panel regarding the proposed donation of the sculpture “Quark” by John Henry, staff reported on results from a bid request for a condition assessment, de-installation, restoration, and installation of the artwork in Coral Gables. Responsive bids were presented from RLA Conservation and Art Conservators Lab.

A brief review of the sculpture was provided and bid responses were stated as comparable, in an all-inclusive range of \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars). Staff advised that if accepted as a donation, a location recommendation is needed, and funds could be allocated from the Art Acquisition Fund.

The Board discussed the possibility of Ponce Circle Park and how it would relate to the Tony Cragg sculpture proposed for installation at The Plaza. Mr. Roselione-Valadez asked about the current location of the sculpture in Orlando. Ms. Cathers responded that the Museum in Orlando expressed interest in keeping the artwork; however, the donor, Kirk Landon, has a strong connection to Coral Gables. Ms. Spain added that Mr. Landon donated funding toward the Coral Gables Museum and other cultural facilities. This donation, she said, is coming from his estate. The Panel agreed that it's very generous. The Panel also agreed that Ponce Circle Park may not be the best location fit. Discussion continued about where it could be installed, noting that a location is needed where the sculpture has space and could be viewed from a distance.

The Panel reviewed images of the artwork from when it was most recently installed and current images showing significant fading. It was noted that the Commission recently expressed concern about continuing to accept painted artworks. The challenge and expense of cleaning and maintaining the artwork was noted.

Panel members expressed appreciation of the artwork and its significant scale. They also collectively expressed a desire to encourage creation of new artworks for the City's public art collection.

Panel members mentioned other sculptures by the artist throughout Florida and within Miami-Dade County, noting that he is well represented throughout the area and the state.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Mr. Roselione-Valadez made a motion recommending not to accept the generous donation of a John Henry sculpture due to the expense of acquiring, restoring and maintaining the artwork; acknowledging that the artist's work is well-represented in Florida with the sculpture already accessible and on public view. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director