

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES**  
**CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department**  
**Hybrid Meeting & Virtual via Zoom**

MEMBERS	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	APPOINTED BY:
	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	24	
Leslie Pantin Chairperson	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Vince Lago
Frank Rodriguez	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	E	P	A	P	A	Vice-Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Ray Corral	E	P	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	A	P	P	Commissioner Melissa Castro
Maria Alicia Asrani*						E	-	E	A	P	A	A	Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Jose Valdes-Fauli Vice Chair	P	P	-	A	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Geannina Burgos	P	P	-	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Eric Fliss*								P	P	P	P	E	City Manager Peter Iglesias

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

STAFF:

Anna Pernas, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director  
 Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist  
 Yvelisse Bonilla, Administrative Assistant

MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION: Yvelisse Bonilla, Administrative Assistant and  
 Catherine Cathers, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Pantin called the Cultural Development Board (CDB) meeting to order at 9:25 AM.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Board members in attendance: Mr. Pantin, Mr. Valdez-Fauli, Mr. Corral, and Ms. Burgos.

**A motion was made by Ms. Burgos, seconded by Mr. Corral, to excuse the absence of Mr. Fliss from this meeting, which passed unanimously.**

**C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Mr. Valdes-Fauli made a motion, and Ms. Burgos seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2023, meeting, which passed unanimously.**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

D.-1. “Dear Human” – temporary public art project

Board Members were provided with information about “Dear Human”, a poetry-based based temporary public art activation celebrating National Poetry Month in April in partnership with O, Miami and the Lowe Art Museum, with a funding recommendation up to \$10,000 from the Art Fund.

**A motion was made by Mr. Corral, and seconded by Ms. Burgos, to recommend support of “Dear Human” in partnership with O, Miami and the University of Miami’s Lowe Art Museum, which passed unanimously.**

D.-2. Environmental Project Discussion – Xavier Cortada

Board members discussed a request through the City Manager from Vice-Mayor Anderson to consider commissioning a public art piece that addresses environmental issues, especially related to native plants. Members were advised of the Vice-Mayor’s interest in discussing this opportunity with artist Xavier Cortada. After discussion, board members agreed they would like a recommendation from the Arts Advisory Panel and consider accepting proposals from more artists.

**A motion was made by Mr. Valdes-Fauli, and seconded by Mr. Corral, to have a recommendation from the Arts Advisory Panel regarding development of an RFP for public art addressing environmental issues, which passed unanimously.**

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**F. CULTURAL GRANTS**

F.-1. CULTURAL GRANT UPDATES & CHANGE REQUESTS

Board members were presented with a request for program date changes from Florida L’Opera & Zarzuela.

**A motion was made by Ms. Burgos, and seconded by Mr. Valdes-Fauli, to approve Florida L’Opera & Zarzuela’s change of dates request as presented, which passed unanimously.**

**G. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:**

Board members were provided with Art in Public Places project updates for private development and municipal projects including progress of the Police and Fire Memorial and Julio Larraz sculpture.

Board members were advised that the Jose Bedia and Frank Stella sculpture proposals are pending presentation to the City Commission.

**H. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS**

Board members were advised that “Dear Human” and “The Water Below Us” public art project proposals will be presented at the next City Commission meeting.

Board members were advised that the Art in Public Places Ordinance Amendment is pending second reading following presentation to the city’s Planning and Zoning Board.

Staff reported that a Resolution of the City Commission was passed directing a joint meeting of the Economic Development Board and Cultural Development Board to discuss including Cultural Arts as part of the City’s Strategic Plan.

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None

**J. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Cultural Development Board meeting adjourned at 9:54 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Cathers  
Arts & Culture Specialist