

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item 2-1**  
**June 11, 2019**  
**City Commission Chambers**  
**405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli**  
**Vice Mayor Vince Lago**  
**Commissioner Jorge Fors, Jr.**  
**Commissioner Pat Keon**  
**Commissioner Michael Mena**

**City Staff**

**City Manager, Peter Iglesias**  
**City Attorney, Miriam Ramos**  
**City Clerk, Billy Urquia**  
**Historic Preservation Officer, Dona Spain**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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Agenda Item 2-1 [9:51:23 a.m.]

A Resolution approving a public art exhibition by Rafael Barrios and for its application to Art Basel and Miami Art Week, extending through winter 2019. (Unanimously recommended by the Arts Advisory Panel approval/denial vote: 6 to 0, and the Cultural Development Board approval/denial vote 6 to 0).

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Now we go to 2-1, Rafael Barrios, a wonderful artist. Are you going to make a presentation?

Preservation Officer Spain: So, this is a recommendation from the Cultural Development Board, also unanimously approved by the Arts Advisory Panel. I think there is an image, a PowerPoint. We are very excited about this art exhibition by Rafael Barrios. We had the pleasure, I had the pleasure of meeting him and taking him on a tour of the City. He's a well-known Venezuelan artist. This coincides with an exhibit that the museum is having with Venezuelan artists. So, we think it's a perfect fit for this year's Art Basel. Its interesting, when we took it to both the Arts Advisory Panel and the Cultural Development Board, they absolutely unanimously approved him, but since

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the other artists that we've had for Art Basel, each have done something unique for Coral Gables, starting with Alice Aycock, she hadn't done anything like that before, Cruz Diaz on the crosswalks, the colors specific to Coral Gables, and Hank Willis Thomas did unique benches. So, they asked that we go back to him and see if he'd be willing to do something unique to Coral Gables. And in fairness to him, he embraced it. He was very excited about the idea, so he is going to come back with a design for us.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Can you show us.

Preservation Officer Spain: So the intent is to do something, not this piece, but something on the island just to the east of City Hall in between Coral Way and LeJeune. So that may not be, that's my desire that we acquire the piece permanently, whatever piece it is, that may not be the site for the permanent installation, but we think for Art Basel it's the appropriate place because its downtown near City Hall.

Vice Mayor Lago: Can I ask you just a quick question?

Preservation Officer Spain: Yes.

Vice Mayor Lago: I think its great. For the Art Basel event that we do every year, which staff does a wonderful job, its first class. I don't remember; I remember last year we had it at the open space location on Miracle Mile. Is this going to hinder us from having a similar event, because people are going to have to walk across the street.

Preservation Officer Spain: Well they have to figure that out. We'd asked him actually to do a smaller piece for the museum and since they are going to be Venezuelan artist, we may have it at the museum.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We have in the past, when we had the crosswalk, we did have it...

Preservation Officer Spain: We just closed the thing, so, I think its appropriate again. You are not approving this piece of art, but you are approving the artist for Art Basel.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. Do I hear a motion?

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Second?

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Commissioner Fors: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll please.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Preservation Officer Spain: And we'll be back for the specific piece of art and the allocation of money. Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

[End: 9:54:54 a.m.]