



DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 02, 2018 8:30 a.m.
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
2327 Salzedo St., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

*Historical Resources &
Cultural Arts*

2327 SALZEDO STREET
CORAL GABLES
FLORIDA 33134

☎ 305.460.5093
✉ hist@coralgables.com

MEMBERS	N+	D+	J	F	M	A	M	M +	J	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY:
	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	
Leslie Pantin	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Betty Horwitz	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	P	Vice-Mayor Pat Keon
Dr. Fernando Alvarez-Perez	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Alfonso Perez	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	E	Commissioner Michael Mena
Geannina A. Burgos Vice-Chair	E	P	-	P	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	E	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	Board Appointee

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

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Dept.
Leonard Roberts, Economic Development Assistant Director

GUESTS:

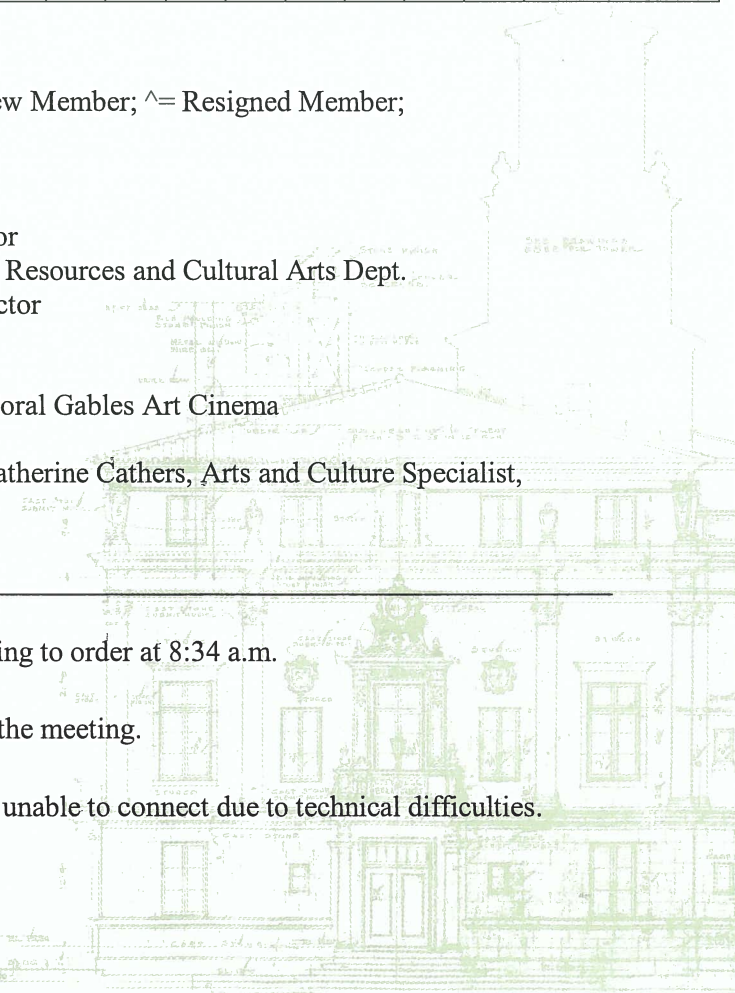
Brenda Moe, Coral Gables Art Cinema; Marlin Ebbert, Coral Gables Art Cinema

RECORDING AND PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

Ms. Burgos called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

The Board was advised that Mr. Perez was not attending the meeting.

Dr. Roth attempted to join the meeting remotely and was unable to connect due to technical difficulties.



Dr. Alvarez-Perez made a motion to accept the absences of Mr. Perez and Dr. Roth. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM MAY 15, 2018 AND JUNE 05, 2018:

Dr. Mayorga made a motion to approve the minutes of May 15 and June 05, 2018. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. CORAL GABLES ART CINEMA, EXPANSION

Brenda Moe introduced herself to the Board and stated that she is the administrative director of the Coral Gables Art Cinema. Ms. Moe gave a brief history of her involvement in the establishment of the Art Cinema under the leadership of Steven Krams. Marlin Ebbert accompanied her and introduced herself as a Coral Gables resident and vice-chair of the Art Cinema's Board.

Leonard Roberts, economic development assistant director introduced himself and stated his role in managing the portfolio of City-owned real estate. He provided a brief background of the history of the Art Cinema and stated the Cinema's desire to expand to the ground floor location adjacent to the cinema.

Ms. Moe thanked the Board and stated that the Cinema is celebrating their eight-year anniversary and are the top grossing single screen cinema in south Florida. She praised the exceptional programming, staff and noted that the Cinema's 1800 members are primarily Coral Gables residents. Ms. Moe continued, providing the Board with detailed information about how the Cinema's unique single screen presents challenges within the film industry. Because of these limitations, she said, the Cinema is seeking to expand to three screens. She added that the venue has become popular for renting by major companies in south Florida for events and private screenings, and that extra space will be an added value. In addition, Ms. Moe noted, the increase in residential development is without an increase in entertainment offerings and that each of the two new theaters would have 70 seats, doubling the current seating capacity and tripling the screens.

Ms. Ebbert said film goers consistently ask what the next film is and when the current film will change. She stated the location they're requesting has the necessary height to add the additional screens. Ms. Moe shared that if the cinema expands to a new location, even across the street, distributors will see the cinema as two different entities and expenses would be billed as if they were in two different locations.

Mr. Pantin asked about the existing tenant in the proposed adjacent location. Mr. Roberts responded that the lease is coming to a close (and is being re-assessed).

Ms. Moe stated that when the Cinema was first constructed, the City contributed \$250,000 to bricks and mortar for the buildout of the cinema. Now, she said, they are asking for additional funds of \$350,000 that will allow matching funds from the state for significant capital grants with a goal of raising two million dollars.

Ms. Cathers asked about the Knight Foundation grant that the organization previously received. Ms. Moe responded that the Cinema is a recipient for special projects, such as the International Children's Film Festival. Ms. Burgos asked if the potential Knight funding is a new request from the Knight Foundation. Ms. Moe responded yes.

Mr. Roberts stated that the Cinema's proposed expansion went before the City Commission in September of 2017. A Letter of Intent was put forward to provide a consistent rent subsidy that would allow the Cinema to seek funding support. He stated that the intent of the original buildout support was (incentive) for (the Cinema to be established in Coral Gables). Mr. Roberts went on to say that the City intends to continue the subsidies. In addition, he said, the City would continue providing parking support and one option would be to pay off the requested \$350,000 over time. He also stated that there is no funding source identified for the \$350,000.

Mr. Roberts said the Cinema currently pays \$1,500 per month and requested the Board to consider a motion to expand the current space, continue the rent subsidy and garage parking support.

Ms. Cathers noted that the original Cinema space was to be accessible to other arts organizations for performances; due to the (heavy) film schedule, it hasn't been available for this purpose. She asked that if the City does support it further, that the current theater space be used to a greater capacity toward that goal. Ms. Moe said that the space is currently available up until 3:00 pm (weekdays) and with additional screens, they could make the larger space more available for this purpose.

Dr. Mayogra asked if there are preliminary drawings. Ms. Moe said yes.

Mr. Pantin pointed out how great it is that the organization is wanting and needing to expand.

Ms. Burgos asked if it is a firm request of \$350,000 or if it could be lower. Ms. Ebbert responded that if the Cinema can raise it all, it may not be needed.

Mr. Roberts said that considering the lost revenue, the total credit to the Cinema from the City is four million dollars over ten years.

Ms. Moe shared information about the economic impact of the Cinema and quality partnerships the Cinema participates in by hosting such programs as the Miami International Film Festival, the International Children's Film Festival, the Miami Jewish Film Festival, and National Theater of London screenings, among others. She stated that a feasibility study could be provided to show the impact of the arts on the community. The Board responded that they are aware and supportive of the economic benefit of the arts in the community.

Ms. Spain asked if it would become a City public works project. Ms. Moe said no.

Ms. Spain asked for clarification on the motion so that all Boards being approached can weigh in on the same motion. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Dr. Alvarez-Perez made a motion recommending expansion of the Coral Gables Art Cinema into the requested space; that the City continue to offer rent subsidy, provide City funding toward capital costs (up to \$350,000), and offer a percentage of time for use of the space by outside organizations for cultural programming. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Burgos asked that the Cinema return to show the Board project drawings to date.

Mr. Roberts, Ms. Moe, and Ms. Ebbert thanked the Board and left the meeting.

b. PUBLIC ART DONATION – CIFO COLLECTION, FREDY ALZATE GOMEZ

The Board was advised of a sculpture donation proposal from the CIFO Foundation and provided with information about the artist Fredy Alzate Gomez and the artwork “Vacuus”. Staff described the artwork as a composition of unique pieces that are castings of gold mine shafts, constructed in fiberglass and painted. It was explained that the pieces are light-weight and permanent installation would require attaching the pieces together and installing the work-as-a-whole on a permanent foundation.

Staff stated that the Arts Advisory Panel is recommending acceptance of the donation with conditions that they be involved in determining placement of the artwork. The Panel, staff said, suggested a plaza or protected area where it is not easily accessible to touch; however, close enough to appreciate (the nuances of) the work. Staff noted that there are sharp edges and that the Panel expressed concerns about the safety, maintenance, and location of the piece.

The Board expressed concern about the artwork logistically, aesthetically, and discussed possible public response to the artwork.

Ms. Burgos asked about the process regarding acceptance of a donation. Staff confirmed that the Arts Advisory Panel is in favor of the piece and that the City Commission as a whole has the final vote.

Discussing the amount of maintenance the piece requires, the Board talked about whether CIFO would reconsider the piece they are donating and consider one that is consistent with the environment, stating that the work is not suitable for outdoors. They expressed deep gratitude for CIFO considering a donation to the City. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Dr. Alvarez-Perez made a motion thanking CIFO Foundation for offering the donation of artwork by Fredy Alzate Gomez and would love to consider another donation as this piece would be difficult for maintenance, safety, and location considerations. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

c. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES ORDINANCE – AMENDMENT

The Board received proposed amendments to the Art in Public Places ordinance. Staff reviewed the updates, noting the primary modification is for art in public places fee waiver requests by private developers (for commission, purchase, and donations of artwork) be approved by the City Commission prior to final Board of Architects review. Staff explained that developers often wait until they’re ready to pull a building permit and then rush to propose purchase or incorporation of artwork into a project. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Horwitz made a motion recommending text amendments to the Art in Public Places ordinance as discussed. Dr. Mayorga seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

d. ARTS ADVISORY PANEL VACANCY AND NOMINATION

The Board was advised that Arts Advisory Panel member Lauren Hall recently accepted a state position in Washington, D.C. and has resigned from her position on the Arts Advisory Panel. Staff informed the Board

that the Panel would like a member with the same skill set in conservation and recommended conservator Emily MacDonald-Korth, who has expressed interest in serving on the Panel.

The Board discussed the current makeup of the Panel and reviewed their professional affiliations. The Board agreed that the Panel represents diverse areas of the arts and that a conservator would continue to be beneficial. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Dr. Mayorga made a motion recommending Emily MacDonald-Korth as an Arts Advisory Panel member. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez left the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

CULTURAL GRANTEE REQUESTS, UPDATES, & REVIEWS:

Staff explained that the on-line grant process does not allow for an external evaluation for cultural grant final reports. To address this, Ms. Cathers said an independent process was added to the online system for the Final Report, where pdfs of the original grant application and final report will be uploaded for comparison. Board members will then mark their comments and final evaluation score similarly to the grant application evaluation.

Ms. Cathers asked if the Cultural Grant review and scoring meeting could be re-scheduled so all Board members are able to attend. Board members agreed

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

a. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Staff reported that the Arts Advisory Panel recommended four artists to submit proposals and one artist had to decline due to illness and short-staffing in their studio. The three recommended artists (Jose Bedia, Cherrylion Studios/Martin Dawe, and Ivan Toth-Depena) have completed their site visit and met with police, fire, planning staff, and the project architect. The artists have been asked to submit proposals by October 30th. Staff shared that the City will make the proposals available for public comment and the review panel will then consider the proposals and make a recommendation to this Board prior to a final recommendation to the City Commission.

Staff advised that the Arts Advisory Panel asked for the review panel to include a representative from fire, police, and the Cultural Development Board. The Board discussed briefly and the following nomination was made:

Dr. Mayorga made a motion nominating Leslie Pantin to sit on the Coral Gables public safety building public art review panel. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. GIRALDA AVENUE STREETSCAPE

Ms. Cathers announced that the sculpture being installed on Giralda Plaza (“Coral Forest” and Secret of the Seas” by Sibylle Pasche) is scheduled to arrive on site at the beginning of November with installation planned for November 20th and 21st.

c. HANK WILLIS THOMAS

Ms. Cathers reported that the artist designed benches by Hank Willis Thomas are currently being fabricated and preparations for the installation of the speech bubble signs is progressing. She updated the Board on the partnership with the Lowe Art Museum this year and invited Board members to attend the morning reception on Sunday, December 9th. Following the reception, she said, a City trolley will take those interested to the Lowe Art Museum for their annual Art Basel Miami Beach Bubbles and Brunch, with a lecture by the artist scheduled for 12 noon.

Staff reported that they are seeking further information for acquiring the sculptures and will report back to the Board with this information.

d. VENICE IN THE GABLES

The Board received a report on the closing event and auction for Venice in the Gables, discussed the status of the remaining posts, and discussed the outdoor installation process for those interested in keeping the posts outside.

e. BALBOA PLAZA

The Board was notified that the public art piece commissioned by MG Developer at Balboa Plaza in association with the art in public places program is now complete. Ms. Spain shared that the City has made it a wi-fi hot spot as well (in response to the Arts Advisory Panel and Cultural Development Board's recommendation).

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Ms. Burgos reported on the Art in Public Places workshop, stating that three commissioners were present along with members of the Cultural Development Board and Arts Advisory Panel. The Board asked for clarity about the purpose of the meeting and asked if any action is needed by the Board. Staff responded that direction may be given from the Commission-as-a-whole and that there is nothing to follow-up with at this time.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

Ms. Spain stated that Peter Iglesias has been appointed by the City Commission as the new City Manager.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director