

EXCERPT

DRAFT

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 9:00 a.m.

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

MEMBERS	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Herbert Brito*						P	P	-	P	E	P	A
Dr. Carol Damian	-	-	P	P	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P
Dr. Jill Deupi	-	-	P	P	-	E	E	-	P	P	P	P
Lauren Hall	-	-	E	P	-	P	P	-	E	P	^	^
Jacek Kolasiński*			P	P	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	-	-	E	P	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	E
Freda Tschumy	-	-	P	P	-	P	P	-	E	P	P	P

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

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

GUESTS:

Venny Torre, President of the Business Improvement District; Barbara Tria, Vice-President of the Business Improvement District; Taciana Amador, Executive Director, Business Improvement District

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

Dr. Damian called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. HANK WILLIS THOMAS, SCULPTURE ACQUISITIONS

Staff updated the Panel on the progress of the Hank Willis Thomas sculptural benches currently being fabricated and were advised of the locations of the benches throughout the City in parks and green spaces. Staff asked the Panel to consider recommending permanent acquisition of the artworks and stated an anticipated estimate of \$200,000 for all four benches.

The Panel asked if art acquisition funds are currently available for this purpose. Staff responded yes and said another option would be to acquire one or more. The Panel agreed that it would be a shame not to have all four.

Dr. Damian asked what the City is doing to share the message about the artist and project, noting that Hank Willis Thomas is a very important artist and the public would benefit from knowing more about the project. Staff responded that a press release is in process, a posting will be on the City's E-News, the project will have dedicated space on the City's Art in Public Places web-page, and ads will be placed in the Herald and other publications.

Dr. Deupi announced the Lowe Art Museum events running during Miami art week featuring the artist and branded with his support. She stated that Mr. Thomas will give a talk and tour of his works in Coral Gables. In addition, she said, the scheduled events will be sent to the Lowe's list serve. Dr. Deupi shared that as soon as the Lowe's 2019 speaker is confirmed, she will let the City know.

Ms. Cathers said the City is working with the Business Improvement District to use a storefront on Miracle Mile as a pop-up exhibition space with an activation of silver mylar balloons printed with speech bubbles that people can write personal truths on. The artist's studio, she said, supports social, interactive moments such as this. The intent, Ms. Cathers said, is to staff the space the first week of December and possibly additional times during the exhibition. Ms. Cathers stated that the artist has titled the Coral Gables exhibition "The truth is I welcome you."

Ms. Cathers shared that the Coral Gables Community Foundation is interested in hosting a community conversation evening in the exhibition space with leaders from the Foundation.

Dr. Damian asked about the schedule of activities. Ms. Cathers stated that on Sunday, December 9th, the City will host an early morning reception at 8:30 a.m. and a trolley will be available to take people from the reception to the Lowe Art Museum for the Bubbles and Brunch, followed by the artist's talk.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Tschumy made a motion recommending acquisition of the four sculptural benches by Hank Willis Thomas as presented. Dr. Deupi seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director