

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 29, 2007, 8:00 a.m.
City of Coral Gables War Memorial Youth Center, Youth Room, First Floor
405 University Drive, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Members:	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A#	S	O*	O**N	Appointed By:	
José R. Garrigó	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	E	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Bobbi Litt	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Bernice Matalon	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	E	P	P	P	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Carol Damian	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Beatriz Pereira								P	-	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers
Andrea Cole									-	E	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Christine Rupp	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	E	City Manager David L. Brown

A = Absent

P = Present

E = Excused

- = No Meeting

* Regular Meeting and FY2006-2007 Final Reports

Regular Meeting + FY2007-08 Grants Workshop

** FY2007-2008 Cultural Grant Applications Review & Scoring

Staff In Attendance:

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, Development Director
Florence Dawson, Development Department

Recording Secretary:

Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Guests: Brian Dursum, Lowe Art Museum; Laura Bruney, Arts & Business Council of Miami; Parker Thompson; Gloria Burns, Coral Gables Community Foundation.

Dr. Damian called the meeting to order at 8:23 a.m.

I. Review and approval of Cultural Development Board minutes of October 11, 2007:

Ms. Litt made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2007 meeting as written. Ms. Matalon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Review and approval of Cultural Development Board minutes of October 25, 2007, with possible revisions, if needed:

Ms. Rivenbark reported that the Board previously asked staff to seek counsel from the City Attorney regarding a conflict of interest issue related to the Coral Gables Community Foundation prior to forwarding grant recommendations. The City Attorney's review resulted in an opinion of no conflict of interest. Secondly, staff received a message from a Board member suggesting that an oversight occurred in not awarding a grant to one applicant. The matter was circulated among the Board, and several members expressed agreement that an oversight had taken place and requested that staff devise a solution. Ms. Rivenbark said staff's recommendation was to reduce each grant award by one percent (1%), which would provide \$1,662.50 in grant funding to Centro Cultural Español de Cooperación Iberoamericana, the applicant previously overlooked.

Ms. Litt made a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Ms. Pereira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Matalon recommended that a minimum score be built into the application guidelines for the following year. If a grant applicant does not meet the minimum score, consideration would not be given to the application. This issue will

November 29, 2007

Continued

be included in the January agenda. Ms. Rivenbark suggested that all Board members send their suggestions for revisions to Ms. Dawson.

III. Meeting Attendance:

**Ms. Matalon made a motion to excuse the meeting attendance of Mr. Garrigó and Ms. Rupp.
Dr. Damian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

IV. Status of Jean Ward Sculptures:

Ms. Rivenbark reviewed the history of the Jean Ward sculptures, adding that, in December 2006, the Landscape Advisory Board suggested placement of the sculptures in non-active City public parks. Staff was subsequently asked to identify and recommend locations for the sculptures. Previously, the Board approved and the Commission confirmed the installation of three sculptures at the Coral Gables Library. Regarding placement of the remaining four sculptures, a team comprised of the Board Chair, the Public Service Director and Development Department staff researched and recommended four locations, including Fewell Park, Ingraham Park, San Sebastian Park and Pittman Park. The recommendations were forwarded to the City Commission, and the placement at Pittman Park was accepted. The Commission asked that the City meet with University of Miami for possible inclusion of the remaining three sculptures in their sculpture garden. The Board felt, however, that the sculptures should be placed in City parks and has asked the Commission to reconsider the decision and allow the Board to either review, revise or re-present its original recommendation. The remaining three sculptures are in storage. Ms. Rivenbark pointed out that Miami-Dade College's Dr. Padron contacted the City and reminded staff that Jean Ward was a professor at the College, and indicated the College would welcome one of her sculptures.

Dr. Damian recommended that the sculptures be placed within City parks as originally recommended. Mr. Thompson addressed the Board and stated that he would be happy to appear before the Commission to discuss the issue as he was responsible for presenting them to the Commission. He added that a large Jean Ward sculpture was installed at the Miami-Dade College downtown campus. Mr. Thompson praised the Board for its original recommendation and encouraged them to continue to pursue their aim. He also commented that the sculptures at the Coral Gables Library should be situated on pedestals for greater visibility. Dr. Damian will also speak about the issue along with Mr. Thompson at the City Commission meeting.

Ms. Matalon made a motion that the Cultural Development Board recommend that the three remaining Jean Ward sculptures, collectively, be appropriately installed at Ingraham Park or another appropriate park in the City. Ms. Litt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Rivenbark advised that the item would be heard at the December 11 City Commission meeting.

V. Appearance by Laura Bruney, Arts & Business Council of Miami, to present plans for FY2007/2008 programs:

Ms. Rivenbark welcomed Ms. Bruney, stating that the Arts & Business Council, under Ms. Bruney's astute direction for 20 years, has conducted a series of workshops free to Coral Gables grant applicants and modestly priced for others. Ms. Rivenbark explained that the Development Department annually provides the Council with a small stipend from its professional services budget to support programming, stating that grant-writing attendees who have participated in the programs have given very positive feedback.

Ms. Bruney distributed a package of her organization's materials to all Board members to familiarize them on the services, programs and initiatives generated by the Council. Included in the packets was an overview of the Council's programs for Coral Gables last year along with a proposal for this fiscal year. She gave an overview of

Continued

the Council's national and local programs and collaborative opportunities with numerous cultural arts groups. At the conclusion of her brief presentation, Ms. Bruney responded to Board questions.

Ms. Litt made a motion to recommend a continuation of the small stipend from the Development Department's professional services budget to the Arts & Business Council. Ms. Matalon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VI. Status Reports:

- a. **Art in Public Places program, including formation of a new Arts Advisory Panel:** After first reading by the Commission, the proposed ordinance was referred to the Planning and Zoning Board for consideration of the issue of providing an exemption to the University of Miami. The Planning and Zoning Board considered the exemption and took no position (the vote was 3-3). This Board also took no position on the issue. The ordinance will be heard on second reading by the Commission. Staff was asked to devise conditions for the proposed exemption, and the informal recommendation was that the University create a formal art master plan for campus regarding the sculpture garden, returning every three years to the City Commission to review the status of the program, to alert the Commission to changes and evolutions of the plan, and to allow the Commission to remove the exemption at any time if it did not meet the intent of the ordinance.

Discussion included questions about public accessibility to the University's sculpture garden, signage and parking. Positive comments were made about University promotional materials about the sculpture garden, the University's plan to create sites for up to 72 sculptures and its encouragement of gift pieces rather than loaned pieces as well as plans to establish public tours. One concern expressed was the possible impact on the program if or when President Shalala leaves the University.

VII. Additional Board business:

- a. **General City Update:** Ms. Rivenbark reported that the City would be hosting its annual boards and committees reception on December 13 as an expression of its appreciation for service to the City. Invitations will be sent.
- b. **Other Board business:** Dr. Damian opened discussion about selecting a day of the week other than Thursday for Board meetings. Among Board members in attendance, Wednesdays were acceptable meeting days, with the exception of the first Wednesday of the month. Staff will get input from Mr. Garrigó and Ms. Rupp and notify everyone of the new meeting day.

(Tentatively) Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 8:00 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting of the Board, the meeting concluded at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, AICP, CEcD
Development Director and Secretary to the Board