

City of Coral Gables

*405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134
www.coralgables.com*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 7, 2025

9:30 AM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88687811677>

Sister Cities Conference Room - Coral Gables Museum

Cultural Development Board

*Chairperson Leslie Pantin
Vice Chairperson Jose Valdes-Fauli
Board Member Geannina Burgos
Board Member Ray Corral
Board Member Eric Fliss
Board Member Amanda Requena
Board Member Frank Rodriguez*

The Cultural Development Board will hold its regular meeting commencing at 9:30 a.m. Board Members and City Staff will be physically present. All interested persons may be heard via the Zoom platform used by the City for live remote comments.

Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88687811677>.

A dedicated phone line will be available so that any individual who does not wish (or is unable) to use Zoom may listen to and participate in the meeting by dialing: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 886 8781 1677.

To speak on an Agenda Item, please "Raise your Hand" or send a message to one of the meeting hosts using the Zoom Platform. If you joined the meeting via telephone, you can "Raise your Hand" by pressing *9.

This was Approved on Consent Agenda

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chairperson Pantin, Board Member Burgos, Vice Chairperson Valdes-Fauli, Board Member Corral, Board Member Fliss, Board Member Requena and Board Member Rodriguez

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A.-1. [25-8832](#) Cultural Development Board Meeting of March 18, 2025.

Attachments: [CDB Minutes March 18, 2025 Draft CC](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Valdes-Fauli and seconded by Mr. Fliss to approve the meeting minutes of March 18, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Yeas: 7 - Chairperson Pantin, Board Member Burgos, Vice Chairperson Valdes-Fauli, Board Member Corral, Board Member Fliss, Board Member Requena and Board Member Rodriguez

B. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-94**B.-1. [23-5861](#)**

A Resolution of the City Commission approving the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Estate of Frank Stella for acquisition of artwork by the artist Frank Stella and approving integration of the artwork into the design of the Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park project (recommended by the Cultural Development Board approval/denial vote: 5 to 2); and authorizing an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 amended budget to recognize a transfer of \$2,040,000 from the art in public places reserve as revenue, and appropriating such funds to put toward the project.

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)
[Commission Cover 05.20.2025 AiPP Frank Stella](#)
[R-Draft-AiPP Frank Stella](#)

Staff presented a proposal of a monumental sculpture by artist Frank Stella, which was sent to the city through the Estate of Frank Stella following the artist's death. Background on the artist and specifications about the artwork were reviewed with staff noting that the piece will be appraised. The Estate is offering the sculpture to the city for \$2 million dollars. Staff reported that additional funds are needed to cover packing, transportation, and delivery, which the Estate has agreed to facilitate.

Mr. Valdes-Fauli made a motion to defer the item until a formal recommendation could be provided by the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Requena seconded the motion and discussion followed. Staff shared the remarks from the previous Arts Advisory Panel meeting, although the Panel did not have a quorum and therefore could not make a motion. The motion did not pass, with three in favor and four opposed.

Discussion continued with members expressing their appreciation of the artwork and reduced cost.

Following discussion, a motion was made to recommend the artwork for acquisition. Upon the motion passing, the Board discussed availability for a member to speak on behalf of the Board at the City Commission meeting. and the following motion was made:

Mr. Rodriguez made a motion nominating Ms. Burgos, with Mr. Fliss as a backup, to speak on behalf of the Board at the City Commission meeting addressing this item. Mr. Fliss seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Board members re-affirmed their recommendation to have significant artwork in Ponce Circle Park and encouraged the city to include the piece

as part of the new re-design.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez to recommend purchase of the Frank Stella sculpture "Puffed and Inverted Star II" as presented. Ms. Burgos seconded the motion, which passed with five in favor and two opposed.

Yeas: 5 - Chairperson Pantin, Board Member Burgos, Board Member Corral, Board Member Fliss and Board Member Rodriguez

Nays: 2 - Vice Chairperson Valdes-Fauli and Board Member Requena

C. OLD BUSINESS

D. CULTURAL GRANT UPDATES

[25-8543](#) Cultural Grant Updates 2025

Attachments: [CGCCC CAP Change Request 04032025](#)

Board members were advised of updates to programs from current grantees.

Staff stated that the applications for 2025-2026 will be released to the Board for review the week of April 28th.

E. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES

[25-8544](#) AiPP Active Project Lists

Attachments: [AiPP Projects Municipal & Private February 2025](#)

Board members were invited to the unveiling of Janine Antoni's sculpture "Whispering Through a Stone" taking place on Sunday, June 1st.

F. CITY COMMISSION ITEMS

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.-1. [25-8654](#) FL Senate Bill 482

Attachments: [FL Senate Bill 482](#)
[SB 482 Amended 03312025](#)

G.-2. Umbrella Sky

Belkys Perez, Economic Development Department director, spoke to the Board about bringing back the Umbrella Sky project to Giralda Plaza. It was agreed that the project does not qualify as an official "Art in Public Places" project; however, overall they supported having it return and provided the following motion of support.

A motion was made by Mr. Valdes-Fauli, and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to support the Umbrella Sky project in concept. The motion was approved unanimously.

H. ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY**ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 29 at 8:00 a.m., followed by the annual Cultural Grant Review and Scoring Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

NOTE