

DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Wednesday, March 24, 2021 9:00 a.m.**

**Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
Hybrid Meeting in City Commission Chambers & Virtual via Zoom**

MEMBERS	A	M	J	J+	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	21
Nelson deLeón	-	-	P	P	E	P	P	-	-	-	V	P	E
Dr. Jill Deupi	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	V	V	V
Adler Guerrier*							P	-	-	-	V	P	P
Maggie Hernandez*											V	P	P
Jacek Kolasiński	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	A	P	P
Emily MacDonald-Korth	-	-	P	P	P	E	P	-	-	-	V	V	P
Manny Mato	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	V	V	E
Marijean Miyar	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	V	P	V
Juan Roselione-Valadez	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	A	P	P

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

STAFF:

Warren Adams, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director
Kara Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist

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

Dr. Deupi called the Arts Advisory Panel meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

The Panel was advised of the absences of Mr. de León and Mr. Mato who respectfully requested to be excused. The Panel-as-a-whole accepted Mr. de León's and Mr. Mato's absences as excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS FEBRUARY 24, 2021:

A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez and seconded by Mr. Kolasiński to approve the meeting minutes of February 24, 2021, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. GARAGE 7 – ARTIST QUALIFICATION REVIEW & RECOMMENDATION

Panel members were provided with the overall scores for review of the Garage 7 RFQ applications. It was noted that overall, seventeen (17) artists scored 0 and higher and twelve (12) scored 5 and higher. Mr. Mato, who was not able to attend the meeting, did not submit scores.

Staff requested recommendation of a short-list of artists to present to the police chief, fire chief, and parking director Kevin Kinney, along with an Arts Advisory Panel member to participate with the next phase.

The names of the top seventeen artists were read aloud and Panel members discussed, focusing on the top twelve and reviewing, as-a-whole, each of the applications in greater detail. Applications included artist CV, biography, statement, and work samples. Staff reviewed the preferred location for artwork on the structure as the elevator and stairwell towers, focusing on the NE corner.

Dr. Deupi shared her observation that the submissions represented a repetition of flattened, geometric, primary color, and shaped motifs in a variety of media that (leans) corporate. She asked for the Panel's sense of shared vision to have artwork that is classified as fine art, rather than corporate, and clarified holding this standard for the City's public art program. Panel members agreed. Mr. Guerrier responded that the language of the call, insisting on light as a material, may have been a factor; adding that fine artists can work with light the same way they can work with other materials. Ms. Cathers added that one of the main concepts for the project is having artwork that acts as a beacon; light was considered important for the piece to be recognizable from a distance and convey the location as a place of safety and protection, concepts to associate with the adjacent public safety building.

Panelists were encouraged to discuss names not in the top tier, or outside of the responses, if they felt strongly about them. Panelists discussed and agreed to follow the process, stating that the call was sent widely and if an artist did not respond, they should not be considered.

Local artists in the top tier were commended and Panel members felt strongly to include them on the short-list. Prominent studio artists were recognized, acknowledging their capacity to bring creativity and something unique and special.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Ms. Miyar recommending the following seven artists to move forward in the process: Grimanesa Amoros, Carola Bravo, Monika Bravo, Ivan Toth Depena, Nick Ervnick, Brookhart Jonquil, and Angela Tanzi. Mr. Guerrier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Panel members discussed delegating Panel members to participate in the interview phase.

A motion was made by Mr. Roselione-Valadez recommending Dr. Deupi to participate in the Garage 7 artist interviews. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Roselione-Valadez recommending Mr. Guerrier to participate in the Garage 7 artist interviews. Mr. Kolasiński seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Cathers states that a draft of interview questions will be sent to the Panel for their input and additions.

b. YES/NO – ILLUMINATE CORAL GABLES, PUBLIC ART PURCHASE PROPOSAL

Panel members were provided with a proposal for acquisition of the artwork “Yes/No” by artists Antonia Wright and Ruben Millares. The artist’s statement was read aloud, and images of the artwork were placed on screen for reference. It was stated that the artists have ties to Coral Gables.

The proposal submitted to the City by the artist’s studio is for purchase of one set of the four pieces that were installed as part of Illuminate Coral Gables. Each set is comprised of six barricades custom fitted with LED lights for a purchase price of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

Ms. MacDonald-Korth reported that she spoke with the artists about a more permanent solution to attach the lighting element and recommended a metal bracket with no adhesives or semi-permanent attachments.

Replacement fixtures were discussed and Ms. MacDonald-Korth recommended purchasing them now. She stated that it is common practice to get spares in case something goes wrong over time.

The Panel discussed the site specificity of the artwork and flexibility of the location, noting the importance of documenting with the artist acceptable configurations. Dr. Deupi cited the Visual Artists Rights Act (VARA) and ethical considerations.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Ms. Miyar recommending acceptance of the proposal and purchase of the artwork “Yes/No” by Antonia Wright and Ruben Millares. Ms. MacDonald-Korth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

Ms. Cathers updated the Panel on recent talks with artist Alice Aycock. She said discussions included updates on the current color of the artwork and recent damage to the “little flower” from a car crash. Photographs were sent to the artists and the original fabricator met with staff on site. Ms. Aycock, she said, thoroughly and thoughtfully assessed the color and concluded that as it stands, it is appropriate for the environment that it is in. Ms. Aycock reviewed the condition now compared to initial reports of color loss and feels it has stabilized and is not concerned. Her recommendation is to do nothing now and continue to assess it moving forward.

Staff reported that the William Barbosa sculpture will be installed on Alhambra Circle this weekend.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

There were no City Commission items.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no discussion items.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no additional items from the secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Cathers
Arts & Culture Specialist