

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 12, 2009, 2008, 8:00 a.m.
Development Department Conference Room
95 Merrick Way, Suite 450, Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

MEMBERS	F	M	A	M	J	J#	A	S	O*	O**	N	D	J	COMMISSIONERS
José R. Garrigó	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	-	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Bobbi Litt	P	P	P	E	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Bernice Matalon-Roth	E	P	P	E	E	P	-	E	P	P	P	-	P	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Carol Damian	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Beatriz Pereira	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers
Andrea Cole	E	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	A	Board Appointee
Miguel Diaz de la Portilla			P	P	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	City Manager

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused
- = No Meeting

* FY2007-2008 Final Reports
Regular Meeting + FY2008-09 Grants Workshop
** FY2008-2009 Cultural Grant Applications Review & Scoring

Staff In Attendance:

Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, Development Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist
Jessica Wotherspoon, Business Development Specialist

Recording Secretary:

Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

Guest: Cuquie Bergenstein

Motion Summary:

Minutes of the November 12, 2008 final reports meeting were unanimously approved.

Chair Carol Damian called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

I. Review/Approval of November 12, 2008 Final Reports Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Garrigó made a motion to approve the November 12, 2008 meeting minutes as written. Dr. Matalon-Roth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Introduction of Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist:

Ms. Rivenbark introduced Ms. Cathers and reviewed her extensive background.

III. Review of proposed revisions to cultural grant guidelines and application forms:

As support for discussion, Ms. Cathers distributed copies of revised cultural grant guidelines prior to leading a review of changes that resulted from Board input as well as during a review with Dr. Matalon-Roth. Board members were asked to review the documents before the next meeting, and to bring their notations to the January meeting.

A recommendation was made to require mandatory grant workshop attendance for all grant applicants, including a specific technical component. A representative of each cultural organization must attend the workshop; however, the representative does not have to be its executive director. An individual grant writer may represent more than one organization as long as the grant writer indicates all organizations represented. In addition, it was agreed that conducting

an interactive workshop with a visual display would be more valuable to applicants, and would help achieve the goal of receiving more accurate, qualified applications. Dr. Matalon-Roth volunteered to conduct the workshop. It was also decided that applicants will be given an electronic indicia for "Coral Gables, The City Beautiful" so it can more easily be applied to project printed materials. Additionally, the guidelines will properly state that any one entity may not apply for more than a cumulative \$15,000 in a grant cycle.

IV. Discussion regarding the selling of art in businesses other than art galleries:

As introduction to the discussion, Ms. Rivenbark explained that the issue of art sales taking place in venues other than art galleries, specifically during Gallery Night, was raised recently by a local gallery owner & member of the Coral Gables Gallery Association. The issue was explained to the City's Economic Development Board's Chairman for his consideration of whether it should be added on the next Board meeting's agenda. He did not feel his Board would be the appropriate venue for consideration of such an issue, and recommended that it be placed on the City's Cultural Development Board's agenda.

Although the gallery owner who originally contacted the Development Department about the Gallery Association's complaint was not present on the day the Cultural Development Board addressed this issue at their monthly meeting, another Coral Gables gallery owner, Ms. Cuquie Bergenstein, was in attendance. When asked by Board Chair, Dr. Damian, for further clarification of the issue at the Board meeting, Ms. Bergenstein said that although there were many issues the galleries were facing, the greatest one for gallery owners was that non-gallery businesses, such as restaurants, were promoting and selling their art as a part of Coral Gables Gallery Night, an event which was promoted and run by the Coral Gables Gallery Association. Furthermore patrons of the Gallery Night, that the Gallery Association was promoting, were getting confused of what artwork was genuinely part of the Gallery Association's Gallery Night and what was not. The Gallery Association did not permit or want their Gallery Night to be connected with these non-Gallery Association businesses and hoped the City could step in and prevent this from continuing.

Dr. Damian responded that having more people participate in Gallery Night had long been a goal of the gallery owners. Unless there were legal issues regarding permits or licensing, she recommended the owners welcome the additional activity, increased number of participants and competitive spirit. Ms. Rivenbark explained that there is a Coral Gables Gallery Association shuttle and there is also the City trolley, and that any business or restaurant could participate during Gallery Night and have its patrons use the City trolleys.

Ms. Bergenstein was advised that if this Board interfered, it could negate progress made in making Gallery Night such a current success. Dr. Damian pointed out that Gallery Night was a success partly as a result of the involvement of other entities, the addition of music and other efforts that revitalized the event. Ms. Bergenstein replied that the gallery owners didn't necessarily feel the added involvement of these other entities was a positive thing for Gallery Night.

Dr. Damian stated that the City had held a public meeting with gallery owners in the recent past to discuss their issues. She recommended that gallery owners create a succinct list of the current issues or discussion by the Board. Mr. Diaz de la Portilla suggested the Board receive additional information about gallery owners' permitting and license requirements along with the list of specific concerns and an analysis of any relevant legal issues so the Board has an educated baseline report.

V. Status Reports:

Art Cinema Project: Ms. Rivenbark reported that the floor of the Art Cinema had been poured, and that the dedication of Perrin Plaza would be held February 10, 2009. This will be an ideal time for the public to view the Cinema, and will be considered the pre-opening of the facility.

Jean Ward Sculptures: Ms. Rivenbark reported that the Ingraham Park location for the sculptures was staked; however, no further progress had been made. She also explained that Ms. Cathers would be starting the inventory needed for the Art in Public Places project with the Jean Ward sculptures and the George Merrick statue at City Hall, which would also include maintenance schedules.

VI. Additional Board Business:

General City Update: Thus far, 91 applications were received for the position of City Manager, which the consultant will narrow to ten, present them to the Commission for review, which will then be pared to five applicants. A series of interviews will follow, after which an announcement of the finalist will be made, which could occur as early as February, barring causes for delay.

Dr. Damian invited Board members to Florida International University's new museum and offered a special group tour.

Ms. Cole arrived at 9:15, just as the meeting ended.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m..

Next Meeting: Monday, February 2, 2009, 8:00 a.m.: Development Department Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

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