

**DRAFT**

**EXCERPT**

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, December 14, 2021, 9:00 a.m.  
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department  
Hybrid Meeting & Virtual via Zoom**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Leslie Pantin	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Vince Lago
Frank Martinez	-	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor Michael Mena
Frank Rodriguez*							P	P	A	P	P	P	Commissioner Rhonda Anderson
Ray Corral*							P	P	P	E	P	P	Commissioner Jorge L. Fors Jr.
Jose Valdes-Fauli*							P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Kirk R. Menendez
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	-	V	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Geannina Burgos								P	P	E	P	P	Board Appointee

**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  
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist

**MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION:** Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist,  
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

Dr. Roth called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

a. 427 BILTMORE WAY – ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

The Board was reminded that the Commission made a motion to combine the Art in Public Places fees from the Minorca Garage, Fink Building, 427 Biltmore Way, and the Fire Station 4 projects. It was further stated that the intent is to use the combined fees toward artwork at 427 Biltmore Way.

Board members were provided with information about the artist Zilia Sanchez, and the artwork by her proposed by Mayor Lago for this opportunity.

Ms. Cathers share her screen to present the materials for discussion. The Board was advised that the Arts Advisory Panel reviewed the materials and had an extensive discussion about Ms. Sanchez, the artwork, and whether it should be a sole selection or if the artist should be included on a short-list of artists, or if the opportunity should be opened to a broader call for artists. It was reported that the Panel ultimately felt the artist and artwork merited moving forward based on receiving further information about the materiality of the artwork.

Ms. Cathers reviewed information about Ms. Sanchez, stating that she is living and working in Puerto Rico and is known for her sculptural canvas work. She described the artwork as two pieces in conversation with each other, fabricated in painted bronze and stated that it is the artist's first bronze sculpture. Ms. Cathers re-stated the Panel's recommendation to the Board approving the artwork for acquisition based on information of how the bronze was treated and the method of paint application and said the Panel also discussed how the artwork would best be placed at the site. Ms. Cathers said the Gallery has been responsive and confirmed that the artwork was made for outdoor placement. She stated that discussion with the gallery is ongoing and if acquired, staff would work with the artist and gallery on its placement and presentation, whether it's raised, at grade, re-designing the surrounding landscape, etc. Maintenance is anticipated about twice a year.

The gallery stated that the price for the sculpture is \$600,000, Ms. Cathers said; however, they are extending a 20% discount in consideration of it being a public artwork, so the actual cost would be \$480,000. She stated that additional funds would be needed for the installation, lighting, and landscape revisions.

Mr. Valdes-Fauli remarked that Zilia Sanchez is an important artist, and that the artwork is beautiful and appropriate. He went on to note that the work was conceived in the early 2000s, with it being recently fabricated – most likely as the only one to date. He asked who checks the information about the artwork and how can the Board determine if it is the best price. Ms. Cathers responded that she will ask whether it is the only piece created at this time and that an independent appraiser could be used to determine the fair market value of the work, mentioning that there are not many sculptures by the artist to use for comparison. Mr. Valdes-Fauli stated that an independent appraisal should be done before the Board makes any decision and asked what the process is when acquiring public artworks for the program. Ms. Cathers stated that she doesn't recall the City purchasing other artwork and typically commissioned works have the budget breakdown included.

The Board discussed briefly and agreed that using funds for an appraisal would be a worthy expense prior to further consideration.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Mr. Jose Valdes-Fauli made a motion recommending an independent appraisal of the artwork “Concepto 1” by Zilia Sanchez prior to making a further recommendation regarding the artwork. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The Board continued speaking about the artwork itself and staff confirmed that although Ms. Sanchez is not travelling, they can work remotely with the artist and gallery regarding the design and installation of the artwork. The Board agreed that it is a beautiful work.

Ms. Cathers stated that the sculpture is currently packed and in Miami, and that some time will be needed to complete the appraisal.

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Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Cathers  
Arts & Culture Specialist