

EXCERPT

DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 03, 2018 8:30 a.m.
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
2327 Salzedo St., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S	O	N+	D+	J	F	M	A	APPOINTED BY:
	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	
Leslie Pantin *						P	P	P	-	P	E	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Betty Horwitz	E	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor Pat Keon
Dr. Fernando Alvarez-Perez	E	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	-	E	P	P	Commissioner Vince Lago
Alfonso Perez	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Commissioner Michael Mena
Geannina A. Burgos	P	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	-	P	E	P	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	P	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	City Manager Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	P	E	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	Board Appointee

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

STAFF:

Dona Spain, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Director
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

GUESTS:

Laura Russo, Esq.; Sandra Cardona and Robert Hazard with Hersha Hospitality; Jorge Navarro, Greenberg Traurig; Zaba Castro, Greenberg Traurig; Jerad Graham, NP International

RECORDING AND PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts

Dr. Roth called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

a. PASEO DE LA RIVIERA

Ms. Cathers gave a brief introduction of the Paso de la Riviera development project. She stated that the developer is requesting a waiver of the Art in Public Places fee through purchase and installation of artwork within the project. She stated that the proposal has gone to the Arts Advisory Panel, which is recommending acceptance of the proposal.

Jorge Navarro introduced himself, Zaba Castro, and Jerad Graham. Mr. Navarro expressed his excitement about the artwork and discussed changes the proposal went through some after the first presentation to the Arts Advisory Panel. He stated that the development team worked with an art consultant and selected the artist Jaume Plensa because of his experience with public spaces.

Mr. Navarro described the site of the artwork, in the middle of the Paseo, as an open space between two buildings, about the size of a football field. It's a very large open space, he said, and would be a center piece attracting the public to the space and be a gathering area. One of the concerns of the Arts Advisory Panel, he said, was creating a buffer to prevent people from walking up to it, touching it, and having kids climb on it; they did not want to rope it off either. Mr. Navarro described the solution to elevate it in on a coral stone (plinth), creating a boundary with river rocks. In addition, he added, they will include discreet signage to discourage touching the artwork.

The Board discussed the visual elements of the piece, commenting on the different symbols and letters.

Mr. Pantin asked if it can be seen from South Dixie Highway. Mr. Navarro replied that they located it in the center for safety concerns and protection of the piece; including incorporating a distance from the noise of South Dixie and creating the ability to create a tranquil, inviting environment.

Mr. Pantin then asked what will border the work on either side. Mr. Graham responded that arcades are place around, with twenty feet tall entryways in front of the hotel on the hotel side and twelve foot wide arcades all around with string lights across the plaza and palm trees. The development team described the hotel, residential building, covered walkway on both sides and the intention for restaurants, outdoor dining, and retail within the space.

Ms. Horwitz and Dr. Alvarez-Perez asked about maintenance of the piece. Mr. Graham stated the intention is to spot clean the artwork once a month with soap and water, and likely, the area will be cleaned daily.

Dr. Roth asked about how it will withstand strong winds. Mr. Navarro stated that the sculpture is very heavy and will be secured to the plinth. Staff replied that it will have to go through structural approval. The developer also stated that the artwork will be lit from the outside.

The Board discussed the budget and felt the artwork itself was being offered at a good price. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Burgos made a motion recommending approval of the Art in Public Places waiver request by the Paseo de la Riviera development project to incorporate artwork by artist Jaume Plensa into the Paseo de la Riviera plaza as presented and as recommended by the Arts Advisory Panel. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The Board commented on how great it will be to have an artist of this caliber in Coral Gables.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director