

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
 SEGOVIA CIRCLES FOUNTAIN JUDGING PANEL  
 Wednesday, September 10, 2014, 1:00 p.m.  
 City Hall Commission Chambers  
 405 Biltmore Way  
 Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

**EXCERPTS**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>AUG '13</b>	<b>OCT '13</b>	<b>MAR '14</b>	<b>SEPT '14</b>
Silvia Karman Cubiñá	P	P	E	P
Carol Damian	P	P	P	P
Brian Dursum	P	P	P	P
Julio Grabiél	P	P	P	P
Nannette Zapata	P	P	P*	E

**\*attended via phone**

**A = Absent      E = Excused**  
**P = Present     N = No Meeting**

Staff in Attendance:

- Cynthia S. Birdsill, Acting Assistant City Manager
- Leonard Roberts, Acting Director, Economic Sustainability Department
- Glenn Kephart, Public Works Director
- Ernesto Pino, Public Works Assistant Director
- Brook Dannemiller, Public Service Director
- Jane Tompkins, Development Services Director
- Ramon Trias, Planning and Zoning Director
- Michelle Cash, Marketing Manager, Economic Sustainability Department
- Jeanmarie Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Sustainability Department
- Jorge Casuso, Business Development Analyst, Economic Sustainability Department

**Recommendation to City Commission of an artist and concept for the public art work proposed for the two traffic circles located on Segovia Street at Coral Way and Biltmore Way.**

Ms. Birdsill brought the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Ms. Birdsill announced that the five semifinalists would make presentations to the judging panel, which would choose one of the concepts to recommend to the City Commission.

Following is a summary of the five presentations:

Mr. Averbuch proposed two sculptures titled The House in the Boat/The Boat in the House and Time and Tide Wait for No Man. The House sculpture would sit in a pool of water. The ribbing of the boat

would emerge from the third story windows, and the mast would rise through the roof. The other sculpture would consist of a large round circle on a platform traversed by a copper walkway. Water would rise inside transparent tubes at one end of the walkway and fall inside a similar tube at the other end. The sculptures would be constructed of copper and stone.

Ms. Aycock said she tried to create a work that resonates with its environment. She said she is an avid gardener and was inspired by the passion flowers she grows, drawing on their shapes and vivid colors. She wanted to create a work that also drew on sci-fi forms that are “space-like” and “robotic.” Her proposal calls for a 37-foot by 58-foot sculpture at the intersection of Biltmore Way comprised of three flowers and a single 8-foot by 10-foot flower at Coral Way that seems as if “it blew there.” The larger sculpture would sit in a pool of water and emit a mist. The sculptures would be constructed of aluminum and structural steel and would be lit at night.

Mr. Goldberg said he placed a high importance on craftsmanship. He said the shapes he chose for his proposal were inspired by the City’s Banyan trees and the materials were inspired by its many coral structures. His proposal includes two circular tapering vessels made of textured travertine standing in pools of water. The fountain at Biltmore Way would be approximately 14 feet tall, while the one at Coral Way would be approximately 8 feet. Both would splash over the edge and be lit from the bottom at night. Mr. Goldberg said he would retain the palm trees at the Coral Way Circle and plant bougainvillea on both circles.

Mr. Hollis said he viewed both circles as one site and drew inspiration for the interplay between the two from choreographed dance. Both sculptures would be made of perforated sheets of stainless steel spaced 10 inches apart and lit from the inside. They feature sweeping curves that change as the viewer moves past them, Mr. Hollis said. The sculptures would produce a fog effect forming “clouds” programmed to appear periodically. Mr. Hollis said the clouds would add an atmospheric rhythm to complement the dance-like quality of the work. Both sculptures would sit on a bed of native grasses that would add another flowing quality to the work.

Mr. Kirkland said his proposed work was inspired by the columns in the main lobby of the Biltmore hotel, as well as by the Spanish castles of Spain. His proposal calls for one sculpture consisting of five columns at the Biltmore Way Circle. He did not plan to place anything in the Coral Way Circle. The shapes would mimic the five palm trees at the Coral Way Circle, which would reflect the circular pattern. The columns would stand 16 to 18 feet tall, including the raised platform on which they would sit. They would be cast in concrete or fiberglass and covered with mosaics made of Venetian glass that would create a “luminous” effect. The work would add a colorful palate that is rare in the City, Mr. Kirkland said. Water would rise from the top of the columns and fall on the platform, cascading into a pool below.

The panel agreed that Mr. Aurbach’s proposed works were too large for the sites. Panel members also expressed concern about maintenance of the pieces.

Mr. Dursum described Ms. Aycock’s proposal as “clever,” and Dr. Damien called it “spectacular.” Ms. Cubiñá said the artist understood that Coral Gables was a garden city and called the sculpture of the flower that seemed to fall on the Coral Way Circle “poetic and beautiful.” Mr. Grabiell said the work was “very contemporary,” but added that he would like to see “More water movement.”

The panel agreed that they liked Mr. Goldberg's proposal but expressed several reservations. Dr. Damien said she liked Mr. Goldbergs's work but found the proposed sculptures lacked excitement and elegance. She said the proposal "didn't push the envelope enough." The other members of the panel agreed.

The panel generally liked Mr. Hollis proposal but had some concerns. Ms. Cubiñá called the sculptures "graceful" but "a bit too architectural and industrial." Mr. Grabiél worried that viewers would see the inside of the structure when the lights were on. Dr. Damien said the work did not tie in to Coral Gables.

The panel also had reservations about Mr. Kirkland's proposal. Mr. Grabiél said it was not as "sophisticated" as Ms. Aycock's proposal and "didn't push the envelope." Ms. Cubiñá called it "disjointed."

**Mr. Grabiél made a motion to recommend Ms. Aycock's proposal to the City Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cubina and passed unanimously.**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jorge Casuso, Business Development Analyst, Economic Sustainability Department