

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
Friday, August 15, 2014, 9:00 a.m.
Economic Sustainability Department**

Arts Advisory Panel Members in Attendance:

Dr. Carol Damian
Marijean Miyar
John Stuart
Freda Tschumy

Staff in Attendance:

Leonard Roberts, Acting Director, Economic Sustainability Department
Charles Wu, Assistant Director, Development Services
Jorge Casuso, Business Development Analyst, Economic Sustainability Department

Guests in Attendance:

Andrew Frey, Development Manager, CC Residential

Motion Summary:

Dr. Damian made a motion to approve the qualifications of artist Naomi Fisher for the AiPP project proposed for 2020 Salzedo Street. Mr. Stuart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Stuart made a motion to recommend the proposed AiPP project presented by Andrew Frey to the Cultural Development Board. Dr. Damian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Arts Advisory Panel meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. Review of proposed AiPP application for a mixed-use project at 2020 Salzedo Street.

Mr. Frey said that the public art work would be part of a proposed mixed-use project that includes a 213 rental apartment units, 43,000 square feet of office space and 3,000 square feet of retail. The project has been approved at every level of review and is currently pending the approval of the Board of Architects, Frey said. To fulfill the Art in Public Places requirement, the developers had contemplated a permanent video installation in the courtyard between the commercial and residential buildings, but decided against it. Projecting the images posed logistical problems, the work would be difficult to view during the day and the space where it would be displayed was not as easily accessible to the public as the street.

Mr. Frey said that the artist, Naomi Fisher, is a young up-and-coming local artist who has worked in multiple media. She was chosen after developers viewed the frieze she created for the new Rose McQuillan Art Center at Fairchild Tropical Garden. Mr. Frey said that it seemed the style and medium were a perfect fit for Coral Gables because they complimented the Mediterranean-style architecture prevalent throughout the City. Ms. Fisher was commissioned to create two friezes for the proposed project. A one-and-a-half-story tall frieze would frame the entrance to the residential building at the northeast corner of the development, while a five-story-tall frieze would go at the commercial entrance at the southeast corner. The friezes include motifs of native Miami flora, particularly palm fronds and palm trunks.

Dr. Damian praised the developer for choosing Ms. Fisher, a native Miami artist who has “worked with plants since she was a little girl.” Dr. Damian, who was involved in the Fairchild project, said that Ms. Fisher was always on time, within her budget and that every presentation she made was “perfect.” Mr. Stuart said the proposed art work “ties in perfectly with the history of the City.” He said Coral Gables was once a center for the sort of handcrafted friezes being proposed. Ms. Miyar called the proposal “brilliant” and said the artwork was “truly integrated” into the

proposed development and “timeless.” Mr. Wu said he worried the friezes would be difficult to make out from ground level, but Mr. Stuart, who said he recently authored a book about friezes in New York City, assured him that would not be a problem. Mr. Frey said the developer would be “spending some serious money on lighting” to showcase the artwork.

Dr. Damian made a motion to approve the qualifications of artist Naomi Fisher for the AiPP project proposed for 2020 Salzedo Street. Mr. Stuart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Stuart made a motion to recommend the proposed AiPP project to the Cultural Development Board. Dr. Damian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. General Business

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jorge Casuso
Business Development Analyst