



DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, January 15, 2019 8:30 a.m.
Coral Gables Museum
285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

*Historical Resources &
Cultural Arts*

2327 SALZEDO STREET
CORAL GABLES
FLORIDA 33134

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MEMBERS	F	M	A	M	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	D	J	APPOINTED BY:
	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	
Leslie Pantin	P	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Dr. Fernando Alvarez- Perez	E	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor Vince Lago
Betty Horwitz	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Pat Keon
Alfonso Perez	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	-	-	E	^	^	^	^	Commissioner Michael Mena
Geannina A. Burgos Vice-Chair	P	E	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	E	P	P	E	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	P	P	A	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 Dept.

GUESTS:

Peter Iglesias, Coral Gables City Manager

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

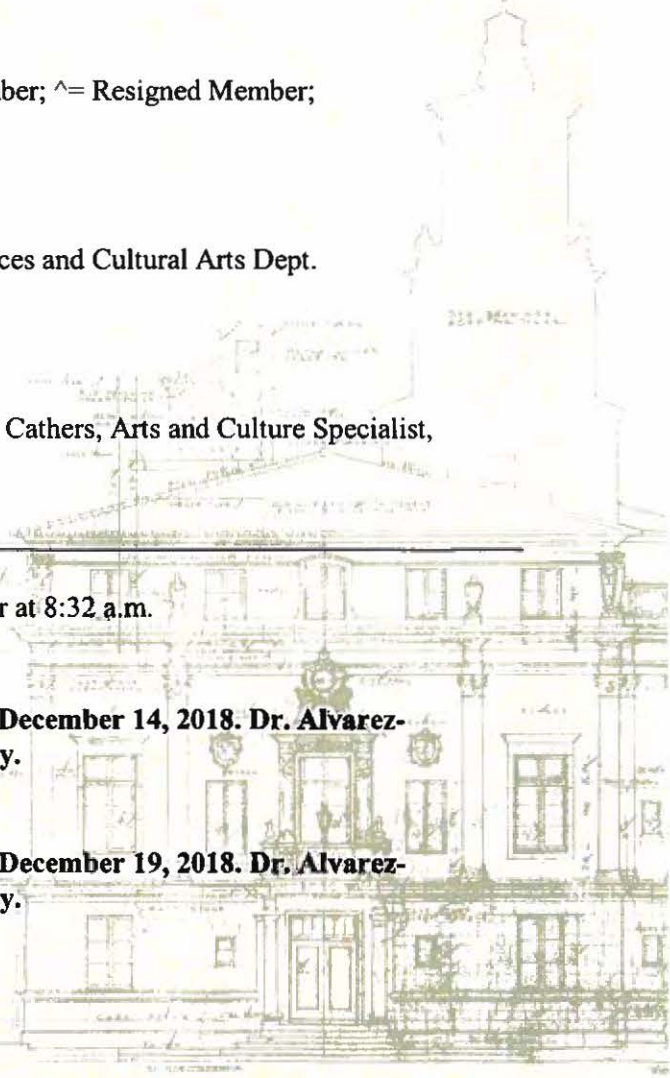
Dr. Roth called the Cultural Development Board meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2018:

Mr. Pantin made a motion to approve the minutes of December 14, 2018. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 19, 2018:

Mr. Pantin made a motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2018. Dr. Alvarez-Perez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.



PERSONAL APPEARANCE:

a. PETER IGLESIAS, CITY MANAGER

Ms. Spain welcomed City Manager Peter Iglesias and gave an overview of the role of the Cultural Development Board (CDB), including their review and scoring of the Cultural Grants. She stated that the Board is also in charge of donation recommendations, specifically art, which felt it was important to have a professional Board of arts professionals to advise and make recommendations when necessary causing the creation of the Arts Advisory Panel (AAP). Ms. Spain clarified that the AAP recommends to the CDB, which makes recommendations to the City Commission.

City Manager Iglesias, stated that he met with the AAP the previous week. He gave an overview of the City's work on infrastructure projects, saying the next few years will focus on Information Technology (IT) and infrastructure projects. City Manager Iglesias mentioned the ground breaking of the Public Safety Building, the start of Fire Station 2 and Parking Garage nbr. 7, the planned remodeling of 427 Biltmore Way, and anticipated restoration of City Hall. In addition, he mentioned implementing horizontal integration, meaning a move to combine historical knowledge with computer based systems, along with efforts to lower overall City response times.

City Manager Iglesias then spoke about an initiative to look at how to address temporary art that is installed for ninety (90) days only. He said permanent art would follow the (current) procedure and is seeking a process with more flexibility.

Ms. Burgos asked how the art would be vetted and if it would include someone with an art background. City Manager Iglesias responded that it would go through the Economic Development Department as a different procedure. Ms. Burgos asked who is deciding that procedure, if it's the Commission, and what the process would be. City Manager Iglesias stated that if it's something using the Art Acquisition Fund (AAF), it would follow the current process. For clarification, Ms. Burgos asked about projects using private funds coming into the City and if they would go through a Board. The City Manager stated it would go through Economic Development and possibly use the Arts Advisory Panel to reduce time.

Ms. Horwitz said that in other words, it would bypass procedure that's already established. City Manager Iglesias said it would only apply to temporary, ninety (90) day art to have a more streamlined process. He went on to say that review would include ensuring projects are within the brand of the City and that if someone doesn't like it, it's gone (in a short time).

Ms. Burgos asked about art that starts as temporary and transitions to permanent, something like Art Basel projects she said. City Manager Iglesias responded that if a temporary installation is desired to make permanent, it would go through that procedure.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez asked if it would affect the Art Acquisition Fund budget and the City Manager responded, no. Dr. Alvarez-Perez asked why it would not go through this Board and City Manager Iglesias said that a more streamline procedure is desired.

Board members spoke at the same time.

Ms. Spain suggested that proposals come to the CDB, who can call on the AAP if they like.

Dr. Alvarez-Perez expressed his opposition to the initiative. He was called away from the meeting due to an emergency and left at 8:48 a.m.

Dr. Mayorga stated that it seems that a distinction, after the fact, is being made about temporary versus permanent, that art is art and the AAP is not the Permanent Arts Advisory Panel. She suggested that if a distinction is being made between temporary and permanent art, it should remain with the AAP and CDB. Dr. Mayorga went on to say it does not seem logical to create a separate panel for temporary versus

permanent art. City Manager Iglesias re-stated that it would be there for ninety (90) days, adding that if there is any controversy (or other matters), it's gone.

Concern was expressed about the quality of the art itself, saying that the level of art (in the City) is high because of the procedure. Concern continued that Economic Development doesn't have the expertise that the Board and Panel have, who have been selected by the City Commission to review art. Dr. Roth continued, saying that the Board and Panel work very hard to set standards (regarding art). It was confirmed that this Board has been a constant factor in charge of making recommendations regarding art to the Commission.

Ms. Horwitz asked to forget about the art for a minute and consider the procedure and structure of the Commission and City. She expressed concern that it is a way to bypass an inconvenient structure and asked if (the City Commission) is charging the Board with a task and doesn't like what is being recommended. She went on to express that as a Commission appointee and as a voter, it sounds like (someone) doesn't like what is being said, so part of the task that is being worked at so hard is being taken away. Ms. Horwitz firmly stated that an established procedure for art is in place.

City Manager Iglesias responded that he came to the Board for feedback and asked if Board members feel that temporary and permanent art should go through the same procedure. The Board agreed that a procedure for art is established. Art, it was said, is supposed to be vetted. If someone doesn't like it, they should still hear a recommendation. The Board agreed that the recommendation is not mandatory, but the procedure is in place and should be followed.

Mr. Pantin said that it sounds more like commercial aspects are being considered rather than temporary art. Something, he said, that is in place to attract people to businesses and serves another purpose. The Board discussed the Umbrella Sky project and that since it was not artist driven it did not come before this Board. Mr. Pantin added that it was such a hit and hard to image what could come next. Ms. Cathers stated that staff is currently working with Economic Development on a Call for Art using the truss system with one project a year being artist led. She stated that often unsolicited proposals for art come to the City and if a process is established (without vetting), artists will question why they are or aren't approved.

City Manager Iglesias stated he would like to work with the CDB to come up with an expedited process, believing that a piece of art that is going to be in place fifty (50) years is different than a piece of art that is going to be here for ninety (90) days. He mentioned the emphasis of Economic Development.

The Board agreed that an expedited process is fine. Dr. Roth suggested that some of the Board members could work with staff. Mr. Pantin said the Board can work with Economic Development goals as well.

Ms. Burgos asked what the specific issue is exactly; if it's an emphasis on permitting issues, timing, or something that the Board meeting more often could help expedite the process. City Manager Iglesias said he would not want the Board to take more of their time and they're doing excellent work. Ms. Burgos said they need to know what the needs are so they can be addressed.

The City Manager stated that the Economic Development Department has some latitude in doing certain things faster; can make sure that the branding is correct, that it fits the Gables, and (the program) may be more adventurous with temporary art.

Mr. Pantin said (the Board) would like to work with Economic Development to make Coral Gables a better art City, to bring more art galleries back, make the Art Walk better, explore the concept to increase economic development.

The City Manager offered to come to the next meeting with the Economic Development Director. The Board agreed.

City Manager Iglesias reiterated that he wants to streamline the process (for temporary art), whether it's coming to the CDB or having a micro AAP to represent this Board.

Dr. Mayorga stressed the importance of the Board wishing to be involved.

City Manager Iglesias thanked the Board for all their hard work and that he wants a due process that makes sense to everyone. Ms. Spain asked how it will work with the Economic Development department and if staff make decisions or one of their Boards.

Dr. Roth stated that some temporary projects require an enormous amount of planning and further clarification and definitions are needed. Dr. Mayorga agreed, saying the distinction between temporary and permanent is too arbitrary.

Ms. Burgos expressed trying to understand where the need is coming from. She asked if there is a flurry of art that needs to be up without enough time to get it done. City Manager Iglesias stated that some things may come up quickly and only be available for two weeks. He agreed that there should be some kind of review. Mr. Pantin stated that the Board is a protection for the City and acts as a buffer, adding concern about trying to top the umbrellas.

Ms. Cathers said it would be helpful to have greater marketing support for the existing projects, mentioning the wonderful Hank Willis Thomas speech bubbles on Miracle Mile that have received little press.

The City Manager thanked the Board for their time and advocacy. Board members thanked the City Manager, who then left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Dr. Roth had to leave the meeting and passed the gavel to Ms. Burgos. Dr. Roth left the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

Ms. Spain stated that all recommendations coming from the AAP will now be brought to the CDB to provide a recommendation to City Commission, whether the recommendation is for or opposed to something. She added that proposals may also go directly to the CDB and then on to the Commission. Staff discussed the current timing of the AAP meeting one week prior to the CDB.

The Board continued to discuss, expressing concern about who is making decisions regarding the selection and recommendations regarding art activations in the City. Staff stated that the Arts Advisory Panel recommended having someone from both the AAP and CDB on a selection committee.

The Board shared a perception that recommendations brought forth by the Board are not appreciated and therefore, a system is being requested that bypasses the recommendation and has someone else making the decision; however, the Board was assured and understood that final decisions are always with the City Commission.

Giralda Plaza temporary works were discussed and the idea of using an established artist to design a site specific work for the space as the inaugural artist piece.

Staff reminded the Board that they are the recommending entity to the City Commission and that they may choose to not have the AAP weigh in on temporary installations. Ms. Horwitz said they should not bypass the AAP as it appears that there is discomfort with the process established by the Commission. The Board expressed understanding that the Commission does not need to follow a recommendation; however, the recommendation needs to be heard in a public forum if one is made.

The Board then discussed recommendations that could be put forth, including:

- Use the current process of AAP to CDB the next week to City Commission
- Temporary proposals come directly to CDB for a recommendation to the Commission
- Establish a Temporary Art committee with representatives from both CDB and AAP
- Hold meetings as needed with a minimum of two members from CDB and AAP

The Board had remaining questions about the role of the Economic Development department - who brings proposals forward, how proposals are received, who make presentations to the City Commission, shared use of Economic Development Department marketing resources.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. DAVID HAYES – ARTWORK ACQUISITION

The Board was provided with a proposal through Mayor Valdes-Fauli to permanently acquire the David Hayes sculpture *Quadrapped #2* currently on temporary loan and installed in the City Hall courtyard. They were informed of the purchase price of \$25,000 and that Art Acquisition funds could be used for this purpose. After a brief discussion the following motion was made:

Dr. Mayorga made a motion to recommend acquisition of the David Hayes sculpture *Quadrapped #2*. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

*This item was approved at the City Commission meeting of January 22, 2019.

b. HANK WILLIS THOMAS – ARTWORK ACQUISITION

Staff reported that the studio of Hank Willis Thomas approached the City with a proposal to purchase the twenty-two (22) Speech Bubble artwork signs from the “The truth is I welcome you” for two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). The Board discussed the positive public response to the work and asked that more be done to engage the public with the pieces, including the artwork benches. Staff talked about the structure of the artwork, stating that it’s likely the signs could withstand extreme weather; however, it would be advisable to remove and re-install them when necessary. The Board discussed the established support of the Arts Advisory Panel for the initial exhibition of the artworks and the natural fit of the pieces to be included in the Streetscape. Continuing discussion, the Board agreed to recommend use of funds set aside for Miracle Mile public art. The Board also unanimously recommended keeping the pink speech bubble artwork as part of the Streetscape. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Ms. Hortwitz recommending acquisition of the twenty-two (22) speech bubble artwork signs from “The truth is I welcome you”; recommending permanent installation of *Ernest and Ruth* (the pink speech bubble artwork) on the Miracle Mile Streetscape; and recommending use of previously set aside funding for public art on Miracle Mile for these purposes. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

*This item was approved at the City Commission meeting of January 22, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

CULTURAL GRANT ITEMS

a. CHANGE REQUEST – EL IGENIO

The Board was provided with a Cultural Grant change request from El Igenio. Ms. Cathers stated that the request was received the previous day with not enough time for the organization to attend the meeting. She provided a brief overview of the request to present one performance instead of two and reported that the current grant award is \$4,500. The budget was reviewed and discussed.

The Board discussed options, including a reduced grant amount; noting that there may still be a funding issue and not wanting to set a precedent. The Board also commented that programs should not be dependent on funding from Coral Gables. With no further discussion the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Dr. Mayorga to not approve the request as presented; however, the organization may address the Cultural Development Board at the next meeting for reconsideration. Ms. Horwitz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. ARTS & BUSINESS COUNCIL

Staff advised that the City has five (5) scholarships available for Coral Gables' grantees to attend the Arts & Business Council's Miami Arts Marking Project (MAMP) conference and Labs. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Ms. Horwitz to offer Arts & Business Council scholarships to the Coral Gables Museum, Coral Gables Arts Cinema, Area Stage, Montgomery Botanical Center, and the Florida Guitar Foundation; if any are not available to attend, the Board asks staff to move forward with other grantees. Dr. Mayorga seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Staff shared news about recent grants provided by the Coral Gables Community Foundation to organizations presenting cultural arts programs in Coral Gables including Coral Gables Based organizations: Actors' Playhouse, Area Stage, Coral Gables Art Cinema, Coral Gables Museum, GableStage, and Cultural Program grantee Merrick Festival.

The Board was advised that Bike Walk Coral Gables submitted a Cultural Grant application that was returned with a request for corrected information. The application was not re-submitted by the extended deadline and, therefore, not considered by the Board for funding. The organization approached the City Commission for reconsideration and the Commission upheld the decision of ineligibility. Staff met with the organization, commending the organization and offered to meet with them again prior to the next Cultural Grant deadline.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

a. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

The Board was updated on the Public Safety Building progress, including the recent ground-breaking. They were informed that the fourth recommended artist conducted his site visit and once proposals have all been submitted, they will be available for public comment before the selection panel review process. Staff advised that the recommended artist names are being presented at the next City Commission meeting.

b. CIFO DONATION

Staff advised the Board that Arts Advisory Panel member and conservator Emily MacDonald-Korth inspected the proposed sculpture donation by Fredy Alzate and submitted a report re-stating the concerns regarding material and structure. The report included notes that the piece was cut in half for delivery

purposes and re-adhered upon delivery. The report, it was said, will be submitted to the City Commission as part of an update, along with the recommendation from the AAP and CDB to place the piece indoors on a raised platform.*

*This item was presented at the City Commission meeting of January 22, 2019 with direction for staff to contact the artist for more information.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no discussion items.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

The Board was informed to save the date for the upcoming Boards & Committee Reception on February 28th at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the Cultural Development Board meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dona M. Spain", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director