

DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 17, 2019 8:30 a.m.
Coral Gables Museum
285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, Florida 33134**

MEMBERS	O	N +	D +	D +	J	F	M	M +	A	A	J	J	A	S	APPOINTED BY:
	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	
Leslie Pantin	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes- Fauli
Dr. Fernando Alvarez- Perez	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	-	E	E	Vice-Mayor Vince Lago
Betty Horwitz	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	Commissioner Pat Keon
Frank Martinez*						P	P	E	P	P	E	-	P	P	Commissioner Michael Mena
June Morris*											P	-	P	P	Commissioner Jorge Fors
Dr. Bernice Roth Chair	E	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Dr. Rosa Maria Mayorga	P	P	P	A	P	E	P	E	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 Dept.

GUESTS:

Bill Brady; Katia Rosenthal

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 8:30 a.m. and read aloud the City's False Claims Ordinance.

The Board was advised that Dr. Alvarez-Perez was unable to attend and respectfully asked to be excused.

Mr. Pantin made a motion to accept the absence of Dr. Alvarez-Perez. Dr. Mayorga seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 6, 2019:

Ms. Morris made a motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2019. Dr. Mayorga seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. PRIVATE DEVELOPER WAIVER REQUEST – THE PLAZA

Ms. Cathers introduced Mr. Brady and Ms. Rosenthal and stated their appearance before the Board to request placement of artwork as part of The Plaza development project in partial fulfillment of the Art in Public Places requirement.

Mr. Brady addressed the board, saying he is representing The Plaza with a proposal of an artwork by artist Tony Cragg. The Board was presented with materials regarding the artist and the proposed artwork titled “Mean Average.” Tony Cragg, Mr. Brady said, is a British artist who has lived most his life in Germany; the artwork proposed reflects the artist’s early exploration of stacking items that has since evolved and is a profile of a human face spun around in many directions. “Mean Average”, Mr. Brady continued, is a cast bronze sculpture standing 19 (nineteen) feet high with a 9 (nine) feet diameter base. The proposed location, he said, is across from Ponce Circle Park (where Ponce de Leon Blvd., Palermo Avenue, and Coconut Drive meet). Mr. Brady added that the artwork has exhibited several times internationally, including exhibition at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in the UK and Park Avenue in New York. The piece, he said, is coming from the Marion Goodman Gallery.

The Board discussed traffic flow and sight lines around the piece, and how the piece will be anchored and maintained. It was noted that the sculpture will be set back from the street and may include seating nearby. Mr. Brady stated that Museovault will be contracted to do the installation with Rosa Lowinger and Associates entering into a contract to maintain the artwork. Ms. Cathers said ownership of the artwork will be with the property owner and they will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance.

Staff informed the Board that the Arts Advisory Panel reviewed the proposal and made a motion recommending the Cultural Development Board to recommend approval of the artwork and waiver request in partial fulfillment of the Art in Public Places requirement. The Board was advised that the Cultural Development Board’s recommendation will move forward to the City Commission.

Ms. Morris asked if additional artworks will be presented. Mr. Brady said he’s aware of two additional artworks currently in development, including a proposed fountain designed by artist Jean-Michel Othoniel. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Horwitz made a motion recommending approval of the Art in Public Places waiver request by The Plaza development project to incorporate artwork by artist Tony Cragg into The Plaza plans as presented and as recommended by the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Morris seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Brady and Ms. Rosenthal thanked the Board and left the meeting.

Ms. Morris expressed concern that as developers use the percent for art toward (free-standing) sculptures, the overall appearance is not related to Coral Gables or the architecture. She referenced downtown Chicago’s

buildings with different sculptures in front of many buildings. Ms. Morris said the building is not as nice as it could be because of using the funds to purchase art.

Staff responded that developers have a choice to purchase, commission or incorporate art within the development to enhance the project and may incorporate art into the building itself. The project at 2020 Salzedo St. was given as an example. Ms. Spain added that art does not have to match the building and it would be a shame to only have historic looking fountains. As an example, she mentioned European cities with contemporary sculptures as well as more traditional works, emphasizing that it is perfectly acceptable to have modern art next to historic buildings.

Staff said developers are encouraged to incorporate art within projects and to consider art early in the process. Mr. Pantin agreed and said it should come early on, including Coral Gables construction projects. He noted the successful Miami Airport floor piece by Michele Oka Doner and the Arsht Center railings and floors designed by Jose Bedia.

Ms. Morris commented on the many different styles of artwork in Coral Gables and asked that a map be presented to see the relationship of the artworks to each other.

Mr. Pantin asked where the Art in Public Places requirement is within the approval process. Staff responded that the fee payment, or a waiver from the Commission, is accepted prior to the building permit being approved; artwork needs to be installed prior to issuing of the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO). It was noted that The Plaza has a development agreement superseding the zoning code.

The Board asked for an update on Ponce Circle Park. Mr. Pantin said he believes there is a plan to install sidewalks similar to the ones along Miracle Mile, linking Ponce Circle Park to Miracle Mile.

The Board discussed the code and how to move the incorporation of art further forward in the process. Staff stated their support and that developers are aware of the code and requirement.

b. SCULPTURE DONATION – ARTIST, JOHN HENRY

The Board was advised of a proposed donation from the Kirk Landon Foundation of the sculpture “Quark” by American artist John Henry. The sculpture, staff said, is currently installed in Orlando. The donation proposal was brought before the Arts Advisory Panel, who asked that a cost estimate be completed prior to further discussion. Staff responded that an estimate of \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) was received to have the sculpture de-installed, restored, transported, and installed in Coral Gables.

Information about the artwork was presented including the sculptures size, 70x36x12 ft.; material (welded, painted steel), and approximate 20-ton weight. Provenance of the artwork includes its installation in Tallahassee and gift from the artist to Kirk Landon.

Staff reported the Arts Advisory Panel’s discussion regarding the cost associated with accepting the donation, the fact that the artist’s work is well represented throughout Florida – including in Miami-Dade County, the difficulty in siting the artwork due to its large scale, and the ongoing maintenance required. For these reasons, staff said the Arts Advisory Panel is making a recommendation to the Cultural Development Board not to recommend acceptance of the generous donation.

There was a discussion about Ponce Circle Park as a possible location; however, there was a feeling that the size may overwhelm significant artwork proposed within The Plaza. It was also noted that the City already has a number of painted artworks in its collection.

The Board overall expressed liking the piece and the challenge it would be to maintain it due to the material and size. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Pantin to accept the recommendation of the Arts Advisory Panel and not accept the generous donation of the John Henry sculpture titled “Quark”. Ms. Morris seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. NATIONAL ARTS & HUMANITIES MONTH - OCTOBER

The Board was advised that Americans for the Arts has declared October as National Arts & Humanities Month and encourages municipalities to present proclamations to that effect. Staff made a recommendation to request the proclamation along with a brief performance hosted by Sanctuary of the Arts. The Board agreed that it's important to bring attention to the benefit of the arts and show support of organizations presenting arts programs in Coral Gables. With no further discussion, the following motion was made and Board members were encouraged to attend the Commission meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Pantin to recommend declaring October as National Arts & Humanities Month. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

d. ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER NOMINATIONS

The Board was informed of Nelson de León's interest in serving on the Arts Advisory Panel and was provided with his resume. The Board discussed Mr. de León's previous position serving on the Board of Architects and discussed the importance of having diverse professional arts backgrounds represented on the Panel. With no further discussion the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Martinez to recommend appointing Nelson de León to the Arts Advisory Panel. Mr. Pantin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CULTURAL GRANT ITEMS

Ms. Cathers reported on the excellent turnout for the Cultural Grants workshop, noting about 50 (fifty) organization attended with 47 (forty-seven) applicants meeting the eligibility requirement. She stated this as the largest response to date. Board members were reminded of the October 4th Cultural Grant application deadline and that review and scoring is entirely on-line. Ms. Cathers said about a week will be needed to process the applications prior to being available for review.

Dr. Mayorga asked for a list of this year's grantees for Board members to check and report attendance at any events. Ms. Cathers said that this list, as in previous years, will be used to determine matches for the Final Report review and scoring.

Board members were advised to forward offers of complimentary tickets from arts organizations to staff and that staff would then distribute to Board members.

Ms. Spain gave a brief update regarding Area Stage Theater, saying the theater is being planned for demolition within the next two years. The Theater would like to stay in Coral Gables and is currently looking for a new location. Ms. Cathers spoke about the quality productions and inclusion theater project for children.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

a. Public Safety Building

Staff reminded the Board that a new process is being started to procure artwork for the Public Safety Building and that an artist has been invited to speak with Police and Fire professionals for exploratory purposes.

b. Carlos Albert

The Board was advised that the Carlos Albert temporary exhibition was approved by the City Commission on September 10.

c. Sun Stores

The Board was informed that Sun Stories at Giralda Plaza was de-installed due to Hurricane Dorian.

d. Carlos Cruz-Diez

Staff reported the Carlos Cruz-Diez crosswalk agreements went to City Commission with the Commission requesting payment dependent on approval of the Department of Transportation (DOT), and additional clarity regarding warranty of the artwork.

e. Illuminate Coral Gables

Staff reported 40 (forty) applications were received in response to the RFP released by Illuminate Coral Gables for a Director/Curator. Video interviews will be conducted, and two respondents will be invited to visit Coral Gables. Ms. Cathers stated that Mr. Pantin was approached by Illuminate Coral Gables to assist with logistical support and fundraising. Mr. Pantin stated his enthusiasm and maintained that he will remove himself from any decisions regarding Illuminate Coral Gables.

Ms. Morris expressed interest in use of the Allen Morris building for the project. Ms. Cathers said the proposed project flow will start at City Hall, move along Miracle Mile to Salzedo St. and Ponce de Leon, to the Museum, Giralda Plaza, and can include additional participating buildings such as the Allen Morris building. She said sponsorship packages will be developed along with VIP experiences. Ms. Cathers reported that she is attending a summit in early October that specializes on technology and light art, including production companies and artists.

f. Underline

Staff reported meeting with Miami-Dade County and the Department of Transportation regarding public art installations along the Underline. The Board was advised that the Underline is under Federal jurisdiction with complex requirements. Staff passed on the desire to have the Arts Advisory Panel, Cultural Development Board, and City Commission involved in the selection process of artwork that is placed within the Underline.

g. Art Basel

The Board was informed of the Commission's approval of the Rafael Barrios sculpture acquisition and temporary exhibition for Miami Art Week and Art Basel. The exhibition, staff said, will include a month-long exhibition at the Coral Gables Museum. They were informed of the Artist's desire to also install temporary pieces in McBride plaza along with projected shadow pieces.

h. Jean Ward sculptures

Ms. Morris reported that discussions regarding placement of Jean Ward sculptures at Coral Gables High School have currently stalled. The school board, she said, would like two, rather than the three, sculptures. Ms. Morris and Mr. Pantin offered to speak with school officials individually. Ms. Morris discussed the school's design plan, new buildings, and construction to date.

i. Hank Willis Thomas artworks

The Board was advised that Hank Willis Thomas' Speech Bubbles along Miracle Mile were removed due to Hurricane Dorian and will be cleaned and re-installed prior to Miami Art Week. The Board was provided a status update on the artwork benches and advised that a Florida State grant was awarded to promote the artworks.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no discussion items.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

The Board was provided with the Arts Advisory Panel meeting minutes of July 17, 2019.

The Board was reminded of the required Biennial Boards and Committees Ethical Seminar, Friday, September 27 at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Spain informed Board members to contact the City Attorney's Office if they can't make the seminar.

There being no further business, the Cultural Development Board meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dona M. Spain
Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director