

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

April 17, 2019

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the 6th Floor Conference Room, Stephen P. Clark Government Center, and 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida.

<u>Members Present</u> Xavier Cortada, Chairman Alejandro Aguirre Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez Sandra Curbelo Denise Gerson Brian May Janá Sigars-Malina Monty Trainer Justin Trieger	<u>Members Not Present</u> Mitchell Bierman Adolfo Henriques Susana Ibargüen Cheryl Rees Phyllis Simpkins Rosa Sugrañes <u>Others Present:</u> John Copeland Cathy Leff Lia Yaffar-Pena
<u>Staff</u> Michael Spring, Director Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director Kelly Allocco Francine Andersen Roxana Barba Stefania Barigelli Christina Beauvoir Sue Camp Tania Centeno Nicolle Chapman Mary-Margaret Dale Marshall Davis	<u>Staff (continued)</u> Olga Gonzalez Teddy Harrell Liliana Hernandez-Constenla Regla Lee Amanda Sanfilippo Long David Martinez-Delgado Alex Peraza Adriana Perez Katherine Revell Nicolle Ugarriza Pamela Vales Graham Winick

Chairman Xavier Cortada called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Chairman Cortada introduced Ms. Cathy Leff, the Bakehouse Art Complex Executive Director in the Wynwood Arts District. The Bakehouse is a 33,000 square foot arts facility that houses 60 artist studios and two galleries. Ms. Leff presented plans to expand and develop the arts campus to address the need of artist housing and live-work spaces in Miami's urban core. Rezoning of the area is a critical element to redevelop the project.

Motion to support the Bakehouse Arts Complex

A motion was made to support the Bakehouse Arts Complex future plans to redevelop the facility and incorporate artist-housing as part of the complex. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for April 17, 2019

Requests for excused absences for Mitchell Bierman, Adolfo Henriques, Susana Ibargüen, Cheryl Rees and Rosa Sugrañes were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

Approval of March 20, 2019 Minutes

The minutes of the March 20, 2019 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. May; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

FY 2019-2020 Grant Program Panels

The program panels for the Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grant Program, Cultural Development Grant Program, Festivals and Special Events (FEST) Grant Program, Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) Cultural Grant Program and Youth Arts Miami (YAM) Grant Program were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. May; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on the FY 2019-2020 County Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported that there has been internal activity regarding the Department's budget. The Council's Budget Task Force met after the last Council meeting and provided direction regarding the budget. Staff analysis determined that to replicate fiscal year 2006-2007 buying power, the Department would need an additional \$5 million in the arts grants budget. The Mayor's budget recommendations are set to be released in July 2019.

Update on the FY 2019-2020 State Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported the Florida House and Senate have recommended different amounts for the State arts budget. The Florida State House has recommended \$10 million and the Senate has initially recommended over \$21 million. After the Conference Committee, the State arts budget recommendation will be finalized. The State arts budget impacts 143 cultural organizations in Miami-Dade County.

Update on the FY 2019-2020 Federal Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported that the Administration has recommended the elimination of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) for the third consecutive year. Congress has responded in a bipartisan manner and has increased the NEA and NEH budget recommendations to \$155 million each. The NEA administers thousands of arts grants and 40% of the overall funding is directed to State Arts Councils.

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Christina Beauvoir reported that, Culture Shock Miami has redesigned the website and it has become mobile-friendly based on the Culture Shock Student Council's feedback. To date, 2,209 tickets were sold for the *Culture Shock Miami Presents* season, representing 87% of available tickets. The Student Council also created Instagram stories at the performance of *RENT* at the South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center. Working with Matrix Advertising and Beber Silverstein Group, staff implemented media promotional and public relations campaign for the *In To America* play at Miami-Dade County Auditorium on May 10, 2019.

Department Facilities Updates

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Teddy Harrell introduced the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's new Theater Administrator, Nicolle Chapman. He reported that the Spring Arts Workshop and the After-School Arts Classes continue to provide high caliber arts instruction to students at the Center. The Emerging Arts Leaders Initiative featured Mr. Davis as one of the speakers. A video recapped the Sankofa Jazz Festival featuring a day of jazz musicians and food. Renovations and improvements have begun at the Center, including a new roof which should be finalized in one year.

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Mr. Spring reported that after a seven-hour public hearing, the City of Miami's Historic and Environmental Board voted against the County's application, in a 6-4 vote defying the Board's previous vote in support of the application. The County has appealed the decision which will be heard at the City of Miami Commission Meeting on April 25, 2019. Mayor Gimenez plans to attend the hearing at the City of Miami. Coconut Grove business leaders and the Coconut Grove Business Improvement District have both endorsed the project. It is important to note that the funding in place for the project, including the Knight Foundation \$2 million gift, is for this specific project. If the City Commission approves the plan the Department is ready to submit plans to the building Department for permitting.

Art in Public Places Update

Ms. Amanda Sanfilippo Long presented final images of the installation *Cosmic Tree* by Felice Grodin at Senator Villas, a public housing center for seniors. Ms. Sanfilippo also presented conceptual images of a pergola by Edouard Duval-Carrie at the Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center at Oak Grove Park. The IKT – International Association of Curators of Contemporary Art hosted its annual gathering in the U.S. - Miami and Miami Beach - for the first time in the organization's 45-year history on April 11-14, 2019. The Department provided 20 scholarships to local curators to attend the Congress.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Mr. Spring reported that the Council's Green Task Force will meet on May 9, 2019. The Department will coordinate efforts with the County's Office of Resilience that will announce major report on May 30, 2019.
- Mr. Spring noted John Copeland, Director of Cultural Tourism at the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau was present at the meeting. He announced the Bureau has a new quarterly publication to promote the arts and culture abroad.
- The Arts & Business Council of Miami is hosting the Breakfast for the Arts and Hospitality on Monday, May 6th at the Intercontinental Hotel in Miami.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez reported the Art In Public Places project at the Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center is captivating and beautiful.
- Ms. Sigars-Malina is looking forward to working as part of the Green Task Force.
- Mr. Trieger reported that New World Symphony's last Wallcast of the season is April 27, 2019. He reported that the Make Music Miami project will be held on June 21, 2019, when various public and private spaces are turned into a music venue.
- Mr. Aguirre invited the Council to attend Fairchild Botanical Garden's Mango Festival.
- Mr. Trainer reported that Dade County Days held in Tallahassee was a huge success.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liliana Hernandez-Constenla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name being more prominent.

Liliana Hernandez-Constenla