

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (APP) TRUST**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Location

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, Historic Garage, 3250 S Miami Ave, Miami, FL 33129, and
Zoom Online Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Carol Damian, Chairperson
Zammy Migdal, Secretary / Treasurer
Bibi Baloyra
Julio Grabiell
Maggie Hernandez
Mercedes Lopez Cisneros
Kathryn Mikesell
Bernadette Pierre

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

David Fernandez
Sandy Dorsainvil

STAFF

Ashlee Thomas, Deputy Director
Patricia Romeu, APP Chief
Stefania Barigelli
Eduardo Calero
Bianca Gonzalez LoCicero
Yusimy Lara
Ana Meza
Alex Peraza
Pablo Rincon
Amanda Sanfilippo Long
Graham Winick

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Rebecca Delva, APP Apprentice
Gwyneth Monterroso, Office of Chairman
Oliver Gilbert, District 1

Chairperson Carol Damian called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM

APP Chief Patricia Romeu invited attendees to introduce themselves, subsequently acknowledging and welcoming the newest Trust member, Bibi Baloyra, who has been appointed by District 3 Commissioner, Keon Hardemon. The position was previously held by Vice-Chairperson Susan Ackley. Chairperson, Carol Damien, announced that she has been newly appointed by District 6 Commissioner Kevin Cabrera.

Ms. Romeu proceeded by offering a warm welcome to the Department of Cultural Affairs' newly appointed Deputy Director, Ashlee Thomas, and Chief of Administration, Graham Winick and acknowledging Marialaura Leslie as the newly appointed Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs by Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. This was followed by a round of introductions from APP Trust members and staff.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for November 14, 2023, Trust Meeting

Requests for excused absences were submitted by David Fernandez, Cheryl Jacobs, and Asael “Ace” Marrero (Motion by Kathryn Mikesell, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

Approval of October 10, 2023, Trust Meeting Minutes

The Trust minutes of the October 10, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Mikesell, seconded by Julio Gabriel).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-70- *Carola Bravo, South Miami Station Canopy, Professional Artists Services Agreement*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, on October 10, 2023, the Trust unanimously voted to amend the recommendation from the PAC meeting held on September 21, 2023, and to extend the invitation for expedited proposal development services to Miami-based artist Carola Bravo for the new South Miami Metrorail Station Canopy project, which is linked to the VOX Phase II development. In conversations with the VOX developer, the Treo Group, and the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), APP was offered the opportunity to accept an additional contribution from the developer of \$250,000.00 for the design and construction of a new station canopy. In addition to these funds, APP has allocated \$300,000.00 from the Vox II phase to establish a working budget of \$550,000.00 to engage a Miami-based artist with an interdisciplinary background combining both an architectural and fine arts practice to design and build the new station canopy.

Ms. Romeu and APP Curator & Artist Manager Amanda Sanfilippo Long shared the credentials for Miami-based artist Carola Bravo, a trained architect and professional artist, who has the technical capabilities to coordinate and facilitate the completion of this project. In 2017, Carola Bravo worked very closely with APP on the successful implementation of her integrated floor and video artwork at the Royal Caribbean Innovations Lab. APP staff has been working with DTPW and developer Treo Group in a public-private partnership for the VOX mixed-use housing and retail facility project to serve the needs of the growing student population in the area and link residents to public transportation. In conjunction with the first phase of the VOX development, the Trust commissioned Miami-based artist Amanda Keeley to implement a large-scale artist’s design façade treatment to the existing station garage. The combined work of both artists will activate the entire campus of the South Miami Metrorail Station

As presented by Chairperson Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-70 authorizes a proposal contract in substantially the form attached with Hartvest Project, LLC (lead artist Carola Bravo) fixed fee amount of \$5,000.00, for proposal development services for the new South Miami Metrorail Canopy project. This resolution supersedes Trust Resolution APPT No. 23-59.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-70, was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Lopez Cisneros, seconded by Ms. Hernandez).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-71 *Amanda Keeley, VOX-Miami II, Addendum II*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, on November 17, 2020 during a meeting of the PAC, Miami-based artist Amanda Keely was recommended for implementation of her proposal concept using the effect of lenticular illusion and an anamorphic text artwork printed on a metal mesh system to partially obscure the garage infrastructure. On September 14, 2021, the Trust through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 21-56 authorized Addendum I to the artist contract in the amount of \$320,000.00 for fabrication and installation of the final artist's design with the understanding that the implementation of the artwork extending across the two separate sides of the building garage would require additional APP funds to be generated by the future VOX – Phase II development. Delays in the construction of the VOX Phase II allowed the artist the extra time to further refine her project design and identify a local fabricator with production capacity and the know-how to implement the artwork in a durable manner within the budget and timeframe constraints of this phase of development. Ms. Romeu shared the latest design visuals approved by the clients' teams and confirmed that the artist is currently working through mockups to identify the final colors for the artwork. The VOX-Miami Phase II project has now begun, and the APP funding associated with this work has been transferred to the APP Trust account enabling APP to fully fund the artist's complete design for the garage and initiate the fabrication phase of the work.

A discussion ensued among Trust members on the implementation of a lighting feature. APP staff confirmed that the building has existing fill lighting along the facades receiving the artwork and that APP will work with the artist to potentially modify the system to enhance the artwork's night time experience, all within the artwork's current project budget.

As presented by Chairperson Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-71 authorizes Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement with ASK Studio, LLC (lead artist Amanda Keeley) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$200,000.00 for additional fabrication and installation services of the artwork project at the VOX-Miami development at the South Miami Metrorail Station.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-71 was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Grabiell).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-72, *Ivan Toth Depeña – ARC at Aventura Library / Restoration Contract*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, In November of 2015, artist Ivan Toth Depeña completed *ARC*, a monumental sculpture commemorating the rebirth of a state-of-the-art Northeast Regional Library 10 years after its destruction by Hurricane Wilma in 2005. *ARC*'s abstract form was derived by plotting the data from actual wind pattern, speeds, and duration that destroyed this library facility. The sculptural form rising proudly over the edge of a new retention pond was enhanced with a dynamic light-based component that reacted to the constant changes of wind pattern and speeds. Once completed, *ARC* became an everchanging beacon of light and color and a significant landmark to the newly built library in

the City of Aventura. Over the years, constant exposure to the elements and the library's proximity to a marine environment have damaged the technology-based components installed on the sculpture's foundation. A preliminary condition assessment performed by APP staff confirmed that none of the LED color fixtures are working and that the sculpture as well as its foundation are in urgent need of deep cleaning. Library staff has also confirmed that during heavy rains water levels in the retention pond have been significantly higher than originally planned, resulting in the sculpture's foundation being several times under water. The original budget for this artwork in 2014 was \$200,000.00.

In March 2023, the Trust authorized a proposal contract with the artist to perform a complete condition assessment and develop a conservation and repair plan. In consideration of the site's challenging working conditions and the needs for the proposed repairs to reuse as much of the existing underground infrastructure, APP staff recommends that the artwork restoration be performed in two separate phases to allow the artist and his team to properly redesign the technology-based portion of the work and ensure that the proposed repairs and equipment can withstand the natural and harsh conditions of the site. APP staff recommended engaging with the artist to negotiate the most robust solution within a not to exceed budget of \$115,000.00.

A discussion ensued between Trust Members regarding concerns of pursuing the repair and restoration of the artwork at its current location, given that all the artwork's light-based components are installed on the concrete platform just three (3) feet above the retention pond. It was noted that given the site conditions, including vegetation and fluctuating water levels surrounding the sculpture, a solution may include elevating the platform to avoid future water rising, or consider relocating the artwork outside of the pond. Based on Trust feedback, APP staff suggested expanding the artist's proposal services to include a site assessment for the relocation of the artwork within the grounds of the Aventura Library. The Trust approved an additional expenditure in the amount of \$2,500.00 for this purpose.

As presented by Chairperson Carol Damian, Trust Resolution APPT No. 23-72 authorizes a Proposal Contract with Airboat, Inc. (lead artist Ivan Toth Depeña) in the amount of \$2,500.00 for proposal development services of the APP Collection artwork *ARC* at the Northeast Regional Library in Aventura.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-72, as amended, was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Lopez Cisneros)

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-73, Philip Stewart / Proposal Contract for Restoration Services

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia, Romeu, in 1986, the Art in Public Places Trust received a generous donation from the Lannan Foundation of (12) twelve 20th Century sculptures by prominent American artists. In 1993, a loan agreement was approved between the Trust and

the Board of Trustees for the Miami Dade Community College for the immediate siting of (8) eight of the sculptures in the college grounds at the Wolfson Campus. The agreement stated that the works on loan would remain property of Miami-Dade Art in Public Places and that costs associated with the initial placement, installation, transportation of the sculptures, and regular maintenance and cleaning, would be the college's responsibility. The agreement also stated that costs associated with the restoration, repair, and conservation of these sculptures would be the responsibility of the Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Trust.

In the summer of 2023, Miami Dade College contacted APP staff regarding one of the sculptures in the collection, *Double City Boots*, by American contemporary sculptor Kenneth Snelson. The sculpture, currently sited in a covered breezeway in Building 2 of the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus, has sustained visible corrosion damage compromising the structural integrity of the work and posing a safety concern to the public traversing through this busy area. In performance of its due diligence, APP staff learned that Philip Stewart has been designated by the artist's estate to handle all restoration and maintenance projects for Kenneth Snelson's sculptures.

APP staff recommends engaging with the artist's designee as a consultant, to prepare an accurate proposal for the restoration of the work. As part of this process, the consultant will hire an independent appraiser to perform a valuation assessment to ascertain the current value of the artwork in comparison to the cost of restoration and or reproduction.

A discussion ensued among Trust members regarding the protection of the work should it be relocated to an exterior area and suggested considering a new location for the work at the Miami-Dade College Hialeah Campus.

As presented by Chairperson Carol Damian, Trust Resolution APPT No. 23-73 authorizes a proposal contract with Pinwheel, Corp. (lead artist's consultant Philip Stewart) in the amount of \$3,500.00 for proposal development of restoration services for the APP Collection artwork *Double City Boots* by Kenneth Snelson located at the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus in Downtown Miami.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-73 was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Mikesell, seconded by Ms. Hernandez).

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Program Updates

Sunset Review, 2023

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, presented the 2023 Sunset Review report. The report is compiled every two years and highlights the accomplishments of the Art in Public Places program to the Board of County Commissioners, where it is

presented as an agenda item. The Sunset Review requires a vote from the Trust members on the continuation of the board in conjunction with the submission of the report.

The motion was approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Mikesell).

Project Updates

New Website Launch

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, shared updates on the launch of the new APP website and presented visuals. It is anticipated that the new website will be launched after Miami Art Week.

Trust Member Orientation

APP staff will be hosting a new Trust member orientation meeting and invite all Trust members to attend for a refresher on by-laws and guidelines.

Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Meetings

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, confirmed the upcoming PAC meeting on November 16th to review final artist presentations for the Block 45 / Atlantic Station being developed by Atlantic Pacific Communities with the Department of Transportation and Public Works and encouraged Trust Members to attend.

Miami Art Week

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, shared information for Art in Public Places' tour in conjunction with Art Basel Miami Beach, noting that each year the organization invites APP to share a tour as part of its official event program. This year the tour will take place at PortMiami, Terminal F (Carnival Cruises), for the public art reveal of the new commissions by Aaron Curry, Robert Chambers, Mette Tommerup, and Juana Valdes, and the relocation of Lydia Rubio's work. Ms. Sanfilippo stated that Juana Valdes will be presenting a talk at the Art Basel Miami Beach Conversations series, where she will discuss her work, her projects with Art in Public Places, and acknowledge the program's 50th year anniversary.

Collection Updates

John T. Young: *The Fin Project: From Swords to Plowshares*

APP Program Coordinator, Bianca Gonzalez LoCicero, shared a visual presentation of a major restoration of APP Collection artwork, *The Fins Project: From Swords to Plowshares* by John T. Young. Ms. LoCicero shared a current image of the artwork at the park, noting significant changes to the site over the years, leading to the initiation of the restoration of the artwork in 2019. The artwork comprises 22 decommissioned nuclear submarine fins dating back to the 1960s. The work was subject to a rigorous repair process which entailed stripping each of the fins to its bare metal layer involving an acid-removal process. APP staff worked in tandem with the artist to ensure the correct paint colors were used to re-apply the paint to

the fins and the proper UV-sealant was applied for added protection from the elements. In addition to the restoration of the fins, the existing bronze plaque commemorating the artwork was restored to its original condition, by the conversation team. APP staff have since installed two signposts at the site and will be placing new signs at the park in different areas that are most visited by the public.

It was noted that former APP Trust Chair, Sandi-Jo Gordon who passed in May of 2023, was an advocate and appreciator of the artwork, and as such was acknowledged on the new signage.

Director's Report

Graham Winick, Chief of Administration, attended the meeting on behalf of the Department of Cultural Affairs Director, Marialaura Leslie. Mr. Winick announced that Mayor Daniella Levine Cava has officially appointed Marialaura Leslie as the Department Director with an effective date of October 31, 2023. This past Tuesday, November 7, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners formalized the new appointment. Mr. Winick introduced Ashlee Thomas, the new Deputy Director for the Department of Cultural Affairs, stating this is Ms. Thomas' first day at the job and first official meeting as Deputy Director. Ms. Thomas spoke briefly about her background in the entrepreneurial space as co-founder of "MUCE" an arts production company, and her active contributions to the cultural community as an arts administrator and educator.

Mr. Winick presented the results of the most recent Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 study that demonstrated Miami-Dade County's arts and culture businesses are a significant economic engine, generating \$2.1 billion in local economic activity and supporting over 30,000 local jobs.

With no further business, the meeting of the Art in Public Places Trust was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Sanfilippo Long, Curator and Artist Manager, Art in Public Places
Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

Bianca González LoCicero, Program Support Coordinator, Art in Public Places
Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs