

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

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Location

Art in Public Places Offices, 111 NW 1st Street, Miami 33128

Zoom online meeting: <https://miamidade.zoom.us/j/85973327311>

MEMBERS PRESENT

Carol Damian, Chairperson
Sandy Dorsainvil (Online)
Maggie Hernandez
Julio Grabiell
Mercedes Lopez Cisneros
Bernadette Pierre

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

David Fernandez
Asael “Ace” Marrero
Zammy Migdal
Kathryn Mikesell

STAFF

Ashlee K. Thomas, CUA Deputy Director
Patricia Romeu, APP Chief
Eduardo Calero
Bianca Gonzalez LoCicero
Yusimy Lara (Online)
Alex Peraza
Pablo Rincon
Amanda Sanfilippo Long
Graham Winick

OTHERS PRESENT

Gendry Sherer, MDAD
Kem Chatfield, Intern, Office at the Mayor

Chairperson Carol Damian called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

A warm welcome was given to Kem Chatfield, an intern with the Office of the Mayor, and JD Candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chatfield is visiting different departments under Chief Cathy Burgos’ portfolio.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for July 9, 2024, Trust Meeting

Requests for excused absences were submitted by David Fernandez, Asael “Ace” Marrero, Zammy Midgal, and Kathryn Mikesell (Motion by Mercedes Lopez Cisneros, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

Approval of June 12, 2024, Trust Meeting Minutes

The Trust minutes of the June 12, 2024, meeting were approved unanimously (Motion by Mercedes Lopez Cisneros, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

Approval of June 20-21, 2024, Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Minutes

(British Airways at MIA Artist Presentations & Deaccession of Años Continuous by Maria Martinez Canas)

The PAC minutes of the June 20-21, 2024, meeting were approved unanimously (Motion by Julio Grabiell, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-40 *Jessy Nite, British Airways Lounge at MIA, Professional Artist Services Agreement*

As presented by APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, a meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on June 20 & 21, 2024 to review the proposal concepts from a group of seven (7) Miami-based artists shortlisted from an Invitational Call to Artists for interior works for the new British Airways Lounge at the Miami International Airport. Opportunities for public art included installation or wall-based artworks, stand-alone sculpture or suspended artworks intended for placement at a large, glazed area facing the airfield, text-based artwork(s) to activate “Look up” moments at key locations such as three (3) custom planters proposed for the casual and formal dining rooms, and a floor mosaic at the entrance to the lounge.

After thoughtful deliberation and feedback from the client and APP teams, the PAC unanimously recommended awarding the commission to Miami-based artist Jessy Nite to fully develop various concepts to create a cohesive installation throughout the lounge. The artist specializes in interactive, experiential, and site-specific installations, often using text, typography, geometry, and illustration techniques to affirm a sense of place. The primary recommendation was to explore Nite’s concept for the “Look Up Planters.” The PAC recommended activating the focal area with a large glass window and a suspended textile work made from durable material, using the artist’s signature and complex hand-knotting techniques. APP staff recommended releasing the full amount of the commission under one single-phase contract. The project is on an accelerated timeline and is expected to open in early 2025.

As presented by Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-40 authorizes a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Jessy Nite, LLC (lead artist Jessica Kennedy) in the amount of \$145,000.00 for design, fabrication, and installation services of the artwork concepts for the new British Airways Lounge Project at Miami International Airport (from Miami-Dade Aviation Department Public Art Trust Funds).

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-40 was approved unanimously (Motion by Maggie Hernandez, seconded by Bernadette Pierre).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-41, Deaccession: Maria Martinez-Cañas, “*Años Continuos*”, 1995

As presented by APP Chief Patricia Romeu, pursuant to the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, Art in Public Places Accession and Deaccession policy, APP staff recommended to the PAC that the integrated APP collection artwork “*Años Continuos*” by Maria Martinez-Cañas be deaccessioned.

Composed of 40 x 40 feet of sandblasted glass panels representing translucent images of maps, travel documents, and cultural symbols, *Años Continuos* created a rich visual collage exploring issues relating to personal history, cultural identity, and the passage of time. The integrated artwork served as part of former Concourse C's exterior glazing system at Miami International Airport.

The recommendation for deaccession is based on the artwork no longer having a suitable site due to site alterations. Years ago, unbeknownst to APP, the Aviation Department (MDAD) modified the former Concourse C area as part of the North Terminal Development Program which unified Terminals A, B, C, and D into the current Terminal D. Upon completion of the North Terminal expansion, the artist brought to APP's attention the misguided reconfiguration of the atrium which negates the artist original design intent. First, the artwork's orientation was reversed to serve as a back wall to a reconfigured restaurant space that now features the artwork's translucent back side with all text and imagery inverted and facing a blank partition wall. Furthermore, the artwork has sustained structural damage to several glass panels, creating a potential safety hazard for airport users. Due to this, and with the planned start of further renovations in this concourse area, APP staff and MIA partners, in conjunction with the artist, recommend the deaccession and removal of this artwork.

As presented by Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-41, Pursuant to Section 2.2 of the Art in Public Places Deaccession Policy, it is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve the deaccession of "*Años Continuos*" by Maria Martinez-Cañas.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-41 was approved unanimously (Motion by Maggie Hernandez, seconded by Mercedes Lopez Cisneros).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-42 *Martha Schwartz / Proposal Contract for Artwork Assessment Services*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, artist Martha Schwartz, in collaboration with design consultants of the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD), completed one of Miami-Dade County's most iconic and recognized integrated works of art "*36th Street Wall.*" The artist creatively used colored glass and sunlight to brighten up the mile-long sound attenuation wall along the NW 36th Street corridor at the northern boundary of Miami International Airport. This wall separates the airport from two nearby neighborhoods and is made of precast concrete panels ranging in height from 20 to 35 feet. The airport as part of the works maintenance plan is responsible for the cleaning of the wall, this includes pressure washing, and maintaining the sound wall. In recent conversation with airport staff and the artist on the maintenance needs of the artwork, APP staff discovered that MDAD and its consultants had copied the design of the wall along a perimeter road section of NW 36th Street. Though the artist at this time is not seeking retribution or pursuing legal action to correct this copyright violation, the artist expressed an interest in performing a condition assessment of the original work and providing the APP staff with an updated maintenance and care plan to ensure the longevity of this important integrated artwork.

The original resolution was initially proposed for a \$5,000 contract, however in discussion among Trust members and APP staff, the Trust recommended increasing the artist's proposal/consulting fee to \$10,000.00 for performance of the recommended services and also

ensuring that the artist executes a formal release for any future claim or pursuit of legal action against Miami-Dade County for the artwork's copyright violation.

As presented by the Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-42 authorizes a proposal contract in substantially the form attached with Martha Schwartz Partners (lead artist Martha Schwartz) in the amount of \$10,000.00 for conservation assessment services for the Art in Public Places Collection Artwork "36th Street Wall" located at the grounds of the Miami International Airport.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-42 was amended and approved unanimously (Motion by Julio Grabiell, seconded by David Fernandez).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-43 *Nancy Rubins – Civil and Probate Courthouse / Addendum I*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, California-based artist Nancy Rubins has completed the design phase for a series of collages for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse. The images feature watercraft and boats and are part of the artist's signature body of work. The collage work creates a visual image of colorful organic blooms of flowers. The imagery is related to the artist's institutionally recognized practice of monumental sculpture. The work's archival quality is achieved by using pigment inks on archival alpha-cellulose paper, which is then cut and collaged onto Arches paper. The finished pieces are then floated in a light wood frame with protective UV plexiglass. Upon completion of the design phase, the artist has been authorized to produce the final collages, which will involve printing, framing, crating, and installing the artwork. Additionally, the artist will be responsible for contributing funds to the designated preparation and finishing of the typical lobby wall. APP staff recommends releasing the remaining commission funds to proceed with the execution of the artwork in preparation for installation by the end of this year.

As presented by Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24- 43 authorizes an Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with 1717 Studio, Inc. (lead artist Nancy Rubin) in the amount of \$126,000.00 for Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse artwork project.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-43 was approved unanimously (Motion by Mercedes Lopez Cisneros, seconded by Bernadette Pierre).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-44 *Octavia Yearwood & Amani Lewis; Grove Central, Addendum I*

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, Miami-based artists Amani Lewis and Octavia Yearwood have completed their final design for their commissions at Grove Central. As part of the design development, the artists and APP staff visited the location to measure the originally selected area under the bus station canopies. After a discussion with the developer, they realized that the area was the least interactive space in the busway. The artists and APP staff identified a more suitable and visible large blank wall flanking the busway behind the Metrorail station. In addition to the blank long wall, the artists were also interested in activating the

underhang of four tall canopy areas. The artists are focusing on the wall and have designed a sculptural wall mural including inspirational phrases in English, Spanish, and Creole to complement the photographic murals to be installed in the bottom side of the canopies to create “selfies” opportunities. The colors of the canopies, murals, and text all work together to create a cohesive and unified look. Staff shared a virtual presentation and physical mock-up for the trust to provide feedback and observations. The APP staff recommends releasing the remaining commission funds for the artists to continue their work on the fabrication and installation of the artwork.

As presented by Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-44 authorizes an Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Team Ohhh, LLC (the artists team of Octavia Yearwood and Amani Lewis) in the fixed fee amount of \$297,500.00 for Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services for the Grove Central artwork project.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-44 was approved unanimously (Motion by Bernadette Pierre, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-45, Carola Bravo, South Miami Station Canopy, Professional Artist Services Agreement

As presented by APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, Miami-based artist Carola Bravo was invited to create a new design for the canopy connecting the South Miami Metrorail Station and the adjoining parking garage. Mrs. Bravo developed a concept that combines metal panels and a truss-like structure to form a sculptural canopy, enhanced with LED linear lights. In addition to the canopy, the artist proposes to compliment the surrounding hardscape by creating a floor pattern that mimics the geometric shapes projected in the canopy’s underside. APP shared the artist's presentation from her proposal development for review and ensure the acceptance of the direction of her artwork with the developer and client teams. The design includes the hardscape, canopy, and underside. The LED lights will be waterproof and programmable. The DTPW client team and developers approached APP with the request to expand the scope of the canopy, and has provided additional funding to achieve this.

As presented by Chairperson, Carol Damian, Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-45 authorizes a Professional Artist Services agreement in substantially the form attached with Hartvest Projects, LLC (lead artist Carola Bravo) in the fixed fee amount of \$550,000.00 for the design, fabrication, and installation of the new South Miami Metrorail Canopy project.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-45 was approved unanimously (Motion by Julio Grabiell, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Program Updates

Trust Luncheons

APP Chief Patricia Romeu inquired with the Trust whether they would like to resume the luncheons during the Trust meetings. The members agreed to reinstate the monthly luncheons. APP staff will invoice Trust members at the next scheduled meeting to resume monthly lunches starting in September.

50th Anniversary: Artist Workshop

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long shared a presentation of the recent APP Artist Roadmap Workshop that took place on Friday, June 21 at the Moss Center for the Performing Arts from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

Ms. Sanfilippo Long also shared details on the upcoming Artist Workshop on August 22nd at the Marshall L. Davis African Heritage Cultural Arts Center and further plans for a Workshop to take place at the Father Gerard Gean Juste Community Center at Oak Grove Park in North Miami.

Art in Public Places Exhibition

APP staff is collaborating with The Miami International Airport Fine Art Galleries team to exhibit Art in Public Places artworks spanning over five decades. The exhibition is set to take place in Fall 2024. The exhibition is co-curated by Amanda Sanfilippo Long and Gendry Sherer.

Art in Public Places Tours / Port of Miami

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long shared the details for the upcoming public art tour at the Port of Miami on the evening of July 25th from 6 pm – 9 pm. This major tour, as part of the 50 year celebrations of the program, would include visits to Terminal A, B, and V, and bring attention to artworks on the Port's grounds, including the 2014 completed commission "The Bollard Project" by Rhode Island-based artist Jim Drain located between Terminal C through G, and in-progress artwork by Los Angeles-based artist Shinique Smith At Garage K. APP staff encourages the Trust to RSVP to receive a detailed agenda and itinerary for the evening.

Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Meetings

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, shared dates for upcoming PAC meetings on July 18th for the shortlist of the Key Biscayne Branch Library.

New Calls to Artists

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long announced (2) new Open Calls to Artists one for the Wellspring Apartments and the other for PS MIA, at the former PanAm Headquarters building at the Miami International Airport.

Royal Caribbean Headquarters

APP Chief, Patricia Romeu, announced the Royal Caribbean Headquarters project is back online. APP staff has reinitiated the collaboration with the Seaport and the Royal Caribbean Group's new executive team to reassess the locations and opportunities for public art in conjunction with artists recommended by the Trust back in late 2019 for development of their winning proposal concepts.

Collection Updates

Restoration: Jefre Manuel, “Blue Beacons”

APP Program Coordinator Bianca Gonzalez LoCicero shared the recent maintenance and conservation efforts carried out this summer on collection artworks. Ms. Gonzalez LoCicero noted that the APP Collections team conducts numerous site verifications and assessments each year to identify artworks that require maintenance, conservation, and signage. During assessment of the artwork “Blue Beacons” by Jefre Manuel at the Northside Police Station, it was observed that the hardware connecting the stainless-steel panels was loose or missing. Additionally, some of the LED lights were defective and there was mild rust formation on the panels. We engaged our specialized vendors to carry out these repairs and restore the work to its original condition.

Restoration: Fred Eversley, “Parabolic Flight”

Ms. Gonzalez LoCicero reported that APP artwork “Parabolic Flight” by Fred Eversley, required new LED lights. The original company that supplied the lights was contacted to provide a new cost estimate. The original vendors who performed the restoration and installation of the artwork were hired to carry out the necessary repairs. These repairs included installing new LED lights, a new acrylic panel to cover the lights and a new light sensor for controlling the electrical panel located near the artwork. APP Collection team members were present on-site during the conservation of each artwork to ensure quality control and efficiency. The restoration was successful and is now complete.

In addition, Ms. Gonzalez LoCicero noted that to date, APP has produced over 160 signs for the collection for both old and new works. The Collection team continues to carry out the pre- and post-production of signage throughout the County.

Director’s Report

Deputy Director Ashlee Thomas thanked the trust for their commitment to the program and noted that together with APP staff, they will identify potential new trust member candidates to fill the vacancies on the board.

Chief of Administration, Graham Winick, reiterated that sources of income are due for Trust members this month.

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