

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

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

**Location**

Vizcaya Village Garage, 3250 S Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33130

In-person and Zoom online meeting

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Susan Ackley, Vice Chairperson  
Carol Damian, Secretary / Treasurer  
Julio Grabiell  
Maggie Hernandez  
Cheryl Jacobs  
Mercedes Lopez Cisneros  
Ace Marrero  
Zammy Migdal  
Kathryn Mikesell  
Bernadette Pierre (online)

**STAFF**

Michael Spring, Director, Department of  
Cultural Affairs  
Patricia Romeu, APP Chief  
Stefania Barigelli  
Bianca Gonzalez LoCicero  
Yusimy Lara, APP Temp  
Ana Meza  
Alex Peraza  
Pablo Rincon  
Amanda Sanfilippo Long

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Sandy Dorsainvil  
David Fernandez

Vice-Chairperson Susan Ackley called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM.

The Trust respectfully acknowledged the passing of Sandi-Jo Gordon and her outstanding service as APP Trust Chair since 2014.

**ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**Requests for Excused Absences for May 9, 2023 Trust Meeting**

Requests for excused absences were submitted by Sandy Dorsainvil and David Fernandez (Motion by Cheryl Jacobs, seconded by Julio Grabiell).

**Approval of April 11, 2023 Trust Meeting Minutes**

The Trust minutes of the April 11, 2023, meeting were approved unanimously (Motion by Carol Damian, seconded by Kathryn Mikesell).

**Approval of April 20, 2023 Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Minutes –  
Gallery at West Brickell Artist Presentations**

The minutes of the April 20, 2023 PAC meeting were approved unanimously (Motion by Ms. Damian, seconded by Maggie Hernandez).

**Approval of April 26, 2023 Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Minutes – International Flight Center Artist Presentations**

The minutes of the April 26, 2023 PAC meeting were approved unanimously (Motion by Mercedes Lopez Cisneros, seconded by Ms. Mikesell).

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-28** *Vickie Pierre – Gallery at West Brickell / Professional Artist Services Agreement*

As presented by APP Program Chief, Patricia Romeu, a meeting of the PAC was held on April 20, 2023 to review design proposals from three (3) invited artists for a garage façade opportunity at Gallery at West Brickell, a new mixed-use housing development project by Related Urban in partnership with Miami-Dade Department of Housing and Community Development (PHCD). The first phase of this development involves the construction of the stand-alone garage featuring a structural and fabric screen system envisioned to be implemented as public art, with an estimated completion May of 2024. The second phase of public art will be implemented at a later time through a future open Call to Artists.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, the PAC unanimously recommended the commissioning of Vero Beach, FL-based artist Vickie Pierre to pursue the development of her proposal concept “Spark Splash!”. The imagery, reminiscent of flower blooms or sparkler arrays, is derived from the artist’s painting practice, featuring imagery from her series *Poupées in the Bush*. The APP allocation of \$350,000.00 for this portion of the public art program at Gallery at West Brickell will cover all expenses related to the artist’s development and implementation of the various components of the artwork including any additional costs in terms of materials, services, and warranty necessary to maximize the lifespan of the work and ensure the integration of the artwork in compliance with the development’s construction schedule.

The PAC additionally recommended artist Carola Bravo as Alternate should artist Vickie Pierre be unable to pursue the commission as envisioned.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-28 authorizes a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Vickie Pierre in the amount of \$70,000.00 for Phase I - Design Services for the garage façade artwork at the Gallery at West Brickell development project.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-28 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Mikesell, seconded by Ms. Hernandez)

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-29** *Regina Jestrow – International Flight Center at Miami Executive Airport / Professional Artist Services Agreement*

As presented by APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, a meeting of the PAC was held on April 26, 2023 to review design proposals from a group of six (6) artists invited to propose for the new International Flight Center, a facility for private business travel at the Miami Executive Airport. The facility's main purpose is to provide chartering and flight services for private business air travel. Opportunities for public art included a large-scale two-dimensional application to a prominent double height interior wall, as well as two-dimensional artworks for a smaller scale area within a conference room. It is envisioned that commissioned or acquired artworks would complement the overall facility's contemporary and mid-century modern interior design to create a warm and inviting experience for visitors.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, the PAC unanimously recommended the acquisition or commission of artwork(s) from Miami-based artist Regina Jestrow featuring organically shaped geometric quilts incorporating found and hand-dyed textiles. Of the \$50,000.00 dedicated for commissioning public art at this new facility, APP staff recommends \$12,500.00 for the artwork acquisition.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-29 authorizes a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Regina Jestrow in the fixed fee amount of \$12,500.00 for the International Flight Center at the Miami Executive Airport.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-29 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Lopez Cisneros)

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-30** *Labas Inc. (Lead artist Nicolas Gilmore) – International Flight Center / Professional Artist Services Agreement*

A meeting of the PAC was held on April 26, 2023 to review design proposals from a group of six (6) artists invited to propose for the new International Flight Center, a fixed base operator facility (FBO) at the Miami Executive Airport.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, the PAC unanimously recommended Miami-based artist Nicolas Gilmore to create a site-specific installation from his "Frame Out" series featuring reclaimed wood planks, and / or to acquire existing works on paper and sculptures that relate to his interest in the materiality of the pine rocklands of the Everglades National Park. Of the \$50,000.00 dedicated for commissioning public art at this new facility, APP staff recommends \$12,500.00 for the artwork acquisition.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-30 authorizes a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Labas Inc. (Lead artist Nicolas Gilmore) in the fixed fee amount of \$12,500.00 for the International Flight Center at the Miami Executive Airport.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-30 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Damian, seconded by Ms. Jacobs)

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-31** Robert Thiele – International Flight Center / Professional Artist Services Agreement

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on April 26, 2023 to review design proposals from a group of six (6) artists invited to propose for the new International Flight Center, a fixed base operator facility (FBO) at the Miami Executive Airport.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, the PAC unanimously recommended the acquisition of artwork(s) from Miami-based artist Robert Thiele from among his sculptural wall-based works referred to as “wall constructions,” featuring simple geometric forms created from mixed media, often using depth and layering of translucent materials to challenge viewers’ perceptions. The PAC recommended that APP staff work collaboratively with the artist and client team to select the artwork(s) for acquisition and determine their placement. Of the \$50,000.00 dedicated for commissioning public art at this new facility APP staff recommends \$25,000.00 for the artwork acquisition.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-31 authorizes a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Robert Thiele in the fixed fee amount of \$25,000.00 for the International Flight Center at the Miami Executive Airport.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-31 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Jacobs, seconded by Ace Marrero)

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-32** *Paramedia, LLC - South Dade Transitway Corridor / Addendum II*

As presented by APP Program Chief Patricia Romeu, on May 10, 2022 through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 22-20, the Trust authorized a Professional Artist Services Agreement with Paramedia, LLC (lead artist Erwin Redl) in the initial amount of \$45,000.00 for design development of his proposal concept for a light-based artwork installation in one or more typical BRT stations along the South Dade Transitway Corridor project.

In discussion with the artist and DTPW, APP was successful in negotiating the expansion of the approved design concept to two additional BRT stations (for a total of three (3) stations) with completion dates that still allow for the modification in the glazing system to fully integrate the artist’s color glass modules. The selection of the new stations was

based not only on the flexibility of their completion schedules but also on ridership volume and visual prominence of these stations' locations from vehicular traffic on US1. The additional BRT stations are located at SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Allapattah Road) and SW 244<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Coconut Palm Drive).

In reviewing the artist's expanded project budget, APP finds the additional artwork cost of \$120,000.00 per station to be of significant value to the program given that the combined artwork expenditure across all three (3) stations is 40% less than the commission value for a single station. APP proposes to fund this budget increase of \$240,000.00 with unencumbered funds from the DTPW- APP pool of funds generated by small capital improvement projects completed by the department over the last 5 years.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-32 authorizes Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement with Paramedia, LLC (lead artist Erwin Redl) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$240,000.00 for additional fabrication and installation services for the light-based artwork project at three (3) BRT stations along the South Dade Transitway Corridor.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-32 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Grabiell, seconded by Ms. Lopez Cisneros)

**Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-33** *Duality* by Hank Willis Thomas, Accession of Artwork Donation

As presented by APP Curator and Artist Manager Amanda Sanfilippo Long, a meeting of the PAC was held on September 27, 2022, for the purpose of reviewing a donation of artwork by Brooklyn, NY-based, artist Hank Willis Thomas from The Underline, Miami's unique 10-mile linear park and urban trail overseen by Friends of the Underline, a nonprofit organization. Friends of The Underline, in partnership with Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), is engaged in the construction and maintenance of the linear park below the Miami-Dade Metrorail designed by James Corner Field Operations.

On October 11, 2022, the Art in Public Places Trust approved the PAC meeting minutes and recommendation to accept the artwork donation contingent on APP staff working with The Underline (the donor) to develop an installation and maintenance plan that would ensure the long-term care and integrity of the work in compliance with APP's standard maintenance and conservation practices.

Artwork information:

Hank Willis Thomas

*Duality, 2022*

Patina bronze 96 x 32 x 24 inches (without base)

The artwork by NY-based artist Hank Willis Thomas depicts a human hand and arm with two fingers pointed up in a “peace sign,” a universal call to “loving action” to inspire mutual understanding and positive solutions. The stand-alone bronze sculpture, with approximate dimensions of 96 x 32 x 24 inches, required the design and fabrication of a base to secure and protect the work in its permanent location. In addition to the artwork donation, The Underline, with funds received from the donor, will cover all costs associated with the shipping, handling, and installation of the artwork at a designated location in Phase I of The Underline’s 10-mile linear park. The artwork donation was made possible with gifts to The Underline from Debi and Jeffrey Wechsler, the Braman Family Foundation, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, APP staff will oversee the installation of the artwork by a qualified local art handler in partnership with The Underline at the “River Room,” the designated location approved by all parties (DTPW, APP, and The Underline) next to the Miami River.

Per procedures outlined in the County’s Administrative Order 1-3 for Gifts to the County, under Donations of Art and Architectural Objects, and the Art in Public Places Accession Policy, APP staff and representatives of the Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) have reviewed and have found satisfactory the proposed installation and maintenance plan for the artwork, developed by The Underline in collaboration with the artist’s team.

The Underline, as donors of the work, are responsible for developing and funding the artist’s approved installation plan while the Art in Public Places Trust as recipient of the donation is responsible for the long-term care of the artwork. APP staff will include the donated artwork in the APP Collection Maintenance Log to ensure the regular monitoring and condition assessment of the artwork in coordination with The Underline team. Needs for specialized care and or repair would be paid with APP Repair and Restoration Funds and implemented through APP’s Miscellaneous Contract for Conservation and Maintenance Services.

As presented by Vice Chair Susan Ackley, Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-33 authorizes accessioning the artwork *Duality* by Hank Willis Thomas into the Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Collection.

The motion to adopt Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-33 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Mikesell, seconded by Ms. Hernandez)

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Program Updates**

#### **New Projects: Casa Familia, Ronald McDonald House, Vox Phase II**

APP Program Chief Patricia Romeu announced upcoming projects:

**The Village of Casa Familia** is a project of the Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD). Situated near downtown Miami, The Village of Casa Familia is the 1st phase of a multiphase development planned on the site. This 1st phase is comprised of 50 units in two 3-story buildings and an 11,000 square foot community center. The development will serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities that affect social and cognitive areas such as language, communication, learning, self-care, mobility, interpretation of social cues, and independent living; Autism, Downs Syndrome, Prader Willis, and Cerebral Palsy. This project will generate \$250,000 in public art dollars.

**The Ronald McDonald House** is a project of the Jackson Health System located in the main campus near downtown Miami. This small-scale project is intended to support and house families that need to be in close proximity to the hospital. The project budget will generate \$125,000 in public art dollars.

**Vox Phase II** is a project with the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), a transit-oriented development along US-1 of which APP has a commission in process for Phase I for a garage screening. The Vox Phase II project incorporates the fabrication of a new canopy for the facility. Construction has started, and the public art allocation is \$500,000.

### **PAC Meetings**

APP Curator and Artist Manager, Amanda Sanfilippo Long, announced an upcoming PAC meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for public housing projects Paseo del Rio and Brisas del Este - Phase I. These projects were both invitational Calls to Artists selected by Amanda Sanfilippo Long and Patricia Hanna, Curator at Related Urban and Espacio 23. The PAC meeting will also include a proposal by Maria Martinez-Cañas for a new commission at Miami International Airport, and a donation recommendation of the work of Berlin-based artist Jeppe Hein.

### **Project Updates**

APP Program Chief, Patricia Romeu and APP Project Manager, Stefania Barigelli reported that all public art commissions for Gallery on the River, a PHCD housing facility along the Miami River, are now complete. Miami-based artist Franky Cruz's work "Between Destiny and a Hard Place," was the final work, joining commissions by Anastasia Samoylova, Molly Aubry, and Luis Gispert. APP will present a visual presentation of the commissions at the next APP meeting.

### **Collection Updates**

Ms. Romeu shared that the website development is underway. Ms. Sanfilippo Long noted requests have been made for headshots and biographies from APP staff, Trust, and PAC to include on the new website.

Ms. Romeu noted APP staff is undertaking a special effort to identify every artwork in the collection by conducting field assessments to visit artworks throughout the County and provide verification on their condition and recommendation for restoration and or deaccession which will be brought forth to the Trust.

Ms. Romeu noted construction of the Cultural Affairs offices are anticipated to be completed by the end of Summer 2023.

### **Director's Report**

Michael Spring, Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, announced the opening reception of the South Florida Cultural Consortium exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The exhibition will be on view through October 2023.

To respectfully acknowledge the late APP Trust Chair, Sandi-Jo Gordon, and her years of dedication and service to the Trust, Mr. Spring suggested that the APP Trust consider an acquisition of artwork in her name or association of an existing artwork in the collection. APP staff will provide updates to the Trust at future meetings.

Mr. Spring reported that with the passing of Sandi-Jo, the Trust must hold elections for officers, including Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary / Treasurer, and two-at large members. These five individuals comprise the Art in Public Places Trust Executive Committee. Elections will take place at the June meeting, and nominations may be made via email as well as during the meeting.

Mr. Spring reported an update regarding the Coconut Grove Playhouse, stating there has been a new appeal submitted to the Circuit Court. The appeal has resulted in delaying the project once again.

### **Trust Member Discussions & Reports**

APP Vice-Chair, Susan Ackley, commented on APP 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, noting her willingness to form a committee for the planning and execution of tours and celebration activities, and encouraged other Trust committee members to join. APP Trust Member Cheryl Jacobs indicated her interest in participating.

APP Trust member Kathryn Mikesell announced that the Fountainhead, the nonprofit organization she is affiliated with, will present an "Artists Open" event featuring access to open studios of artists across the county on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 6 pm. Ms. Mikesell also presented a new publication which highlights the Fountainhead's 2022 artist-in-residence program, for inclusion in the APP library.

APP Trust member Cheryl Jacobs shared upcoming news of an event "Open House Miami" an international festival for architecture being hosted by the Miami Center for



Architecture and Design on March 1 and 2, 2024. Ms. Jacobs proposed scheduling a tour of the APP collection in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

With no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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