



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
PUBLIC ART & PLACEMAKING ADVISORY BOARD
FORT LAUDERDALE FIRE STATION
THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
528 NW 2ND STREET, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
APRIL 5, 2024 – 1:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS

Sarah Glass, Chair	—	P
Martha Steinkamp, Vice Chair		P
Phoenix Marks		P
Andrew Martineau		A
Gregory Reed		A
Robyn Vegas		A
Elisabeth Wennberg		P

As of this date, there are 7 appointed members to the Board, which means 4 would constitute a quorum.

Staff Present

Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer, Staff Liaison
K. Cruitt, Recording Clerk, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to the City Commission

None.

Roll Call

Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. It was noted a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes – 3/18/24

Approval of the March 18, 2024 minutes was tabled until the regular Board meeting of April 15, 2024.

1. Welcome

The following Item was taken out of order on the Agenda.

3. Laird Estate Donation: Manolo Valdes

Mr. Carden explained that today's meeting was called at the request of the Laird Estate, as its business is time-sensitive. Appropriate notice was provided to the public.

The two Items on today's Agenda are prospective donations to the City from the Laird Estate, which the Estate's advisors would like the Board to consider. Mr. Carden showed slides of the Manolo Valdes sculpture *Cabeza con Tocado Bombacaceas Grandes*, which is constructed of distressed aluminum.

Bonnie Bartlett, representing the Laird Estate, advised that the work is being considered for placement in Huizenga Park. The Estate has met with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), which is receptive to the proposed donation.

Mr. Carden stated that the park space consists of City-owned land which is leased to the DDA on a long-term basis. The Huizenga Park Foundation oversees the park's programming and renovation.

Vice Chair Steinkamp recalled that after the first two pieces of artwork were brought before the Board by the Laird Trust, she had understood a process would be followed for the approval of artwork. She expressed concern that this lack of process could set an unwanted precedent.

Mr. Carden explained that in the case of City-funded projects, the Board's process has been followed; however, the work presented today is a donation from a private entity. Vice Chair Steinkamp stated that she felt the Board should consider how their process is addressed in the future.

It was noted that there is some urgency to today's discussion, as there are other prospective purchasers of the artwork who may move forward if the Laird Estate does not make the purchase. Mr. Carden advised that in the case of the Valdes piece, the DDA has already been asked to approve the work, as they are the entity that holds the long-term lease on the land.

Motion made by Ms. Marks, seconded by Vice Chair Steinkamp, that we accept the piece. [The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.]

2. Laird Estate Donation: Jaume Plensa

Mr. Carden showed slides of a sculpture by artist Jaume Plensa, which is also a proposed donation by the Laird Estate. The work is constructed from Carrera marble and would be placed on the south side of Tunnel Top Park.

Motion made by Vice Chair Steinkamp, seconded by Ms. Marks, that we accept the sculpture. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

4. New Business / Board Comments

The Board members briefly discussed the progress made toward Tunnel Top Park, which will be home to two of the sculptures donated by the Laird Estate.

5. Communications to the Commission

None.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]