



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC ART & PLACEMAKING ADVISORY BOARD
TOWER 101, SUITE 1100
101 NE 3RD AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
MARCH 12, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS

Phoenix Marks, Chair	P
Martha Steinkamp, Vice Chair	A
Jacqueline Garcia-Arteaga	P
Edison Lozada	A
Erica Mohan (via Zoom)	P
Jodi Tanner	P

As of this date, there are 6 appointed members to the Board, which means 4 would constitute a quorum.

Staff Present

Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer, Staff Liaison
Katrina Johnson, Community Services Department Acting Assistant Director
Anna Allman, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Monica Spiterey, Capital Projects Manager

Communication to the City Commission

None.

Chair Marks called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

Roll Call

It was noted a quorum was not present.

Mr. Carden explained that in the absence of a quorum, the Board members in attendance would be able to hear public comments, but would not be able to discuss or vote upon Board business. The meeting will be recorded and minutes will be written. Members attending the meeting via communications technology (Zoom) are not permitted to vote, nor would they be counted toward a quorum.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Board members and Staff in attendance introduced themselves.

2. 13th Street Roundabout Artist Design Packages

Mr. Carden requested that the artists present their design packages at this time, which would be followed by public comment. He reiterated that the Board may not discuss the presentations due to the lack of quorum.

- **Brooks Scarpa Huber**

Larry Scarpa (via Zoom), representing Brooks Scarpa Huber Architects, explained that he is an artist working on the proposed design with the assistance of his architecture firm, which is a local business. The submission is called *Community Connections* and is made from stainless steel tubes which merge together around a post, representing community and diversity. The design can be adjusted to meet the project's budget if necessary.

Mr. Scarpa added that the firm is considering a workshop at which community members may draw on the tubes at the bottom of the sculpture to create a remembrance of ideas and emphasize the community's role in the project.

- **David Landis**

David Landis (via Zoom), artist, showed examples of his previous works installed in other cities. His submission is an abstracted bloom in mirrored stainless steel. He will use marine-quality stainless steel which is appropriate for the South Florida environment. He also showed a second option based on the Three Graces.

- **William Nemitoff – Curious Form**

William Nemitoff (via Zoom), artist, stated that he creates large-scale public art and has his own fabrication shop. He reviewed two proposals, the first of which is entitled *Radiance* and was inspired by the Tekesta people of South Florida. Its colors reflect the diversity and vibrancy of the local community, and panels are internally illuminated at night.

Mr. Nemitoff's second proposal is entitled *Prismatic Petals* and is also inspired by the Tekesta people, as well as by South Florida's tropical climate. Its material is dichroic polycarbonate, which changes color based upon the angle of the sun. Lighting is integrated into the stems of the flowers as well as the flowers themselves.

3. Public Comment

Public comment was opened at this time.

Troy Liggett, president of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, stated that he was disappointed the Board would not conduct public deliberations before the community at tonight's meeting. He emphasized the importance of the artwork having a local connection, and noted that Mr. Scarpa's proposal was the neighborhood's first choice. He requested that the Board consider community residents' wishes when discussing the works at their regular meeting of March 16, 2026.

Mr. Carden explained once more that the Board may not discuss its business in the absence of a quorum. He reviewed the public's preferences as indicated by the survey, which favored the Brooks Scarpa Huber proposal by a slight margin, followed by one of Mr. Nemitoff's designs.

Chair Marks pointed out that the neighborhood survey remains open through March 14, 2026. Deliberations will be held at the regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, March 16, 2026, and public input will be taken into consideration.

Chair Marks also noted that the survey was issued through City Commissioner Steven Glassman's office with the closing date of March 14.

Mr. Liggett asserted that while Commissioner Glassman's office had distributed the survey, he had not prepared it, nor had he set the start and end dates. Mr. Carden advised that the end date of March 14 has been set since the beginning of the survey.

Kevin Furr, private citizen, resident of Middle River Terrace, expressed concern that the project's scale not be overwhelming or easily damaged, as the site is an active traffic circle.

Marco Hernandez, private citizen, resident of Middle River Terrace, expressed disappointment with the meeting's late start.

Nikola Stan, member of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, expressed concern with stainless steel due to the proposed location in the center of the traffic circle. He spoke positively of the Brooks Scarpa Huber sculpture, which he felt symbolizes community.

Gloria Soto Aguilera, private citizen, stated that while she preferred the first work presented, she had questions about its elements, including whether they could distract motorists in the roundabout.

T.J. Fiori, treasurer of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, asked if the Board's decision will be based on responses to the survey, or if the survey will only

provide guidance. Mr. Carden explained that the survey results will inform the Board's decision.

Mr. Fiori continued that he agreed with Mr. Stan's concern regarding the reflective nature of the Brooks Scarpa Huber sculpture in the proposed location. He was in favor of its design celebrating unity and diversity. He also preferred *Prismatic Petals* over *Radiance*.

Chris Casey, private citizen, resident of Middle River Terrace, stated his preference for the Brooks Scarpa Huber work, and also expressed concern with a reflective piece on a heavily traveled roadway.

James LaBrie, president of the Poinsettia Heights Civic Association, requested that the Board take community input into consideration during their deliberations. He felt it was disrespectful that a quorum could not be reached for tonight's meeting. He concluded that his personal choice of the proposed works would be *Prismatic Petals*.

James Lowder (via Zoom), private citizen, expressed concern with potential reflections created by stainless steel. His preference was for the Brooks Scarpa Huber proposal due to the softness of the color. He also spoke in favor of the petal design of another work.

Juan Carlos Guerrero (via Zoom), private citizen, resident of Middle River Terrace, stated that he preferred the Brooks Scarpa Huber work due to its proposed community participation on the design, which would provide a sense of ownership for the neighborhood.

Ramon Suero (via Zoom), private citizen, expressed concern with reflective surfaces on the project, and stated a preference for the work representing flowers. He emphasized the importance of residents' input on the Board's decision.

Colleen Lockwood (via Zoom), private citizen, stated a preference for a local artist, which she felt would be beneficial to the community.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mr. Carden closed public comment.

4. New Business / Board Comments

None.

5. Communications to the Commission

None.

6. Adjournment

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 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.]