

## MINUTES

### BROWARD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Thursday, April 12th, 2007 – 12:00 PM

Main Library – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor – Bienes Ceremonial Room

**PRESENT:** (4<sup>th</sup> Meeting) Anthony Abbate, Chair (p4,a0); Margaret Armand (p3,a1); Bonnie Barnett (p4,a0); Michael Bassichis (p4,a0); Darran Blake (p4,a0); Rose Marie Cossick (p4,a0); Dr. Claire Crawford (p4,a0); Arthur Crispino (p3,a0); Patrick Flynn (p4,a0); Edith Gooden-Thompson (p4,a0); Teresa Hall (p3,a1) Roslyn Kurland (p4,a0); Jack Latona (p4,a0); Anna Toms McDaniel (p4,a0); Richard Simon (p4,a0); Diane Weinbrum (p3,a1); Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin (p2,a2); Benjamin Williams (p2,a2); Pamela Wilson (p4,a0)

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom (p3,a1); Estelle Loewenstein (p2,a2); Beverly Bard Stracher (p2,a2);

**GUEST(S):** Gregory Von Hausch, President, Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLIFF); Hal Axler, Director of Operations, FLIFF

**STAFF:** Mary Becht, Director; Andrea Froome, Assistant County Attorney; Jim Shermer, Grants Manager; Steve Glassman, Arts Education and Community Development Manager; Rowena Nocom, Division Administrative Assistant; Barbra Aleman, Recording Secretary

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Chair Anthony Abbate called the meeting to order and roll was called by Barbra Aleman at 12:11 p.m.

A motion was made by Anna Toms McDaniels, seconded by Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin, *to approve the minutes of the March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 Broward Cultural Council (BCC) Meeting.* The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Claire Crawford pulled items 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1 e and 1f from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Pam Wilson, to approve items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on the Consent Agenda as follows:

*Call to Action Committee's recommendation/report entitled "The Emerging Business of Cultural Tourism in Broward County".*

*Education and Community Development grant panel recommendations from the February 12, 2007 grant panel for FY 2008.*

*ArtServe, Inc. grant application for funding as recommended from the March 15, 2007 Executive Committee meeting in the amount \$103,000 for FY 2008.*

*Grant panel's recommendations for the Mini-Grant Program from the March 8, 2007 Panel meeting, Funding recommendations for grantees will commence May 1, 2007.*

*Approval of 2008 PAD Annual Plan – 1st Draft.*

*Final payment in the amount of \$15,750 to Daniel Corson for the Broward Light Project .*

*Final payment in the amount of \$6,500 to Artist Ritsuko Taho for the Hollywood ArtsPark Project, pending final review of website material by the City.*

*Main Library Video Wall in the amount up to \$20,000.*

*Luis A. Muriel to serve as Community Representative on the Artist Selection Panel for the Hispanic Cultural and Educational Research Center Project.*

The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion followed on pulled items 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d and 1e. A motion was made by Pam Wilson, seconded by Robbie Kurland, to approve items 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d and 1e on the Consent Agenda as follows:

*Deborah Wilkinson, Global Business Development Manager of Broward County Economic Development Office, to the International Task Force Committee, with Devin Avery, Strategic Economic Development Manager of Broward County Economic Development Office, as her alternative.*

*Elizabeth Wentworth of Broward Alliance, to the International Task Force Committee.*

*Al Tucker, Vice President of Multicultural Business Development, of Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, to the International Task Force Committee.*

*Joy Satterlee, Director of Art and Culture Center of Hollywood to the International Task Force Committee.*

*Bharti Chokshi, Program of Association of Performing Arts of India, Inc., to the International Task Force Committee.*

The motion was unanimously approved.

Gregory Von Hausch, President of the Fort Lauderdale Film Festival (FLIFF) gave an overview of the theatre's history, current restorations and projects to promote the Cinema Paradiso Theatre. Mr. Von Hausch stated that the theatre would like to secure corporate sponsorships and thanked Broward County for their support in the past. Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin suggested the school board help promote the theatre to children and to offer programs in Southwest Broward to gain more contributions. Chair Anthony Abbate also recommended that the theatre seek Historical

Preservation designation to secure state grants and seek funding from the Challenge Grant for renovations.

A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Anna Toms McDaniels to *support Vinnacle Carroll Theatre (Cinema Paradiso) in obtaining historical designation*. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion followed on a draft of the Broward Cultural Councils Diversity Statement. A motion was made by Jack Latona, seconded by Edith Gooden-Thompson to *adopt the Broward Cultural Council Statement on Diversity*. The motion was unanimously approved. Edith Gooden-Thompson recommended adding the statement to the grant packages.

Director Mary Becht stated that four (4) items were going to the commission for approval: the Challenge Grant Extension, Grant and PAD Form Agreements, Miramar ArtsPark Extension and the Micro Loan Agreement.

Chair Anthony Abbate reported that grant panels met and recommendations will be announced at the next BCC Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007.

Jody Leshinsky gave a video presentation on how to use the Florida Cultural Alliance CAPWIZ program.

Chair Anthony Abbate announced that Bonnie Barnett and Chris Wren will receive a Leadership Award and the Florida Singing Son Boy Choir will receive the Moretti Award at the Encore Awards Luncheon on May 18, 2007. Mr. Abbate urged all members to attend the event.

Chair Anthony Abbate stated that a letter was sent to Bob Cannon, Director of Libraries, regarding the deplorable restroom facilities at ArtServe/Fort Lauderdale Library.

Chair Anthony Abbate reported that the County will be holding Public Hearings on the budget for 2007 – 2008 and strongly encouraged council members attend hearings and advocate for the need for culture. Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin recommended that council organize speakers and target issues to provide greater impact. Chair Abbate suggested that the Advocacy and Cultural Foundation Committees meet to coordinate dates and individual topics for each Budget Hearings. Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin added that council members should meet with new Commissioners Ken Keechl and Stacy Ritter (as well as all the commissioners) to inform them of the need for Culture in Broward County. Anthony Abbate requested a council member sign up sheet for the commissioner meetings.

Director Mary Becht, Michael Bassichis and Steve Glassman reported on Advocacy Month. While Michael Bassichis reported that it was very positive in Washington, D.C., Steve Glassman reported that in Tallahassee the house is proposing a 70% cut to the culture funding while senate is proposing a 22% cut.

Director Mary Becht stated that Enterprise Florida is preparing a new strategic plan entitled “Roadmap to Florida’s Future” and has removed the references to Art and Culture from the last plan.

Ms. Becht stated the need to get Economic Development agencies to write letters to ask Enterprise Florida to include the Arts and Culture in the new plan.

A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Edith Gooden-Thompson to ask the Broward Alliance to retain original references to Art and Culture on the Enterprise Florida Plan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Mary Becht announced that the ArtServe Events held at the Atlantic and the Hilton hotels were very successful partnerships. Ms. Becht also said the Cultural Diversity Forum had a great turnout, Hollywood ArtsPark Phase One opened on March 16, 2007, a meeting with Grantees regarding the County budget situation was held on March 8, 2007 and that a NEA Grant was filed for the 2020 Community Cultural Plan.

Discussion followed on the Cultural Tourism Committee and report by Mr. George Platt. The consensus was to set aside time at the June Planning Meeting to discuss Cultural Tourism.

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.