



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 140-2007

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: June 11, 2007

SUBJECT: BASS MUSEUM OF ART

As you know, Diane Camber has announced her retirement as Executive Director and Chief Curator of the Bass Museum effective June 29, 2007. Diane's tenure with the Bass Museum spanned 26 years, which included many contributions and accomplishments. Finding a permanent replacement has become the top priority for the Board of Trustees of the Bass Museum.

At the June 7, 2007 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board unanimously endorsed a plan to secure the services of an independent executive search firm who will conduct a national search for a replacement. The process will also include forming an independent search committee comprised of community stakeholders who will serve as direct liaison with the search firm and recommend a short list of candidates to the Board of Trustees. It is contemplated that a search firm will be selected and a search committee formally established at the Board's July meeting.

In the interim, the Board unanimously endorsed the appointment of Gary Farmer, the City's Cultural Affairs Program Manager, to serve as Interim Administrator of the Bass Museum until a permanent replacement is found. Gary has been with the City of Miami Beach since May 2005, managing the City's cultural affairs program. While serving in an interim capacity at the Bass Museum, Gary will continue his responsibilities as Cultural Affairs Program Manager. It is important to note that Gary will not serve in a curatorial capacity at the Bass Museum. The Museum currently has staff that will assume those responsibilities, but will report to Gary who will oversee Museum operations and manage staff. Gary will begin to work with Diane over the next three (3) weeks to ensure a smooth transition that will continue to focus on the Museum's goals and objectives.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

JMG/HMF/MAS

C: Board of Trustees, Bass Museum of Art
Management Team

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