



**City of Coral Gables**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
January 13, 2009

**ITEM TITLE:**

Mr. Sixto Gonzalez and wife Elvira Gonzalez, applicant, have filed an appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision of the Board of Architects at its regular meeting of December 18, 2008, wherein the Board denied Application No. AB 08-12-0828, in connection with the installation of Accordion Shutters on the principal façade of their residence located at 43 Marabella Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida.

**SUMMARY OF APPEAL:**

The Board of Architects denied a request for installation Accordion Shutters on the principal (front) façade of their Residence located at 43 Marabella Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida. This property legally described in Folio Number 03-4105-050-0890.

The applicant is appealing the denial of the following:

Denial of the installation of Accordion Shutters on the front façade of their residence pursuant to Article 5, Division 6, Section 5.601, 5.602 and Section 5.603 of the Coral Gables Zoning Code (sections of the Zoning Code also attached).

**BACKGROUND:**

The Board of Architects reviewed the application and request by Mr. and Mrs. Sixto Gonzalez by a full panel of architects during a regular meeting of the Board on December 18, 2008. This request for Accordion Shutters to be installed over ALL windows of the residence was ultimately rejected by the Board of Architects after various attempts were made by members of the Board to demonstrate that the principal façade of the house could remain more architecturally intact with the installation of impact windows on the principal façade. The Board also made it clear that removable shutters on the front façade (only) would also preserve the integrity of the architecture. As a last resort, the Board suggested approval of the application for installation of Accordion Shutters on the three elevations of the house not facing the street in order to provide some degree of protection for the residence until such time as they could determine which solution they would prefer for the principal facade. The applicant was very reluctant to accept any of these suggestions.

After some additional discussion with the applicant, a vote was taken and the application was rejected with the following members signing the Rejection Stamp (copy attached):

Eddy Llano  
Donald Sackman  
Luis Jauregui  
Burton Hersh

Following the rejection, the applicant was informed of the process to appeal to the City Commission.

