

CORALGABLES HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
 Thursday, April 21, 2016 Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
 City Commission Chambers
 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	APPOINTED BY:
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	
<i>Historical Resources & Cultural Arts</i>													
Janice Thomson*			P	P	A	P	P	E	P#	P	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Venny Torre	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	Vice-Mayor Frank Quesada
Elizabeth Ghia*			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	Comm. Jeannett Slesnick
Alejandro Silva	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Patricia Keon
Alexander Adams*			P	P	P	E	P	P	P#	P	P	P#	Comm. Vince Lago
John Fullerton	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	Board-as-a-Whole
Robert Parsley	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	E	P	P	City Manager
Margaret					E	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	City Commission
Rolando*													
Albert Menendez*					P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	City Commission

LEGEND: A = Absent; P = Present; E = Excused; * = New Member; ^ = Resigned Member; - = No Meeting; # = Late meeting arrival

STAFF:

Dona M. Spain, Historic Preservation Officer
 Kara N. Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
 ElizaBeth Guin, Historic Preservationist
 Miriam S. Ramos, Deputy City Attorney
 Yaneris Figueroa, Assistant City Attorney
 Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant, Historical Resources

GUESTS: Pedro Bravo, Mario Aguilar, Pedro Rodriguez, Rene Onate, Fred Cardoso, Inaki Muguruza, April Sharp, Cesar Molina, Gay Bondurant, Rolando Tapanes, Zeke Guilford, Gil Haddad, Jorge Gonzalez, Jorge Dalmau

RECORDING SECRETARY/PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Torre at 4:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

MINUTES: MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2016:

Mr. Silva made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2016 as presented. Mr. Parsley seconded the motion, unanimously passed by voice vote.

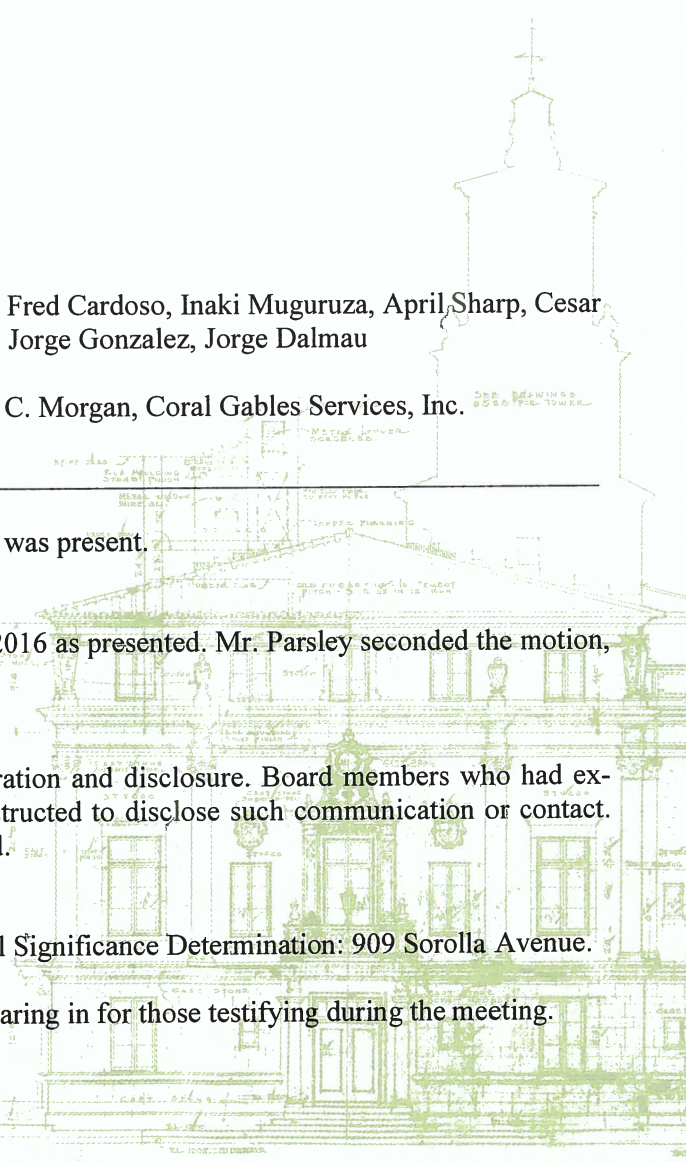
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT and DISCLOSURE OF CONTEXT:

Mr. Torre read for the record the statement regarding lobbyist registration and disclosure. Board members who had ex parte communication or contact regarding cases being heard were instructed to disclose such communication or contact. Board members did not indicate that any such communication occurred.

DEFERRALS:

COA (SP) 2015-021 Continued: 611 North Greenway Drive; Historical Significance Determination: 909 Sorolla Avenue.

PUBLIC SWEARING IN: Nancy Morgan administered the public swearing in for those testifying during the meeting.



LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION:

CASE FILES LHD 2016-04 AND COA (SP) 2016-003:

Consideration of the local historic designation of the property at 723 Camilo Avenue, legally described as Lot 16 and E ½ of Lot 17, Block 124, Coral Gables Country Club Section Part 6, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 20, at Page 1 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The applicant is also requesting the issuance of an Accelerated Special Certificate of Appropriateness and design approval for an addition and alterations to the residence and sitework.

As historic and current photographs were displayed, Ms. Guin described property background information, heavy vegetation issues that were resolved, and reviewed property history, architecture, style, alterations and residents. She concluded her presentation by stating staff's recommendation for approval of local historic designation due to its architectural significance.

After Mr. Torre invited audience comment, Architect Fred Cardoso stated his representation of the owners and relaying that they didn't realize the house was historic when they purchased it. At the conclusion of his remarks, hearing no further requests to comment, Mr. Torre closed the public hearing.

Mr. Fullerton made a motion to approve local historic designation of the property at 723 Camilo Avenue. Ms. Thomson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva. Ms. Thomson, Mr. Torre. Mr. Adams was not present at this time.

Ms. Guin described the applicants' proposal for property restoration and an additions, adding they planned to apply for ad valorem tax relief.

Architect Cardoso presented the owners' proposal for an addition, stating they would comply with all regulations and have already met corrective requirements of the Board of Architects. He comprehensively reviewed plans for restoration, repair, and the addition to the main residence and the outbuilding.

Mr. Adams arrived at 4:28 p.m.

After the conclusion of Mr. Cardoso's presentation, Ms. Rolando and Ms. Thomson clarified details with the architect pertaining to an entrance feature, cabana and garage opening. Mr. Torre invited additional audience input. Hearing no requests to speak, he closed the public hearing.

Mr. Silva pointed out a proposed south elevation discrepancy on the upper left window, stating it was better to match the original configuration of the two casements and recommending that details be worked out with staff. Regarding windows with жалусies, he advised keeping a stucco trim on the side to maintain the same rhythm of the openings, or keeping the cast stone, if possible, and infilling the sides. Regarding new stucco columns connecting the garage to the existing building, Mr. Silva advised studying the capitals and bases to achieve more proportion. Regarding raising the sill of the second floor windows to make the roof work, he suggested consideration of eliminating the stucco trim on the sill to identify it as a revised opening. Ms. Guin pointed out the new small window on the same façade, recommending elimination of that sill as well. Mr. Cardoso agreed to all suggestions.

Mr. Torre closed the public hearing and opened Board discussion.

Ms. Rolando made a motion to approve the design proposal for the existing residence at 723 Camilo Avenue, incorporating concurrence with staff's recommendations; and on architectural sheet A-3, to replicate the original window configuration on the bottom window; on sheet A-4, to either keep the cast stone vertical pieces or replicate them in stucco when two side lines are filled in; on sheet A-5, to revisit the new column capital and bases with

staff; on sheet A-6, to not construct a new sill trim on the masonry openings being adjusted on the second floor; and to approve issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness. Mr. Parsley seconded the motion.

Mr. Fullerton noticed that on the front elevation the applied detail was not shown over the carport entrance and asked if that was to be removed. Mr. Cardoso responded that it would remain as it is. Mr. Fullerton also inquired about front entrance grillwork.

Ms. Rolando amended the motion to have staff review the railing and entrance feature of the proposed design along with Mr. Silva's comments as previously stated. Mr. Parsley accepted the amendment

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva, Mr. Adams, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Torre. Nays: None

SPECIAL CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS:

CASE FILE COA (SP) 2016-002:

An application for the issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for the property at 1122 Sorolla Avenue, a Local Historic Landmark, legally described as Lot 7 and E 5 FT of Lot 6, Block 17, Coral Gables Section "C," according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 8, at Page 26 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application requests design approval for an addition and alterations to the residence and sitework.

Ms. Kautz relayed the background pertaining to the previous owners before stating that the present owners are restoring the property. She displayed historic and current photographs of the entire property as she described the applicants' request, concluding the presentation by stating staff's recommendation for approval of the application.

Architect Bravo addressed the Board and stated that homeowner Rolando Tapanes was also present. He comprehensively reviewed the proposed alterations to the existing residence and the area to which they proposed building atop. The new site plan was displayed and the zoning reviewed during the presentation. When he concluded his remarks, Mr. Torre invited Mr. Tapanes to speak and he briefly addressed the Board.

After clarifying that impact resistant glass would be used in the French door proposed for the screened porch, Mr. Torre invited other audience members to speak.

Ms. Thomson commented that the access to the trellised terrace via the master bathroom appeared awkward. Mr. Bravo explained that the owners approved the design. Mr. Tapanes added to the explanation for making this design decision.

Ms. Kautz confirmed with Mr. Bravo that the engaged twisted column in the front will be exposed rather than replaced.

Mr. Adams asked if all new mechanical work would be done. Mr. Tapanes explained that mechanical work hadn't been done, but they had replaced electrical, plumbing, air conditioning, replaced windows, added a new roof, septic system and drain field, and all connections were done under the house. The kitchen will be entirely done when that project is undertaken. Mr. Adams inquired about the nearness of the air conditioning compressors to the neighboring house and suggested relocating the equipment. Mr. Bravo said they weren't proposing to move the two existing units. New air conditioning will be installed in the bathroom closet, adding they could possibly locate the compressor in the roof area beyond the terrace.

Mr. Torre closed the public hearing. Mr. Fullerton complemented the architect on the elevations and renderings.

Mr. Fullerton made a motion to approve the design proposal for the addition and alterations to the property at 1122 Sorolla Avenue as presented, and to approve issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness. Mr. Menendez seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Ghia, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fullerton, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Torre. Nays: None.

CASE FILE COA (SP) 2016-009:

An application for the issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for the property at 1401 Pizarro Street, a Local Historic Landmark, legally described as Lot 2 and N 50 FT of Lot 3, Block 7, Coral Gables Granada Section Revised, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 8, at Page 113, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application requests design approval for an addition and alterations to the residence.

Ms. Guin displayed an overview of the neighborhood, summarized the property's history and lone alteration and described the residence as an intact cottage as she presented current and historic photographs. After relaying the qualifications for a Coral Gables cottage, she said the applicant was requesting a one-story addition in the rear of the property.

Architect Inaki Muguruza, representing homeowner April Sharp, reviewed photographs as he comprehensively described the design proposal, reviewed materials and finishes, adding that the house and addition would be painted the original color and accent colors.

Referencing the two windows for the proposed master bedroom, Mr. Torre inquired about the windows in the rear of the addition and asked for clarity. He, Mr. Muguruza and Ms. Guin discussed existing and relocated windows. Ms. Guin said staff's only window issue was replacement of the arched extant windows on the south elevation with the to-be-enclosed extant windows from the east elevation.

Discussion: Mr. Torre, Mr. Fullerton and Mr. Adams requested clarification of several areas in the drawings that were unclear/difficult to see, to which Mr. Muguruza responded. During discussion, inconsistencies in construction were pointed out and deemed difficult to define, and there was a lack of plan information. It was suggested that the garage height be altered to better differentiate the original and new structures. After lengthy discussion about multiple issues, Mr. Torre suggested the plans should be better clarified and the application be reconsidered rather than denying the application.

Ms. Rolando made a motion to defer consideration of the application for the alterations and additions to the building at 1401 Pizarro Street to the next Board meeting. Mr. Adams seconded the motion.

Mr. Silva asked the Board for clarification of their direction to the architect. Mr. Adams relayed that the Board needed a set of complete existing and proposed plans and elevations in one scale so the Board can compare and contrast the two views. He added that additional photographs would also be helpful. Mr. Parsley concurred and suggested re-examination of section AE-2A for specific clarification. Ms. Spain advised that the application was reviewed by the Board of Architects that morning, and the architect was asked to provide drawings to scale when the project was brought back for review. Mr. Muguruza agreed to address all suggestions.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva, Mr. Adams, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Torre. Nays: None.

CASE FILE COA (SP) 2016-010:

An application for the issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for the property at 1257 Obispo Avenue, a contributing resource within the "Obispo Avenue Historic District," legally described as Lot 31, Block 2, Coral Gables Section "E," according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 8, at Page 13 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application requests design approval for additions and alterations to the residence and sitework.

Ms. Guin presented the property, reviewing its history, alterations, an addition to the house, and an overview of the requests of the application. She concluded by stating that variances were not requested and, with a few comments, staff recommended approval of the application.

Architect Rene Onate, representing homeowner Michelle Walsh, comprehensively reviewed the proposal, concluding by requesting Board approval of the application and the Special Certificate of Appropriateness.

Mr. Torre invited Board questions for the architect. Mr. Adams and Mr. Onate discussed plans for windows on the front façade, including their size. For clarification, Ms. Guin displayed an early photograph showing the original size and type of window. Discussion ensued about the size of the fixed window, how it was changed and the size altered over the years. Following the topic, Mr. Fullerton asked for information about the shutters. Mr. Onate said they would be removed as they were not functional and were not original to the design. He explained that various windows on the house had been replaced over time. Regarding the front façade, the eyebrows over the windows were original and would be retained. Ms. Guin clarified details above the windows that were both existing and original.

Ms. Guin relayed staff comments as follows:

- Lintels should not be added on the original portion of the house.
- Lintels and decorative molding above the windows on the original portion of the house should remain.
- Windows on the east elevation should retain their original position and size.
- Ghosting of enclosed windows should be maintained.
- Muntins must be high profile.
- Lintels on windows of the new addition should be different from the extant historic home.
- Sills proposed for original openings where sills didn't previously exist should not be added.
- For new windows, there should be no sills.

Mr. Adams verified that staff's recommendation included leaving the small decorative details above. Ms. Guin replied in the affirmative. Mr. Onate indicated his willingness to consider Board recommendations as discussion continued.

Ms. Rolando requested clarification of the application's description of the proposed front door. Mr. Onate said they proposed a wooden front door. After brief discussion, Ms. Rolando suggested an alternative front door more in keeping with the design of the home.

Mr. Torre invited additional audience comment. No one replied.

Mr. Fullerton observed that the window on the east side of bedroom one appeared to be moved over a foot away. Mr. Onate said the east wing of the house was being reconfigured and explained the purpose of the reconfiguration, primarily to accommodate the owner's concern about burglaries. As a result, two small windows were proposed to create more balance. Mr. Fullerton did not favor moving the existing window. Mr. Onate conceded he could replace the existing window and leave it in place; however, he restated his views in favor of the design as presented.

Ms. Thomson referenced fixed windows in the foyer area and opposite the fireplace in a solid wall, and questioned adequate ventilation if excessive fireplace smoke occurred when the fireplace was used.

Mr. Silva concurred with Ms. Rolando's comment about the front door. He offered a compromise solution for the east façade (A2.1), and suggested keeping the first window on the left in the same location, retaining the eyebrow; retaining the eyebrow next to the first one as a blank panel, and then allowing the applicant to revise other windows as the structure moves deeper into the property. Mr. Onate was amenable to the suggestions, and most Board members generally indicated agreement.

Mr. Torre closed the public hearing.

Mr. Adams inquired about a solution for the entry foyer with fixed windows. Thereafter, the debate about the windows continued at length, with discussion and consideration of multiple suggestions to achieve mutually-acceptable compromise solutions and craft an appropriate motion.

Ms. Rolando made a motion to approve the design for an addition and alterations to the residence at 1401 Pizarro Street as modified by staff comments and replacement of the front door depicted on the plans with a solid wood door that is acceptable to staff. Ms. Ghia seconded the motion.

A friendly amendment was submitted by Mr. Adams to the main motion as follows: on the east elevation, going from left to right, the first window will be in the original location, the original size and all the ornamental details will remain; the second window will be blocked in, a shadow, and all the ornamentations will remain; the third window is a bathroom window, the original size and original ornamentation and will remain; the fourth window is going to move the location, but should be the same size and shape to match the third, except it will not have ornamentation; the fifth window will have ornamentation but will be blocked in and a shadow; the sixth window will be the size of the first window but will not have ornamentation. Mr. Silva seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva, Mr. Adams, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Torre. Nays: None

The meeting temporarily suspended and reconvened at 6:29 p.m.

Mr. Fullerton commented about the difficulty in reading and understanding the set of drawings submitted by the applicant. Ms. Spain said the new plans would be carefully reviewed by the Board of Architects and both existing and proposed plans will be required.

CASE FILE COA (SP) 2016-011:

An application for the issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for the property at 501 Alcazar Avenue, a contributing resource within the "Alcazar Avenue Historic District," legally described as Lots 13 and 14, Block 13, Coral Gables Section "B," according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, at Page 111 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application requests design approval for an addition and alterations to the residence and sitework.

As a location map, historic and current photographs were displayed, Ms. Kautz summarized the application.

Architect Mario Aguilar, representing homeowner Pedro Rodriguez, reviewed the application as photographs and plans were displayed. When his presentation concluded, he stated that final approvals had been achieved from all involved City departments with the exception of the Historic Preservation Board.

Ms. Kautz called attention to staff comments included in the written report as follows: 1) Recommendation to relocate the A/C pads, particularly the proposed pad along the front façade. They should not be visible from the street. 2) Request for more information regarding the proposed front door. 3) The windows on the extant structure will be handled under a separate Certificate of Appropriateness; staff will work with the applicant to achieve the appropriate casement and high-profile muntin configuration.

Regarding the A/C pads facing Alcazar, Mr. Aguilar agreed to relocate them to the back or side of the property.

Mr. Torre clarified City processes since the applicant's plans were already in permitting. Ms. Spain reviewed the customary process and procedure for applications. In this case, the applicant prepared the final drawings for permit, understanding they risked the possibility of changes made by the Historic Preservation Board. Mr. Torre then invited public comment.

Ms. Bondurant, 446 Alcazar Avenue: She expressed pleasure about having a new neighbor; however, she said there was a broken chain link fence surrounding the property; palm fronds were piled in front; and the property appeared abandoned. In addition, the house next to the subject property was listed for sale. She requested that the owner clean the property until construction begins as a favorable accommodation to the neighborhood. Ms. Spain advised that the Code Enforcement

Board could address the concerns, and Ms. Bondurant responded that she contacted Code Enforcement. Mr. Rodriguez, the property owner, agreed to work amicably and cooperate with the neighbors, indicating understanding of their concerns.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Torre closed the public hearing and invited Board comments. In response to Mr. Fullerton's question about the relocation of the A/C pads, Mr. Aguilar said they would be moved to the Hernando side, next to the other unit.

Mr. Fullerton made a motion to approve, with staff's conditions as above cited, the design proposal for the alterations and additions to the building at 501 Alcazar Avenue, and to approve issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness. Ms. Ghia seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Silva, Mr. Adams, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Torre. Nays: None.

CASE FILE COA (SP) 2016-012:

Mr. Torre recused himself and left the room as he has been in discussions for construction services with the property owner. Mr. Silva, as Vice Chair, accepted the gavel and led proceedings.

An application for the issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for the property at 6819 Granada Boulevard, a vacant parcel of land (previously designated with 6801 Granada Boulevard) legally described as Lot 2, Block 1, Cartee Homestead II, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 170, at Page 088, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The application requests design approval for the construction of a new two-story residence.

Ms. Kautz reviewed the property's recent history, adding that staff reviewed the application in terms of its impact on the existing historic structures on the adjacent property. She pointed out the only discrepancy noted between the proposed site plan and the two landscaped open space plans shown on sheet A-1 in terms of the layout of the pavers. Staff preferred the more organic layout than the square version. At the request of Mr. Silva, Ms. Kautz reminded Board members to focus their consideration and discussion on the application's impact on the historic residence to determine if it negatively impacts the residence.

Mr. Guilford, representing the property owner, introduced Architect Cesar Molina; Jorge Dalmau, the former property owner; and Jorge Gonzalez, the new property owner. Mr. Guilford reviewed the previous background of the historic property, and the approach employed in designing and determining materials for the new two-story residence. He offered a full review of the drawings and advised that staff recommended approval of the application.

Mr. Silva verified that Board members were satisfied that the drawings presented and reviewed were sufficient. Mr. Adams asked for clarification about the landscape plan. Mr. Guilford said the decision was made to use the more organic layout; however, the plan had not yet been updated to reflect the decision. Mr. Molina entered the discussion and explained that the drawings were diagrams used solely to represent greenspace. Landscape drawings were submitted to the City showing the organic layout.

Ms. Rolando questioned parking accommodations on site. Mr. Molina said the motor court was the vehicular staging area, with additional parking on the side in addition to garage parking.

Mr. Parsley asked if the site had been reviewed for preserving and transplanting plant material. Mr. Molina said a full set of landscape drawings were available, and Mr. Parsley asked if they would be available for Board review later. Ms. Spain advised that if the Board directed, the landscape drawings could be brought back to the Board, and added that the drawings would be reviewed by the Public Service Department for compliance. Mr. Guilford said the landscape plan could come back to the Board for review if requested.

Mr. Haddad, 6800 Granada Boulevard, recommended approval of the plan as he believed it was compatible with Alfred Browning Parker's "masterpiece."

Mr. Silva invited additional audience comment. Hearing no requests to speak, he closed the public hearing.

Mr. Adams requested additional information related to site vegetation, tree stumps and permitting for removal of plant material. Mr. Molina referred Mr. Adams to the tree survey in Board packets. Mr. Guilford said the ordinance called for all specimen trees to be preserved, and said they would work with all appropriate City departments for review and approval. Mr. Molina provided related information about the site and landscaping. He also addressed Mr. Fullerton's concern about the nearness of the gazebo on the Alfred Browning Parker grounds. Ms. Kautz described the gazebo's location, after which Mr. Silva asked the applicant to bring back plans showing the discussed area for context and clarity.

Mr. Parsley recommended that surveyors resurvey trees to be kept in situ and draw them to scale on the plans, including root crowns so they are preserved. He recommended that the surveyor stake out the building as drawn, which will reveal potential conflicts before ground is broken for construction. He emphasized the importance of investing in these steps before proceeding, advising that the potential problem is the integration of the landscape structure with the architectural and mechanical plans. Mr. Adams suggested including this information in a motion. Ms. Spain advised waiting until the landscape plan was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Molina reiterated his opinion that the surveys in hand were sufficient.

Ms. Rolando made a motion to approve the design proposal for the addition and alterations to the property at 6819 Granada Boulevard, a vacant parcel, and to approve issuance of a Special Certificate of Appropriateness; and that the plans be modified to reflect staff comments; and that the landscape plans depict the layout of the pavers, the relationship between the new home and the Alfred Browning Parker home, and be brought back for Board review. Mr. Fullerton seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Adams, Ms. Thomson, Ms. Rolando, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Ghia, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Parsley, Mr. Silva. Nays: None.

Mr. Torre rejoined the meeting and resumed his position as meeting Chair.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mr. Adams advised that he and his wife were moving in June to New York City. He will be in attendance at the June meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

Mid-century homes survey update:

Ms. Spain reported staff (Ms. Guin as key contact) is working with the University of Miami on the mid-century homes survey. The University will conduct a pilot survey of a small area. The cost of this initial phase is \$11,000, which Ms. Spain said is an appropriate use of the Historic Preservation Trust Fund, the current balance of which is \$35,384. She requested Board approval to withdraw \$11,000 from the fund for this initial phase. Thereafter, staff will apply for grant funding for the balance of the project.

Mr. Torre asked if the Board could help replenish funds in the account, and also inquired about possible City funds that could be applied to the account. Staff will discuss the issue with the City Manager.

Total project costs will be determined after results of the pilot study are known. Ms. Guin described the University-launched mobile device application (app) and explained how it would be used to electronically facilitate survey work.

Ms. Rolando made a motion to approve the withdrawal of approximately \$11,000 from the Historic Preservation Trust Fund to fund the pilot program to be conducted by the University of Miami to survey the mid-century modern homes in Coral Gables. Mr. Parsley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

Arbor Day:

Arbor Day will be observed by the City on April 29th beginning at 11 a.m. at the intersection of Alhambra Circle and Granada Boulevard with the unveiling of a plaque honoring Frank Button and the planting of a tree. Robert Parsley will be key speaker at the event. Relatives of Frank Button will attend. Board members were encouraged to attend as well.

Dade Heritage Trust Events:

A Dade Heritage Trust event will be held April 27th in Little Havana to present Preservation Awards, two of which concern the City of Coral Gables: The 641 San Lorenzo addition (Nelson De Leon, Architect; Torre Construction, Contractor); and the City's purchase of 2506 Ponce de Leon Boulevard. Tickets are available through the Historical Resources Department or Dade Heritage Trust.

The second Dade Heritage Trust event will be the launch of *Preservation Today* magazine on May 4th in Coconut Grove. Tickets are available.

CITY PROJECTS UPDATE:

Fountains and Plazas/Merrick House Updates:

In response to Mr. Torre's inquiry about progress with the City's restoration of fountains/plazas and Merrick House, Ms. Spain advised that Merrick House was empty in anticipation of the restoration project, currently in the bidding process.

Mr. Torre urged forward progress with restoration and enhancement of the City's fountains and plazas, recommending the features be enhanced with lighting. Ms. Spain will research the possibility of Art in Public Places funding.

Ms. Spain said another important City RFP is in queue for a historic preservation architect, specifically for projects involving City-owned historic properties.

City Hall Project:

Ms. Spain said the City received a grant from the State of Florida, used for concrete stabilization on City Hall property.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Ghia suggested a Board-sponsored event to celebrate completion of the restoration of Merrick House, such as a home tour, as a fundraiser to replenish the Historic Trust Fund. She volunteered to help launch the effort, which will be further discussed at upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain
Historic Preservation Officer