

EXCERPT

CORAL GABLES HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 15, 2015, 4:00 p.m.
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS:	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY:
	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
Janice Thomson*									P	P	A	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Venny Torre	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vice Mayor Frank C. Quesada
Elizabeth Ghia*									P	P	P	P	Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick
Alejandro Silva	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Patricia Keon
Alexander Adams*									P	P	P	E	Commissioner Vince Lago
John Fullerton*					E	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	Historic Preservation Board
Robert Parsley	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	City Manager
Margaret Rolando*											E	P	City Commission
Albert Menendez*											P	P	City Commission

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

STAFF:

- Dona M. Spain, Historic Preservation Officer
- Kara N. Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
- ElizaBeth Guin, Historic Preservationist
- Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department
- Miriam Ramos, Deputy City Attorney

GUESTS: Monica Loreda; Karen Barnet-Backer, Esq.; Albert Pozo; Jane Maranos; Karelia Martinez Carbonell; Ann Rosalind Goodman; Rashmi Murthy; Hallegere Murthy.

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Torre at 4:09 p.m. A quorum was present.

LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS:

CASE FILE LHD 2015-08: Consideration of the removal of the local historic designation of the property at 2900 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, legally described as Lots 16 and 17, Block 26, Coral Gables Crafts Section, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 40, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Ms. Spain explained that the application was to remove historic designation from the property and would be a recommendation to the City Commission.

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Ms. Kautz advised that removal of the designation was initiated by staff. As she described the property, she conducted a visual display of property photographs and discussed the property's history, particularly mentioning its past use as Charade Restaurant, destroyed by fire in 1995. Nothing has been built on the site since the fire, and the property is in use today as a parking lot. Ms. Kautz asked the Board to consider if the property still meets criteria sufficient to retain designation as a landmark. After reviewing the property fact and designation data, Ms. Kautz announced that staff was requesting removal of the historic designation, and recommended a recommendation (to the City Commission) to approve staff's report and a removal of the designation.

Mr. Fullerton made a motion to approve staff's report and recommend approval of removing the historic designation of the property located at 2900 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, conditioned on the placement of a descriptive plaque or other permanent feature stating the importance of the site to be incorporated in a later development of the property, and to include recognition of the Wilkins' family and the Granada Shop. Mr. Silva seconded the motion.

Mr. Silva commented that the motion should not be viewed as a "carte blanche" for demolition by neglect issues or by a developer and noted for the record that the City lost the opportunity to secure a reconstruction of the property because it wasn't possible to pass appropriate variances at the time.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.