## CITY OF CORAL GABLES HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 17, 2021

## PARTICIPANTS:

Cesar Garcia-Pons, Chairperson
John P. Fullerton, Board Member
Bruce Ehrenhaft, Board Member
Alicia Bache-Wiig, Board Member
Raul R. Rodriguez, Board Member
Dona Spain, Board Member
Margaret A. "Peggy" Rolando, Board Member

Kara N. Kautz, Historic Preservation Officer EizaBeth B. Guin, Historic Preservation Coordinator Gustavo Ceballos, Esq., Assistant City Attorney Nancy Lyons, Administrative Assistant

1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Great. Good afternoon.

- 2 Welcome to the regularly-scheduled meeting of the City of
- 3 Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board.
- 4 We are residents of Coral Gables and are
- 5 charged with the preservation and protection of historic
- 6 or architecturally-worthy buildings, structures, sites,
- 7 neighborhoods and artifacts which impart a distinct
- 8 historical heritage of the city.
- 9 The board is comprised of nine members, seven
- of whom are appointed by the commission, one by the city
- 11 manager, and the ninth is selected by the board and
- 12 confirmed by the commission.
- 13 Five members of the board constitute a
- 14 quorum, and five affirmative votes are necessary for the
- 15 adoption of any motion.
- 16 Any person who acts as a lobbyist pursuant to
- 17 the City of Coral Gables Ordinance Number 2006-11 must
- 18 register with the city clerk prior to engaging in lobbying
- 19 activities or presentations before city staff, boards,
- 20 committees, and/or the city commission. A copy of the
- 21 ordinance is available in the office of the city clerk.
- 22 Failure to register and provide proof of
- 23 registration shall prohibit your ability to present to the
- 24 Historic Preservation Board on applications under
- 25 consideration this afternoon.

Lobbyist: "Lobbyist" is defined as an

- 2 individual, corporation, partnership, or other legal
- 3 entity employed or retained, whether paid or not, by a
- 4 principal who seeks to encourage the approval,
- 5 disapproval, adoption, repeal, passage, defeat or
- 6 modifications of, A, Any ordinance, resolution, action or
- 7 decision of any city commission.
- 8 Or B, Any action, decision or recommendation
- 9 of the city manager, any city board or committee,
- 10 including, but not limited to, quasi-judicial advisory
- 11 board, trust, authority, or council.
- Or C, Any action, decision or recommendation
- 13 of city personnel during the time period of the entire
- 14 decision making process on the action, decision or
- 15 recommendation which foreseeably will be heard or reviewed
- 16 by the city commission or a city board or committee,
- 17 including, but not limited to, quasi-judicial advisory
- 18 board, trust, authority, or council.
- 19 Presentations made to this board are subject
- 20 to the city's false claims ordinance, Chapter 39 of the
- 21 City of Coral Gables City Code.
- I now officially call the City of Coral
- 23 Gables Historic Preservation Board meeting of February the
- 24 17th, 2021, to order. The time is 4:12 p.m.
- 25 Present today are, in person, John Fullerton,

- 1 Dona Spain, Raul Rodriguez, Peggy Rolando. On line is
- 2 Bruce Ehrenhaft.
- 3 MS. BACHE-WIIG: And Alicia Bache-Wiig. Hi.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Hi, Alicia, welcome, and
- 5 Alicia Bache-Wiig.
- 6 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Thank you. Sorry I'm a
- 7 little late.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: So moving on to the agenda
- 9 item, approval of minutes, the next item on the agenda is
- 10 the approval of the minutes of the meeting held on --
- 11 Kara, which ones were we looking at?
- MS. KAUTZ: This should be the December
- 13 meeting minutes that were e-mailed to you.
- 14 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. It's not in front of
- 15 me so I'm asking you for the date.
- 16 MS. KAUTZ: Yep, just want to make sure.
- 17 December 16th, 2020.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Minutes of the meeting held
- 19 on December 16th, 2020. Are there any changes or
- 20 corrections? Is there a motion to approve? Anybody?
- 21 Your mike.
- MR. FULLERTON: I'll move it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay, John Fullerton moves
- 24 it.
- MS. SPAIN: I'll second it.

Page 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Dona Spain seconds. 1 Any 2 discussion? Staff, please call the roll. 3 MS. LYONS: Sorry. I had to unmute myself Mr. Menendez? 4 5 MS. KAUTZ: He's absent. MS. LYONS: Mr. Ehrenhaft? 6 7 MR. EHRENHAFT: Yes. 8 MS. LYONS: Mr. Durana? 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Absent. 10 MS. LYONS: Miss Spain? 11 MS. SPAIN: Yes. 12 MS. LYONS: Mr. Fullerton? 13 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. 14 MS. LYONS: Miss Bache-Wiig? MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes. 15 16 MS. LYONS: Miss Rolando? MS. ROLANDO: Yes. 17 MS. LYONS: Mr. Garcia-Pons? 18 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. 20 MS. LYONS: And Mr. Rodriguez? MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. 21 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Excuse me. Did I hear, is 23 Mr. Durana on the call? MS. KAUTZ: No. He's absent as well. 24 25 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay.

- 1 MS. LYONS: Who seconded that motion?
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Dona Spain.
- MS. KAUTZ: Dona.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Notice regarding ex
- 5 parte communications. Please be advised that this board
- 6 is a quasi-judicial board and the items on the agenda are
- 7 quasi-judicial in nature which requires board members to
- 8 disclose all ex parte communications.
- 9 An ex parte communication is defined as any
- 10 contact, communication, conversation, correspondence,
- 11 memorandum, or other written or verbal communication that
- 12 takes place outside a public hearing between a member of
- 13 the public and a member of a quasi-judicial board
- 14 regarding matters to be heard by the quasi-judicial board.
- 15 If anyone has made any contact with a board
- 16 member, when the issue comes up before the board the
- 17 member must state on the record the existence of the ex
- 18 parte communication, the party who originated the
- 19 communication, and whether the communication will affect
- 20 the board member's ability to impartially consider the
- 21 evidence to be presented regarding the matter.
- Does any member of the board have such
- 23 communication to disclose at this time?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: No.
- MR. EHRENHAFT: No.

- 1 MS. ROLANDO: No.
- 2 MR. EHRENHAFT: This is Bruce Ehrenhaft. I
- 3 should just note that with respect to the first item, the
- 4 Segovia Circle property, when I received the packet, then
- 5 I reviewed all the materials.
- I noted, because I received a cc of an e-mail
- 7 from Dade Heritage Trust stating that they were --
- 8 directed to Kara Kautz, but they were submitting a letter
- 9 regarding that item. I simply needed to say that I got a
- 10 copy but it's because I'm a member of the board of that
- 11 organization.
- I did not open the item because I didn't want
- 13 to have any appearance of conflict of interest, and with
- 14 regard to this item, I will only consider the evidence
- 15 that's put before the board, the staff reports and any
- 16 items, any discussion from the homeowner or a
- 17 representative.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Ehrenhaft.
- 19 Next item, deferrals. Are there any items on the agenda
- 20 that have been deferred?
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: No, sir, there are not.
- 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Swearing in. If any person
- 23 is --
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Mr. Chairman?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir.

- 1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I received two sets of
- 2 minutes, one for December and I guess the other for
- 3 January. We've only approved the ones for December. Is
- 4 there a second --
- 5 MR. FULLERTON: We didn't have a meeting in
- 6 January.
- 7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: What was the second set then?
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Kara, can you please check
- 9 on the dates for Mr. Rodriguez?
- 10 MS. KAUTZ: I will check, but I don't believe
- 11 there were two. One was probably a verbatim and one was
- 12 probably an index, but I will check right now, the e-mail
- 13 that was sent to you, but there was no January meeting,
- 14 so.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Swearing, in.
- 17 MS. KAUTZ: Cesar, I think, and I believe
- 18 Doreen, the court reporter is on here, she can confirm,
- 19 we'll be doing this a little bit differently, swearing in
- 20 at the beginning of each item. Doreen, is that correct?
- 21 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes. That's more
- 22 efficient for me and better to get spellings of the
- 23 parties. Thank you.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am. Okay. Ready
- 25 for the agenda, Kara?

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: Yes. Can we -- prior to doing
- 2 that, I need a motion to excuse Albert Menendez and Xavier
- 3 Durana. They're both out of town.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Can I get a motion? Is
- 5 there a motion to excuse?
- 6 MS. SPAIN: I'll make that motion.
- 7 MS. BACHE-WIIG: I'll second the motion.
- 8 MS. SPAIN: Dona Spain made the motion, and I
- 9 think Alicia.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Any comments? Do we need
- 11 to vote on that?
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- 13 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay, if we can take a
- 14 vote, please.
- MS. LYONS: Mr. Rodriguez?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 17 MS. LYONS: Miss Rolando?
- MS. ROLANDO: Yes.
- 19 MS. LYONS: Miss Spain?
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- MS. LYONS: Mr. Fullerton?
- MR. FULLERTON: Yes.
- MS. LYONS: Miss Bache-Wiig?
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes.
- MS. LYONS: Mr. Garcia-Pons?

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- 2 MS. SPAIN: If I can just --
- 3 MS. LYONS: Mr. Ehrenhaft.
- 4 MR. FULLERTON: Mr. Chairman, on those kinds
- of votes, can't we just vote en mass, you know, all those
- 6 in favor?
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Next time I'm the
- 8 chairperson, I'll entertain that.
- 9 MR. FULLERTON: Maybe we can ask staff.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Kara, give us just
- one minute. We're repositioning one of the board members.
- MS. KAUTZ: I was going to ask if she wanted
- 13 to be moved actually, so.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- MR. CEBALLOS: Kara, quick interruption. Can
- 16 you hear me well?
- MS. KAUTZ: Yes.
- 18 MR. CEBALLOS: Just to confirm, the fact that
- 19 we only have seven of our nine board members, were the two
- 20 COAs that are moving forward, were they notified that
- 21 there's only seven members and that they need the
- 22 affirmative vote of five members to move forward, and if
- 23 they --
- MS. KAUTZ: No. We can do that now if you
- 25 would like.

1 Mr. CEBALLOS: Well, just let them know that

- 2 when their item is called, if they wish to defer because
- 3 they do need five of the seven members --
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: Okay.
- 5 MR. CEBALLOS: -- to take action, if they
- 6 want to defer, that they are welcome to do so.
- 7 MS. KAUTZ: Sure. Let me make sure that both
- 8 those parties are on. So I see the Saladrigases for
- 9 Castille are on, and I also see that the owner and the
- 10 architect for Santa Maria are on.
- 11 Do you all -- this is directed at both of you
- 12 for the COAs. We have a nine-member board. Seven of them
- 13 are present, so for any motion to pass, affirmative or in
- 14 opposition, you need five out of the seven, not a
- 15 majority, so if you're okay moving forward, then we'll
- 16 continue.
- 17 MS. SALADRIGAS: Hi, Kara. Sorry. We're
- 18 actually in the mountains right now, so that's why
- 19 everybody is in the car. Do you have an idea on timing?
- 20 That would be my only concern because I didn't realize
- 21 there were going to be so many people on this call and I'm
- 22 worried about -- we came to a town that had better WiFi,
- 23 and I'm afraid about driving back when it's too dark.
- 24 MS. KAUTZ: Understood. You are the third
- item on the agenda, so I would probably, if I had to

- 1 guesstimate, I would probably say around 5:30.
- MS. SALADRIGAS: Yes. Is it, is it a problem
- 3 if we delay? Because to give you an idea, it will get
- 4 dark here right around now.
- 5 MS. KAUTZ: No, I understand. If you wish,
- 6 if you wish to defer, it's at your discretion. We can
- 7 defer to the March meeting which is March 17th.
- 8 MS. SALADRIGAS: Does that create a problem
- 9 for you all?
- 10 MS. KAUTZ: No.
- 11 MS. SALADRIAGS: No? I'd feel safer if
- 12 that's okay.
- MS. KAUTZ: Absolutely.
- MS. SALADRIGAS: Okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. We have a request
- 16 for deferral on Item Number Three. Do we need to vote to
- 17 defer the item?
- 18 MS. KAUTZ: Gus, do they need to make a vote?
- MR. FULLERTON: So moved.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Gus, do we need to defer
- 21 the item -- do we need to vote to defer the item?
- 22 Mr. CEBALLOS: Since there's already been a
- 23 motion been made, I suggest we just take the vote.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. We have a motion to
- 25 defer the Item Number Two. Is there a second?

Page 13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I thought it was Three. 1 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Item Number Three, Item 3 Number Two on this, Case File 20150-007. 4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay, yeah. 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Is there a second? MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'll second it. 6 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Raul seconds. Any discussion? Okay. Let's call the roll. 8 9 MS. LYONS: Miss Rolando? 10 MS. ROLANDO: Yes. 11 MS. LYONS: Miss Spain? 12 MS. ROLANDO: She's moving. 13 MS. LYONS: Okay. MS. ROLANDO: In transit. 14 MR. FULLERTON: She's going to go to the 15 She'll be right back. 16 Marriott. MS. LYONS: Mr. Ehrenhaft? 17 18 MR. EHRENHAFT: Yes. 19 MS. LYONS: Mr. Garcia-Pons? 20 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. 21 MS. LYONS: Miss Bache-Wiig? 22 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes. 23 MS. LYONS: Mr. Fullerton? 24 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. 25 MS. LYONS: Mr. Rodriguez?

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. I think I already

- 2 voted, but yes.
- 3 MS. LYONS: And Miss Spain?
- 4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: She's on now? We already
- 5 have more than five votes.
- 6 MS. LYONS: So we're moving.
- 7 MS. KAUTZ: Muted, Dona, you're muted.
- 8 MS. SPAIN: Sorry. I was adjusting myself so
- 9 I don't know what I'm voting on, so.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Would you like to defer the
- 11 third item on the agenda?
- 12 MS. SPAIN: I'm happy with that. Is that
- 13 because the applicant is asking for it?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- MR. CEBALLOS: Yes.
- MS. SPAIN: My answer is yes.
- 18 MS. SALADRIGAS: Sorry, but I (inaudible).
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you very much.
- MS. SALADRIGAS: Sorry.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: We're complete.
- MS. SPAIN: I got it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you very much.
- MS. SALADRIGAS: Thank you. We're sorry.
- 25 Thank you.

- 1 MS. SPAIN: Safe travels.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay.
- MS. SPAIN: And so that leaves the second,
- 4 the second, the second item, the second COA. It's Nelson,
- 5 the architect is on and the owner. If they're okay moving
- 6 forward, then we'll continue with that one.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Is the applicant ready to
- 8 proceed?
- 9 MS. KAUTZ: Well, we'll do the designation
- 10 first, but this is just in response to Gus's comment that
- 11 they need the --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Does the applicant wish a
- 13 deferral?
- 14 MR. DE LEON: Hi. This is Nelson. I'm
- 15 waiting to hear from the owner.
- MS. KAUTZ: Okay.
- MR. DE LEON: So if it's okay, we'll just
- 18 start and hopefully they'll be on by the time we're up.
- 19 MS. KAUTZ: Okay. I think I saw him, but
- 20 we'll proceed with --
- 21 MR. DE LEON: Yeah. I saw the name up on the
- 22 -- I sent them a direct chat message.
- MS. KAUTZ: Okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Nelson. We'll
- 25 get back to you.

- 1 MR. DE LEON: All right.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: We'll proceed with the next
- 3 item on the agenda. The first item, Kara, would you read
- 4 it in?
- 5 MS. KAUTZ: Thank you. The first item up for
- 6 review is the local historic designation, Case File
- 7 LHD-009. Consideration of the local historic designation
- 8 of the property at 2214 Segovia Circle, legally described
- 9 as Lot 11 and the northwesterly 30 feet of Lot 12, Lot 22,
- 10 Coral Gables Section B, according to the plat thereof as
- 11 recorded in Plat Book Five, Page 111 of the public records
- 12 of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
- 13 As we have done in previous meetings in a
- 14 hybrid format, we went ahead and prepared a Power Point
- 15 presentation with voice-over so that it's easier for you
- 16 all to hear and follow, so if Nancy could put that up,
- 17 share her screen and put that up, we'll run that for you
- 18 all.
- 19 MS. LYONS: Just give me one second.
- 20 MS. GUIN (Recorded): This property at 2214
- 21 Segovia Circle (inaudible).
- 22 THE COURT REPORTER: It's very low. It's
- 23 very quiet. I'm having a problem hearing it.
- MR. CEBALLOS: Nancy, your computer is not
- 25 shared. We can't see your screen.

- 1 MS. LYONS: Okay. Hold on. Hold on one
- 2 second. Sorry. I don't know why -- I have to close out
- 3 and hopefully because it's on the other screen. Are you
- 4 seeing this? I don't know why --
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- 6 MS. LYONS: Okay.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: We cannot hear. It's
- 8 garbled.
- 9 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm still having a
- 10 problem hearing it.
- 11 MS. LYONS: Okay. Hold on. Let me go to my
- 12 computer.
- 13 MS. KAUTZ: Billy, if you can make me
- 14 co-host, I can share my screen instead.
- MR. URQUIA: Only Nancy can make you co-host.
- 16 I'm not able to.
- 17 MS. LYONS: Okay. Hold on. It's not
- 18 allowing me to make Kara a co-host.
- 19 MS. SPAIN: Okay. Can you unshare your
- 20 screen? And let me see if I can do mine.
- MS. LYONS: Hold on. I'm going -- let me see
- 22 if I can up, the volume up on the presentation as high as
- 23 it can go. Okay. Let's try this again.
- MR. URQUIA: All right. Nancy, don't hit
- 25 Play just yet, don't hit Play on the presentation yet.

- 1 First put it on presentation mode. You can hit, at the
- 2 the bottom right-hand corner, the little -- to the left of
- 3 it, left a little bit more. Right there, that icon right
- 4 there, that one.
- 5 MS. LYONS: Now?
- 6 MR. URQUIA: Click on it, and -- no. It's
- 7 still coming across muffled.
- 8 MS. LYONS: Yes.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Can you please, can you
- 10 please pause? Kara, can you just do this live? Can we
- 11 just do the presentation live, please?
- 12 MS. KAUTZ: Yep. Nancy, undo what you're
- 13 doing.
- MS. LYONS: I can't make you a co-host.
- MS. SPAIN: Unshare your screen.
- MR. URQUIA: I got it.
- MS. KAUTZ: Can you all see this?
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am. Thank you. If
- 19 you're speaking, you're on mute.
- 20 MS. GUIN: Okay. Can everybody hear me?
- 21 This is ElizaBeth.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: We can now.
- MS. GUIN: Thank you. You know -- okay.
- 24 This property at 2214 Segovia Circle is before you for
- 25 consideration for designation as a local historic

- 1 landmark.
- 2 The significance request was filed on
- 3 November 30th, 2020. On December 14th, the significance
- 4 determination letter was issued stating the property does
- 5 meet the minimum criteria for designation.
- 6 As per Article Three, Section 3-1 of Coral
- 7 Gables zoning code, Criteria for Designation of Historic
- 8 Landmarks, A local historic landmark must have significant
- 9 character, interest or value as part of a historical,
- 10 cultural, archeological, aesthetic or architectural
- 11 heritage of the city, state or nation. For designation, a
- 12 property must meet one criteria as outlined in the code.
- 13 2214 Segovia Circle is eligible as a local
- 14 historic landmark based on three significance criteria.
- 15 Historical, cultural significance, Criteria
- 16 Four, It exemplifies the historical, cultural, political,
- 17 economic or social trends of the community.
- 18 Architectural significance, Criteria One, It
- 19 portrays the environment in an era of history
- 20 characterized by one or more distinctive architectural
- 21 styles.
- 22 And Criteria Two, It embodies those
- 23 distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style
- 24 or period or method of construction.
- 25 As per Article Three, Section 3-1104 (C)(3)

- of the Coral Gables zoning code, designation procedures,
- 2 decision of the board:
- If after a public hearing the board finds
- 4 that the proposed local historic landmark meets criteria
- 5 set forth in Section 3-1103, it shall designate the
- 6 property as a local historic landmark.
- 7 Okay, the second one here. Situated near the
- 8 picturesque and prominent Segovia Plaza and Granada Golf
- 9 Course, this one story, single family residence at 2214
- 10 Segovia Circle sits on an interior lot in Coral Gables
- 11 Section B.
- 12 Next one, please. This home was designed in
- 13 1935 by architects Phineas Paist and Harold Steward and is
- 14 an elegant and early representation of a transitional home
- 15 that blends the mondernistic style of Art Moderne with the
- 16 elements of the Mediterranean Revival style.
- 17 Coral Gables' developmental history is
- 18 divided into three major historical periods. George
- 19 Merrick founded it in the early 1920s based on his vision
- 20 for a fully conceived Mediterranean-inspired city. The
- 21 architecture constructed during this initial period of
- 22 development combined elements commonly used in Spanish,
- 23 Moorish and Italian architecture and has come to be known
- 24 as the Mediterranean Revival style.
- During the 1920s, the structures in the new

- 1 city was built almost exclusively in accordance with this
- 2 style.
- The construction of this home occurred in the
- 4 city's second developmental period. It was one of the
- 5 first homes built during the New Deal era when the city
- 6 began to embrace contemporary styles.
- 7 In Coral Gables, the dire downturn in the
- 8 economy coming so closely on the heels of the devastating
- 9 1926 hurricane had a drastic impact on new construction.
- 10 Not only do the number of new houses greatly decrease, but
- 11 the types and styles of the homes also changed.
- 12 You can see here the precipitous dollar value
- 13 decline in permits issued in the late 1920s and slow
- 14 recovery during the 1930s until 1942, in which time all
- 15 efforts and materials were diverted to war endeavors.
- 16 Between 1930 and 1935, there were less than
- 17 100 homes built in Coral Gables. Over half of them
- 18 occurred in 1935.
- 19 As construction in Coral Gables tried to
- 20 regain its footing in the 1930s, it shifted away from the
- 21 elaborate and embellished Mediterranean Revival style of
- 22 the 1920s towards a simpler and more modern design that
- 23 reflected the new aesthetic and priorities of society.
- In doing so, Coral Gables began to follow
- 25 national housing trends, and the city entered a new

- 1 architectural era which bloomed during the building boom
- 2 of the 1950s.
- The home at 2214 Segovia Circle was one of
- 4 these first modernistic homes. Excuse me.
- 5 The Mediterranean Transitional style employed
- 6 Mediterranean Revival elements while using the forms and
- 7 features of a modernistic style.
- 8 In Coral Gables, this style first appeared in
- 9 the 1930s with the home at 2214 Segovia Circle being
- 10 amongst its earliest.
- These homes are typically one story in height
- 12 and rectangular in plan, and while this style tends to
- 13 retain recessed and protecting bays of the Mediterranean
- 14 Revival style, the overall form is simple, streamlined and
- 15 is focused on geometric forms rather than the undulating
- 16 and intricate decorative details of the Mediterranean
- 17 Revival style.
- 18 Additionally, the garage is attached under
- 19 the same roof as the living space.
- 20 Character-defining features include barrel
- 21 tile on low pitched gable roofs, smooth stucco, geometric
- 22 or tropical ornamentation concentrated about windows,
- 23 doors and eaves and metal screen doors with tropical
- 24 motifs.
- 25 Founder George Merrick drew from the Garden

1 City and the City Beautiful movements of the 19th and

- 2 early 20th century to create his vision for a
- 3 fully-conceived Mediterranean-inspired city which is now
- 4 considered one of the first modern planned communities in
- 5 the United States.
- 6 The home at 2214 Segovia Circle was designed
- 7 by Phineas Paist and Harold Steward. Both architects were
- 8 deeply and prominently involved in developing Merrick's
- 9 vision for the city after its incorporation. Phineas
- 10 Paist joined founder George Merrick's team in 1923, and in
- 11 addition to numerous private homes, was instrumental in
- 12 designing much of the infrastructure of Coral Gables
- 13 including the Colonnade Building, the San Sebastian Hotel
- 14 Apartments, several of the city's plazas, the Douglas
- 15 Entrance and the White Way Streetlights.
- 16 In May 1925 when the city was incorporated,
- 17 Merrick named him a supervising architect, a position he
- 18 held until his death in 1937.
- 19 Likewise, Paist and Steward also designed
- 20 many homes and prominent buildings that laid the
- 21 foundation of Coral Gables. Their early civic structures
- 22 included the Granada Shops and Coral Gables City Hall.
- During the 1930s, the firm completed several
- 24 WPA projects, most notably the Coral Gables police and
- 25 fire station, which is now the home of the Coral Gables

- 1 Museum, as well as our department.
- 2 Paist and Steward were premiere architects in
- 3 the city. They understood Merrick's vision, and in the
- 4 1930s they were positioned in few ways that other
- 5 designers were to thoughtfully transition the city from
- 6 its Mediterranean Revival foundation to include
- 7 contemporary influences.
- 8 In the next several slides, we'll walk you
- 9 around the home. It should be stated that staff did not
- 10 have access to the site, so the photos that you see, are
- 11 seeing were provided either by the owner with the
- 12 application or from real estate listings or Google Earth.
- 13 This single family residence at 2214 Segovia
- 14 Circle is an elegant and early representation of a
- 15 transitional style that blends the modernistic Art Moderne
- 16 with elements of the Mediterranean Revival style.
- 17 The home retains recessed and projecting bays
- 18 of the Mediterranean Revival style, but an overall simpler
- 19 form with focus on geometric elements. There's clad and
- 20 barrel tile of the Mediterranean Revival style, but the
- 21 roof along the front facade is a single side-facing gable
- 22 that's cut back to accommodate the bays, a distinct
- 23 departure from the use of separate roofs of varying types
- 24 and heights that are common in the Mediterranean Revival
- 25 style. The smooth stucco of the Art Moderne style also

- 1 accents the home's geometric emphasis.
- 2 The primary elements of the home are the
- 3 fenestration openings of various geometric shapes. They
- 4 are deeply recessed without sills, giving the impression
- 5 of being carved out.
- 6 The openings of the front facade are the
- 7 hallmark features of the home. The large segmental arch
- 8 with the concave chamfer is a graceful, modernistic
- 9 statement of the entrance of this Mediterranean
- 10 Transitional home.
- 11 The home -- the openings visible from the
- 12 street are dominant and visually balance each other from
- 13 the large circular opening on the east facade of the front
- 14 porch, to the deeply recessed square of the garage door,
- 15 to the large segmental chamfered arch and the deeply
- 16 recessed chamfered rectangular window.
- 17 Additional embellishment is minimal and is
- 18 comprised of Mediterranean Revival elements of grouped
- 19 round vents in the gable eaves, a low wall and gate off
- 20 the west side of the home, and the flared end at the west
- 21 side of the porch, as well as the Art Moderne elements of
- 22 the cast masonry vent with geometric pattern on the
- 23 garage's west facade, the spiral planter off the southeast
- 24 corner of the porch, and interior geometric chimney stack.
- 25 This photo was shot from the front door

- 1 showing the entry porch with its large cement, segmental
- 2 arch and the circular cut-out on the side elevations, and
- 3 then the upright rectangular opening at the rear which you
- 4 can see the sunshine from there.
- 5 Notice the exposed rafters common in
- 6 Mediterranean Revival homes but with a modern twist with
- 7 the gabled end framing that circular opening and then
- 8 forming the triangle above. The geometric floor tile is
- 9 also original.
- 10 Another hallmark feature of the home is the
- 11 low wall that curves in on itself to form a planter. This
- 12 distinctly modernistic feature extends from the southeast
- 13 corner of the porch and spirals towards the street. The
- 14 red arrow points to its depiction on the original
- 15 drawings.
- 16 You can see portions of the wall in the two
- 17 current photos at the bottom, but it's obscured by
- 18 vegetation, but the spiral portion you can see on the
- 19 current property survey, it indicates that it is still
- 20 there.
- On the rear facade, the fenestration clearly
- 22 demonstrates modernistic proportions of slender upright
- 23 rectangles with its secured casement proportions common in
- 24 the Mediterranean Revival style.
- 25 From this bird's eye view, one can see the

- 1 west facade of the home with its grouped round vents and
- 2 the gables and juxtaposed by Mediterranean -- the grouped
- 3 round vents, which is the Mediterranean Revival feature,
- 4 juxtaposed with the masonry vent from the attached garage.
- 5 The vent is formed in a geometric rectangular pattern that
- 6 was detailed on Paist's original plan.
- 7 Comparison of original permit plans, historic
- 8 photos and building records with the extant property
- 9 indicate that this residence retains a significant degree
- 10 of historic integrity over its eight decades. There have
- 11 been no additions or substantial changes to the form and
- 12 the style of the home.
- 13 Alterations of note include the change of
- 14 window type from steel casement to awning. The date of
- 15 this change is unknown. The size of the windows were not
- 16 altered.
- 17 On the front facade, this change in type
- 18 resulted in the alterations of the window configurations
- 19 from two pairs of double casements with transoms to two
- 20 pairs of awning windows. The five-light height
- 21 configuration was maintained.
- The original roof tile was two piece barrel
- 23 tile. The current S tile was installed in 2006.
- 24 Another alteration of note is the removal of
- 25 the screen door and the screen framework on the entry

- 1 porch, the configuration of the metal screen door with its
- 2 tropical motif, and the screening of entry arches
- 3 documented in the original permit drawings and the
- 4 historic photos that you see here.
- 5 The single family residence at 2214 Segovia
- 6 Circle is a thoughtful execution of a home that
- 7 acknowledges the city's Mediterranean Revival foundation
- 8 while embracing modernistic aesthetics.
- 9 Designed by the esteemed architects Phineas
- 10 Paist and Harold Steward, it was amongst the first homes
- 11 built during the New Deal era and is one of the city's
- 12 earliest representations of the Mediterranean Transitional
- 13 style that ushered in a new architectural era in Coral
- 14 Gables.
- The property at 2214 Segovia Circle
- 16 significantly contributes to the historic fabric of the
- 17 City of Coral Gables. It's part of a collection of
- 18 quality residences that serve as a visible reminder of the
- 19 history and the cultural heritage of the city.
- 20 Staff recommends approval of the local
- 21 historic designation of the property at 2214 Segovia
- 22 Circle based on its historical, cultural and aesthetic
- 23 significance.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, ElizaBeth.
- 25 Kara, is there an applicant or owner that wishes to speak?

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: I believe that they are on the
- 2 line. I don't know if they wish to speak or not.
- MS. CUSACK: Can I speak for a second?
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Are you an applicant or
- 5 owner?
- 6 MS. CUSACK: No. I'm the realtor.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. I'm waiting to hear
- 8 from the applicant or the owner first.
- 9 MS. LYONS: Ashley, turn off your volume.
- 10 MS. CUSACK: I'm here.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. If you wish to
- 12 speak, you can. If not, you don't have to.
- 13 MS. STEINHOUR: I don't wish to at this time.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 15 So before we go to public hearing, are there any questions
- 16 from the board to staff?
- 17 MR. FULLERTON: I have one quick one. Did
- 18 the owner request this designation?
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: No, sir. It was brought to
- 20 you all as a result of a historical significance request
- 21 from a potential buyer of the property.
- MR. FULLERTON: So not by the owner?
- MS. SPAIN: Right.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Raul? You're on mute.
- 25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Has the owner expressed a

- 1 view as to whether or not this should be designated?
- MS. KAUTZ: I have -- I don't believe they're
- 3 in favor of it. You can ask them, certainly.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: So we just gave them an
- 5 opportunity to speak, and they declined. Any other board
- 6 member have a question to staff before we go to public
- 7 hearing?
- 8 Okay, hearing none, can we swear in anybody
- 9 that wishes to speak on this item?
- 10 THE COURT REPORTER: Who is speaking on this
- 11 item?
- 12 MS. CUSACK: I'm Ashley Cusack. I'm the
- 13 realtor, and I am sitting with the home owner who would
- 14 have liked to, but didn't realize that the opportunity to
- 15 -- you know, when Raul asked if they wanted it designated,
- 16 they did not want it designated.
- 17 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Before we proceed to
- 18 public hearing, would the owner like to speak now?
- 19 THE COURT REPORTER: Okay, wait a minute.
- 20 Before you speak, let me swear in the realtor and the
- 21 owner. Would you both raise your right hand? Miss
- 22 Cusack, please raise your right hand, and Miss Steinhour,
- 23 raise your right hand.
- 24 (Thereupon, Ms. Cusack and Ms. Steinhour were duly
- 25 remotely sworn on oath by the court reporter.)

- 1 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. You may
- 3 proceed.
- 4 MS. STEINHOUR: In response to the question
- 5 if we filed for this designation, we did not. We were
- 6 putting our house on the market and an interested buyer
- 7 wanted to know the status of the house, and that
- 8 instigated the proceeding.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. As the owner, you
- 10 have a few minutes to speak. Once we close out, we're
- 11 going to go to public -- I'm just going to go to the
- 12 public, which again, you have the opportunity now.
- Ms. STEINHOUR: Well, my only comment is kind
- 14 of the process of waiting until I guess somebody is
- 15 looking to make a change to a property, which we were not,
- 16 and the designating, going from starting this procedure
- 17 that has, you know, dramatically impacted the sale of this
- 18 house.
- 19 And I understand that we live in a historic
- 20 home. I've been here for 27 years. I'm not, not looking
- 21 for it to be torn down.
- 22 And in, within that process, we've had
- 23 community people and associations very aggressively, I
- 24 don't know what the word is, but coming at us in a
- 25 situation that we didn't start, and they use your

1 personnel as representatives in their communications, and

- 2 they give false information, and I know that it's not
- 3 something that you all control, but it certainly affected
- 4 us, and this is not any of our own doing.
- 5 And it's been on social media and it's on
- 6 e-mail campaigns, and one -- people that are showing up at
- 7 open houses who won't reveal who they are, trying to take
- 8 pictures inside of my property, and it's people from the
- 9 preservationist groups, and it's very aggressive.
- 10 And on top of that, it devalued my home that
- 11 I've kept for 12 years, my husband and I, to help protect
- 12 that piece of property. We live right behind it. We have
- 13 a vested interest in it, and this process has been
- 14 completely unfair to us.
- So, you know, those are just my feelings. As
- 16 to whether or not, you know, we have a say in which way it
- 17 goes, we apparently do not, so you know, it would be my
- 18 preference for people to know how this process works. We
- 19 were completely railroaded into today, and here we are,
- 20 so.
- 21 And then, you know, then there's just
- 22 inconsistencies of other homes that have been allowed to
- 23 be torn down. I know of one on North Greenway at 2623 who
- 24 has also had Paist as the architect, and you know, there's
- 25 just inconsistencies in this.

- 1 And then the historic house, even though it
- 2 isn't historic but it was deemed historic, that was torn
- down three houses down from me this week at 657.
- 4 So I could do all the research all day long.
- 5 I don't really care to, but from a public point of view,
- 6 this is very inconsistent. It seems aggressive on the
- 7 city to go after people who want to sell a house and stop
- 8 that sale before, before a buyer can get to it so that
- 9 they can't make changes. It just feels very aggressive to
- 10 me.
- 11 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Steinhour.
- MR. CABALLOS: Mr. Chair, if I may, if Miss
- 13 Cusack is representing the homeowner and would like to
- 14 speak on behalf of the homeowner, I would recommend that
- 15 the chair and the board let her speak as a representative
- of the homeowner and not as part of the public hearing.

17

- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Understood. Miss Cusack,
- do you wish to speak on behalf of the owner?
- 20 MS. CUSACK: I would like to specifically ask
- 21 about 2623 North Greenway and why that was allowed to be
- 22 torn down as that was a Phineas Paist home as well.
- 23 And I also just thought that as Amy Steinhour
- 24 said, you know, the way the process worked, you know, if a
- 25 property should be designated historic, I feel like that

- 1 should be brought to the homeowner before it becomes a
- 2 case that, you know, somebody asks for it or it comes on
- 3 the market.
- I think it's -- I mean, I live in an old
- 5 Spanish. I love the history of the Gables.
- This is a 1,400-square-foot house on a
- 7 15,000-square-foot lot. It was a beautiful presentation,
- 8 and however, honestly, it seemed far reaching. I feel
- 9 like Phineas Paist has so many fabulous representations of
- 10 his style in Coral Gables, I don't know that this is one
- 11 of them.
- 12 And I wish somebody would come in the house
- 13 and see the condition. It's not, you know, an elegant --
- 14 I mean, it was, elegant was one of the definitions. It's
- 15 not elegant, and I just -- anyway, the process felt like
- 16 -- you know, I would have considered designating my home,
- 17 you know, myself, I live in an old Spanish, but this kind
- 18 of just makes you -- turns you off from it. It makes you
- 19 feel like you are being forced into it, and I know that,
- 20 you know, The Gables is developing this reputation.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Cusack.
- 22 I'm going to send that over to -- actually, no. Before I
- 23 send it over to staff, we're just going to look at the
- 24 merits of this particular project, not in relationship to
- 25 any other project.

1 So I am going to ask staff, maybe the city

- 2 attorney's office, just to confirm that the process by
- 3 which we're reviewing this application is legal.
- 4 MR. CEBALLOS: As always, the criteria for
- 5 designation is the criteria designation. It should not be
- 6 -- other properties in the area are not part of that
- 7 criteria and shouldn't be considered.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: No, sir, not that question;
- 9 if the process by which we're going to review this now is
- 10 legal.
- MR. CEBALLOS: I'm sorry, I guess I don't --
- 12 I didn't hear the part before that. What is your concern
- 13 about the current process?
- 14 MR. GARCIA-PONS: It's not a concern. I'm
- 15 just asking whether the process by which we received the
- 16 historic significance application and review at this time
- 17 is appropriate.
- 18 MR. CEBALLOS: Staff would have to, staff
- 19 would have to clarify, but anytime that a historic
- 20 significance letter is received and a determination is
- 21 made that the property qualifies, it will then be taken to
- 22 the board per the zoning code.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you.
- MR. CEBALLOS: So even if it was brought by
- 25 somebody else, that is correct.

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you.
- 2 MS. SPAIN: I'm sorry. I apologize. This is
- 3 Dona Spain. Can I just make a few comments?
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Is it a question to the
- 5 applicant?
- 6 MS. SPAIN: No. It's a, it's a comment about
- 7 a couple of the items that the property owner and the
- 8 realtor brought up. I don't have to, but.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: If it's a question to the
- 10 applicant.
- 11 MS. SPAIN: It's not a question at all.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay.
- MS. SPAIN: It's just a comment, but I can
- 14 wait, I can wait till the end.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Let's close this and open
- 16 it up for public hearing. Does anybody wish to speak on
- 17 this item? And I don't know how to do this, guys.
- 18 MR. FULLERTON: You can close the public
- 19 hearing and go to --
- 20 MR. GARCIA-PONS: No. I'm going to open the
- 21 public hearing. I haven't opened it yet, so I don't know
- 22 if there's any applicant that wishes -- or excuse me, any
- 23 members of the public that wishes to speak.
- MS. SPAIN: There should be a way for them to
- 25 raise their hand, but I couldn't figure it out on this

- 1 thing.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Right. So Madame Court
- 3 Reporter, Kara, how do we --
- 4 MS. SPAIN: I see someone, Jane, I'm sorry,
- 5 Jane Andra (phonetic) raising her hand. There's someone
- on the telephone who I can't see a name whose hand is
- 7 raised. It's a (305). It ends in 449. We just have to
- 8 start. Billy can I think do that.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Let's please open it
- 10 up, one at a time.
- MR. BONDURANT: Are you speaking to me?
- 12 MS. KAUTZ: Sure. Gay Bondurant, go ahead.
- MS. BONDURANT: Yes, thank you.
- 14 THE COURT REPORTER: Wait, wait, wait.
- 15 Excuse me, ma'am, can I have you state your name and spell
- 16 it?
- 17 MS. KAUTZ: yes, ma'am. The name, first name
- 18 is Gay, G-A-Y. The last name is Bondurant, B as in boy,
- 19 ON, D as in David, U-R-A-N-T.
- THE COURT REPORTER: All right. Ma'am, would
- 21 you raise your right hand?
- 22 (Thereupon, Ms. Bondurant was duly remotely sworn on oath
- 23 by the court reporter.)
- 24 MS. BONDURANT: Thank you. I was not
- 25 planning to make a comment, and I had to walk away. I'd

- 1 just like to ask a question if I can to clarify.
- 2 How was this brought for designation? Who
- 3 brought it and how did that happen? Sir, I'm sorry. I
- 4 was out of the room.
- 5 MS. KAUTZ: We just clarified. It was a
- 6 potential buyer brought us a significance request for
- 7 historic significance. We found the property significant
- 8 and brought the designation to the board.
- 9 MS. BONDURANT: So it was a potential buyer?
- MS. KAUTZ: Yes.
- MS. BONDURANT: Okay. Basically that's all.
- 12 I just didn't understand that.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, ma'am.
- MS. BONDURANT: Thank you.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Next.
- MR. URQUIA: The next person.
- 17 MS. CARBONELL: Hello? Am I the next
- 18 speaker?
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. Please state your
- 20 name.
- 21 MS. CARBONELL: This is, yes, this is Karelia
- 22 Martinez Carbonell, and I am a Coral Gables resident. I'm
- 23 also president --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: One moment, one moment --
- 25 MS. CARBONELL: -- Coral Gables Historic

- 1 Preservation --
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: -- one moment, one moment.
- 3 Please, you must be sworn in.
- 4 THE COURT REPORTER: Mr. Ceballos, do I have
- 5 to see her, to be able to swear her, visually?
- 6 MR. EHRENHAFT: If there is no video, they
- 7 cannot be sworn in, so their testimony will be accepted,
- 8 but it is not sworn testimony and as such is not
- 9 considered competent potential evidence for the purpose of
- 10 this hearing.
- 11 THE COURT REPORTER: So I should go ahead and
- 12 swear her?
- 13 MR. GARCIA-PONS: No. It doesn't count. So
- 14 Miss Carbonell --
- MR. CABALLOS: There's no need.
- 16 MR. GARCIA-PONS: -- Miss Carbonell, you have
- 17 two minutes.
- 18 MS. CARBONELL: Okay, okay. Thank you. Yes,
- 19 I represent the Historic Preservation Association of Coral
- 20 Gables, and I do want to clarify.
- I believe I, I, I understood that there was
- 22 preservationist associations that were very aggressive.
- 23 We do support the city in its effort to designate historic
- 24 resources, and we do, we do then generate information for
- our members, and, but we do it following the guidelines of

- 1 the city. Basically the report, the 25, 25-page report
- 2 is, is part of the E-blast and there is no misinformation
- 3 as far as, you know, I believe.
- 4 Now, what I do want to say is that the city,
- 5 there is an ordinance and the city does follow its
- 6 ordinance every time they do get a determination letter,
- 7 and I know because I understand how it works, and so I
- 8 don't think it's picking on any one particular property,
- 9 but it just follows a process.
- 10 And as you have read in the report, it's a
- 11 very significant property. It's actually designed by not
- 12 one, but two very renowned Coral Gables architects, and
- 13 that's in itself rare. It's also rare in itself because
- 14 of the fact that it was a transitional style. Again, we
- 15 go back to precedent setting.
- 16 And so I do hope that the board looks at just
- 17 the merits of the criteria. It fits three of the five.
- 18 Only one is basically needed to designate. This home
- 19 qualifies under three.
- 20 And you know, the cottage is adorable, it is
- 21 elegant in its simple way, and so on behalf of the
- 22 Historic Preservation Association, we do support
- 23 designation, and Kara, how many letters did the --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Carbonell.
- 25 That's your two minutes, that's your two minutes, Miss

- 1 Carbonell. Thank you very much.
- MS. CARBONELL: Okay, but I'm asking, I'm
- 3 asking Kara how many letters of support --
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Carbonell.
- 5 MS. CARBONELL: -- did her office receive.
- 6 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Carbonell.
- 7 MS. KAUTZ: I'll read the names into the
- 8 record after everything is done.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Carbonell.
- 10 Next speaker, please.
- 11 MS. KAUTZ: I don't see anybody else with
- 12 their hands raised.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. So I'd like to close
- 14 the public hearing.
- 15 MR. EHRENHAFT: Excuse me. I do see somebody
- 16 identified as Julie's just I-Pad raising their hand.
- 17 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay.
- 18 MR. BOSWELL: Can you hear us?
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, Julie's I-Pad.
- MR. BOSELL: Okay.
- 21 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Please state your name.
- 22 MR. BOSWELL: My name is Peter Boswell. My
- 23 wife is Julie Yanson, Y-A-N-S-O-N.
- 24 THE COURT REPORTER: Woold you both raise
- 25 your right hand?

1 (Thereupon, Mr. Boswell and Ms. Yanson were duly remotely

- 2 sworn on oath by the court reporter.)
- 3 MR. BOSWELL: Okay. We live directly across
- 4 the street from the house in question. If you could see
- 5 through that window, you could see it.
- I think the city has made, the preservation
- 7 board has made a very good case for its aesthetic
- 8 significance. We look at it every day and do think it's a
- 9 very beautiful facade and everything.
- 10 We've also had the opportunity to go inside
- 11 and see some of the historic elements on the inside
- 12 including the tiled living room, the gabled roof of the
- 13 living room, fireplace, all that stuff.
- I don't know the extent of the city's
- 15 authority in things like this, but I would think that
- 16 certainly the facade of the building is more than worth
- 17 preserving, and if possible, the interior as far back as
- 18 not just the peak of the roof, but all the way back where
- 19 the beams go back would definitely be worth preserving if
- 20 it's at all possible, but I don't know how much authority
- 21 the city has over the interior.
- 22 MS. KAUTZ: Interiors are not designated,
- 23 unfortunately.
- MS. YANSON: Yes, and if I could just say
- 25 something, I've always -- we've lived in this house for 20

- 1 years, and I've always loved looking at that house, and
- 2 the way our house is designed is there is a lot of viewing
- 3 directly across to that street from our dining room, from
- 4 our own arched porch, and I've always thought it's sort of
- 5 an amazing, sweet house, and looking at the presentation
- 6 today I was even more impressed by it.
- 7 I mean, that it's a 1935 house, and there
- 8 aren't that many 1935 houses, so that means it seems to me
- 9 that really needs to be preserved and protected, and I
- 10 mean, I'm just, I'm sort of in awe of the porch and all
- 11 the details of the porch, and the, one of the original
- 12 photographs of it with the landscaping was just, it's a
- 13 really beautiful house.
- MR. BOSWELL: It's worth pointing out also
- 15 that most of the houses on this street, this is just a
- 16 small, one-block street, that most of the houses on this
- 17 street are original from the early part of Coral Gables
- 18 history.
- 19 MS. YANSON: And our our house is designated
- 20 as well.
- MR. BOSELL: Yes.
- 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Great. Thank you, thank
- 23 you so much for your comments. Anybody else wish to
- 24 speak?
- MS. SPAIN: I don't see anybody.

- 1 MR. BANOS: If I could briefly.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Who is this?
- 3 MR. BANOS: My name is Javier Banos.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Banos, are you on the
- 5 phone or are you on Zoom?
- 6 MR. BANOS: I am on the phone. I'm on Zoom.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. There you go.
- 8 MR. BANOS: Okay, yes.
- 9 THE COURT REPORTER: Wait. Excuse me, sir,
- 10 excuse me, sir.
- MR. BANOS: Yes.
- 12 THE COURT REPORTER: Would you raise your
- 13 right hand?
- MR. BANOS: Absolutely.
- 15 (Thereupon, Mr. Banos was duly sworn on oath by the court
- 16 reporter.)
- 17 MR. BANOS: Yes. My name is Javier Banos. I
- 18 live at 1801 Casila Street, Coral Gables, Florida.
- 19 This house, I drive through every single day
- 20 from my way to work on Coral Way back to my house.
- I think it's a beautiful home. I think it
- 22 should be preserved. I think it's one of the wonderful
- 23 examples this city has of, you know, the Mediterranean
- 24 architecture, and I would love to see it, see it
- 25 maintained and to see it preserved and designated

- 1 historic. That's it.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you so much.
- 3 THE COURT REPORTER: Can I ask him to please
- 4 repeat his address?
- 5 MR. BANOS: Absolutely, 1801, 1-8-0-1,
- 6 Casila, C-A-S-I-L-A, Street, Coral Gables, Florida, 33134.
- 7 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Banos. Does
- 9 anybody else wish to speak on this item?
- 10 I'd like to close public hearing. Public
- 11 hearing is now closed.
- 12 Kara, do you have any letters that you wish
- 13 to read into the record?
- MS. KAUTZ: Yes, sir. I'm not going to read
- 15 them into the record. They are part of the Legistar file
- 16 that was prepared for this item, but I will read who they
- 17 are from.
- 18 We received one from The Villagers,
- 19 Incorporated, The President of The Villagers, from
- 20 Mr. Brett Gillis. Michelle Dunaj who lives -- do I tell
- 21 where they live? Is that a thing? Do I need to do that?
- 22 Michelle Dunaj, a Coral Gables resident.
- 23 Leslie Rivera, Coral Gables resident.
- 24 Patricia Button, a Coral Gables resident. Thomas
- 25 Stieghorst, a Coral Gables resident. Josephine Johnson,

- 1 again a resident. Repeat.
- 2 A letter from Dade Heritage Trust, the
- 3 executive director of that organization, Cindy Seip,
- 4 another resident, historic homeowner.
- 5 There was an article that was forwarded to us
- 6 by the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables
- 7 that was written, an opinion piece written by Brett Gillis
- 8 in The Gables Insider which is part of the record.
- 9 Cheryl Akerman who is a Villager. Howard
- 10 Berman, a Gables resident. Diana Vidal, I'm not sure if
- 11 she's a resident. Sandra Scidmore. Historic Preservation
- 12 Association of Coral Gables, from their president. Daniel
- 13 Ciraldo who is the executive director for the Miami Design
- 14 Preservation League on their behalf.
- 15 Madeleine Shirley, historic homeowner.
- 16 Steven Littlehale, another historic homeowner, and Gordon
- 17 Sokoloff who is a Gables resident.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Kara, were all these in
- 19 favor? Were there any opposition letters? You didn't
- 20 say.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: They were all received in favor
- 22 of designation.
- 23 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you very much. Okay,
- 24 back to the board. I'm willing to take a motion for
- 25 discussion, or if you have any questions or comments for

- 1 staff, now is the time.
- 2 MR. FULLERTON: Could I ask a question of one
- 3 of the speakers a moment ago who owns a house directly
- 4 across the street, it's historically designated?
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, you may.
- 6 MR. FULLERTON: I just wanted to know from
- 7 them, was your designation a hindrance to what you wanted
- 8 to do with that house in any way whatsoever?
- 9 MR. BOSWELL: No. We bought the house 20
- 10 years ago, and we asked for the designation about three
- 11 years ago, four years ago, something like that.
- So no, it hasn't affected anything that we've
- 13 tried to do.
- MR. FULLERTON: Has it been a pleasure
- 15 dealing with the staff in that department?
- MR. BOSWELL: Yes.
- 17 MS. YANSON: Oh, absolutely, absolutely, and
- 18 we loved receiving the history of the home and just
- 19 learning more about the significance of it. I had no idea
- 20 about all the details.
- 21 MR. FULLERTON: I simply asked that for the
- 22 benefit of the owner of this property so that she's not so
- 23 concerned about how it might affect her buyer, because I
- 24 think it's a positive thing, not a negative thing.
- MS. YANSON: Oh, that's --

- 1 MR. BOSWELL: In our opinion, it just
- 2 enhances the value of the home.
- 3 MR. FULLERTON: That's good to hear. Thank
- 4 you.
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 6 MS. STEINHOUR: Can I respond to that?
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Actually it's back to the
- 8 board, so let's listen to the board first. Any members of
- 9 the board have any questions or comments? Peggy?
- 10 MS. ROLANDO: Yes. I have the privilege of
- 11 owning for over 30 years a Phineas Paist house on Alhambra
- 12 Circle that's a 1929 home.
- I too, like many, drive by this home every
- 14 day. I would note it's one of a set or a pair of homes
- 15 that look very similar. Segovia Circle is a beautiful --
- 16 it's a short but beautifully realized and beautifully
- 17 proportioned Coral Gables street. The homes on it are in
- 18 scale and the maintenance and consistency of the homes is
- 19 truly outstanding.
- 20 As someone who has owned a Phineas Paist
- 21 home, I would, and has seen many of them, I would remark
- 22 that the homes are typically extremely well designed, have
- 23 very, very little, if any, wasted space, have some
- 24 whimsical elements, and have beautiful light.
- 25 So I would also note or observe about this

- 1 home is it's on a very large lot, especially by Coral
- 2 Gables standards, and there are marvelous opportunities to
- 3 expand this home while still maintaining the architectural
- 4 integrity of the existing home.
- 5 So I don't think in any way designation is a
- 6 drawback, and I don't believe that the, that the
- 7 designation hurts. In fact, it helps, and it's basically
- 8 an imprimatur of the importance of the home.
- 9 So we've said now in our board over and over
- 10 again that you don't have to have a gigantic home to have
- 11 a historically significant home, and in my opinion this is
- 12 a truly historically significant home. Thank you.
- 13 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Rolando.
- 14 Does any other member of the board have any questions or
- 15 comments for staff?
- 16 MS. KAUTZ: Alicia has her hand raised.
- 17 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Alicia, please.
- 18 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Thank you. In the same
- 19 spirit of what Peggy and John's comments, I have a
- 20 question for Kara.
- I'm somewhat familiar with that street. I
- 22 know somebody who used to own one of the larger homes on
- 23 that street, and just out of curiosity since I guess the
- 24 homeowner across the street mentioned that all the homes
- 25 on that street are original, Kara, which -- are all of

- 1 them historically designated today, or are most of them,
- 2 or just --
- 3 MS. SPAIN: ElizaBeth can probably speak to
- 4 that. She looked very closely at this block.
- 5 We have the one on the corner of Segovia and
- 6 Toledo was designated, and then there is the one across
- 7 the street that the homeowner alluded to who is on the
- 8 Zoom call, and then I believe it's the home next door to
- 9 that on the opposite side of the street, and those are,
- 10 those are the ones.
- 11 And then, of course, when you get down to
- 12 Alhambra, that's when they start, Alhambra becomes a
- 13 district.
- 14 So there are I think four. No, I'm sorry.
- 15 There is one more on that same side of the street as well,
- 16 four or five that are designated on that street, on that
- 17 small stretch.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Thank you.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. Is that all,
- 20 Miss Bache-Wiig?
- 21 MS. BACHE-WIIG: I mean, yeah, because
- 22 there's some like towards Alhambra, there was, there's a
- 23 couple of homes I believe that are, they're, you know, the
- 24 original homes and then there were additions that were
- 25 done to it, and I think that they were pretty successful,

- 1 and they're large, I mean they're large homes.
- 2 And I guess because those, those lots are so
- deep, you know, it affords that opportunity to get, you
- 4 know, the larger, you know, modern-day house on a property
- 5 of that size, you know, in connection with a historic or
- 6 original, you know, size home.
- 7 So I thought it was worth mentioning because
- 8 I think that street is really successful at doing just
- 9 that.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Bache-Wiig.
- 11 Any other board member have any questions or comments for
- 12 staff or the applicant?
- 13 MR. FULLERTON: I have one more, and that
- 14 relates to the statement that the previous owner made
- 15 which really hit me in the head, was that these realtors
- 16 and their clients are coming in and taking pictures of the
- 17 inside of their home.
- 18 I think that is really egregious and should
- 19 not be allowed. I can't imagine an invasion of privacy
- 20 like that under any conditions, and it seems to me that
- 21 the City of Coral Gables should have some control over
- 22 what a realtor can allow their clients to do in anybody's
- 23 home, private home.
- So I'd like to figure out if there's, if
- 25 there is a problem in doing that and what can be done to

- 1 prevent it. I think that's terrible.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 3 So we'll ask staff to think about that in the future. I
- 4 don't know if that's an answer for today since Mr. -- does
- 5 anybody else have a question or a comment before I ask
- 6 one?
- 7 MS. KAUTZ: I would just like to clarify
- 8 briefly.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Please.
- 10 MS. KAUTZ: So that I as well think that is a
- 11 horrible practice, and it is not, just so that the owner
- 12 knows and Miss Cusack, that is not something that is
- 13 directed by this department, this city, this government.
- 14 These are outside organizations that have no
- 15 city affiliation with our department or with the city
- 16 government, so please do not assume that that is in any
- 17 way directed by or condoned by us.
- 18 MR. FULLERTON: No. I wouldn't suggest that
- 19 at all, but I would think that the people in charge of
- 20 showing these homes and so forth should or could, might be
- 21 able to make sure that that doesn't happen somehow.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you.
- MR. FULLERTON: And I know, I know Miss
- 24 Cusack is very astute realtor in Coral Gables. I've known
- 25 her for a long time and I know she wouldn't allow it if

- 1 she could help it.
- MS. SPAIN: I agree.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 4 So Miss Cusack and Miss Steinhour, I know that you had
- 5 expressed an interest to say something. I'm going to give
- 6 you the opportunity to do that. Hopefully it's not on
- 7 this particular item with the photos.
- 8 But is there something that you wanted to say
- 9 that was left out? This is your moment.
- 10 MS. CUSACK: I just, I did want to say that
- 11 the house next door on the other side is built in 1987, so
- 12 I know everyone is saying that every single house on the
- 13 street is historical and vintage, and definitely the house
- 14 next door is 1987 and it comes right up to their property
- 15 line. I mean, their wall is the Steinhours' property
- 16 line, so yeah.
- 17 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you very much,
- 18 Miss Cusack. Okay. Closing back, if we could bring it
- 19 back to the board --
- 20 MS. STEINHOUR: I wanted to -- I'll turn this
- 21 off.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Please, Miss Steinhour.
- MS. STEINHOUR: -- just clarify. What
- 24 happened with the photography is that Ashley's team was
- 25 showing the house at an open house, and somebody came in

- 1 and wouldn't identify themselves and were asked to
- 2 identify themselves and didn't, and they were found inside
- 3 taking pictures, so that's, that's how that happened.
- 4 And then we got phone calls from people
- 5 through these associations asking for, asking friends of
- 6 ours and asking us for what our intentions were, and it
- 7 was just, it was just, honestly it was really
- 8 unappreciated.

9

- 10 MR. FULLERTON: Intrusive.
- 11 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Steinhour.
- MS. STEINHOUR: And one last thing.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am.
- 14 MS. STEINHOUR: I live in a historic home. I
- 15 live at 635 North Greenway, so you don't need to explain
- 16 to me what the value of a historic home is. We're very
- 17 clear on that.
- 18 We did not involve ourselves in this process
- 19 at all. We put our house on the market, and it stimulated
- 20 this review, which is fine.
- 21 I have neighbors who are upset and worried
- 22 now. I have people who assume that we're tearing down the
- 23 house. The comment in the historical association's e-mail
- 24 blast was that this house is designated to be torn down.
- None of that is true. Not one bit of that is

- 1 true. We haven't proceeded with plans. We didn't do
- 2 anything but put that house on the market.
- 3 So my comment in all this, you all can talk
- 4 about how wonderful and valuable the historic designation
- 5 is. I'm in agreement with that, and I'm glad you all feel
- 6 that way.
- 7 But that really the issue here is process,
- 8 and that as a homeowner and somebody who has lived here
- 9 for 25 years, every house we've lived in has been
- 10 historic, are we limited in making changes on things?
- 11 Sometimes we are.
- 12 I know the neighbor from across the street on
- 13 Segovia who moved into a house that didn't have to have
- 14 any addition done to it. I know the person who owned it
- 15 before her was an interior designer, and the house was
- 16 lovely, and Ashley was the realtor on that sale. We are
- 17 not talking about the same house.
- 18 So the other thing is through this process,
- 19 we've lost every buyer that's come by, so you can all say
- 20 that it adds value and you can all sit there and tell
- 21 yourselves that all the time, but there is a market out
- 22 there, and I know this buyer will come, I know this
- 23 historic person or family who appreciates it, but I got to
- 24 tell you, the first comment is, "But we got to deal with
- 25 the city so we don't want to pay you for the value of your

- 1 land," and that's the honest to God truth.
- 2 So you can talk about the value of historic
- designation all you want, but you don't walk the walk,
- 4 because it makes it difficult for people and it makes the
- 5 process difficult when somebody does want to do anything.
- 6 And you can all say, "Well, did you have a
- 7 nice experience?" I'm sure people have, I have, but I
- 8 have a lot of friends and people in this town that I've
- 9 been here as a historic homeowner for as long as most of
- 10 you, and it's not always pleasant and it's not always
- 11 easy, and it does change the value of homes, so don't kid
- 12 yourselves.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Steinhour.
- 14 MS. SPAIN: Okay. So now I'd like to
- 15 comment.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- MS. SPAIN: Can you hear me?
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Miss Spain.
- 19 MS. SPAIN: Hi, yeah, just about the process.
- 20 The process that, of the historic significance
- 21 determination was started in 2003, so it's been in place,
- 22 it was an amendment to the zoning code, so it's been in
- 23 place for 17 years.
- 24 And it was started because there is no way
- 25 that the historical resources department can catch every

- 1 historically significant home in Coral Gables, and we were
- 2 losing them because it was a time when there was a lot of
- 3 building going along, a lot of people buying properties,
- 4 and a lot of historically significant homes being
- 5 demolished, so that's why this process was put in place,
- 6 in order to catch those homes that would otherwise
- 7 possibly be demolished.
- 8 And to the point that it's hard putting your
- 9 home up for sale if it's designated as historic, I
- 10 purchased a historically designated home in 1994 on Santa
- 11 Maria Street. I was a little apprehensive because I
- 12 thought I was going to have problems with the department.
- 13 I was not working for the city at the time.
- 14 I lived in that home until 2014. I honestly
- 15 believe that I got more money because it was designated as
- 16 historic, and I had the pleasure through the years working
- 17 with the department that Ellen Uguccioni was in charge of.
- 18 So I think you obviously need the right
- 19 buyer, but those buyers are willing to pay top dollar.
- 20 That's all I have.
- 21 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Spain. So
- 22 I'm bringing this back to the chair. I'd like for
- 23 somebody to perhaps make a motion and focus the
- 24 conversation on the property at 2214 Segovia Circle,
- 25 please.

- 1 MS. SPAIN: I can make a motion.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Miss Spain, what is
- 3 your motion?
- 4 MS. SPAIN: I'd like to make a motion to
- 5 designate the property at 2214 Segovia Circle as a local
- 6 historic landmark based on -- wait. I've got to get
- 7 ElizaBeth's report here. Wait a minute. I apologize.
- Based on its -- all right. Based on its
- 9 historical, cultural and architectural significance.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Spain. Is
- 11 there a second?
- MS. ROLANDO: Second.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Seconded by Miss Rolando.
- 14 Any discussion? Okay. Let's call the roll.
- MS. KAUTZ: Okay. Mr. Rodriguez?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 17 MS. KAUTZ: Miss Rolando?
- MS. ROLANDO: Yes.
- MS. KAUTZ: Miss Spain?
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Fullerton?
- MR. FULLERTON: Yes.
- MS. KAUTZ: Miss Bache-Wiig?
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes.
- MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Garcia-Pons?

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- 2 MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Ehrenhaft?
- MR. EHRENHAFT: Yes.
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: The item passes.
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you very much. Let's
- 6 move on to the next item, please. Actually is the next --
- 7 Mr. De Leon, do you wish to proceed or defer this item
- 8 today?
- 9 MR. BAJANDAS: The owner is here,
- 10 Mr. Bajandas, I'm here.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. So we just had an
- 12 offer before, if you wish to defer that, and it was
- inconclusive so I just want to clarify.
- 14 MR. BAJANDAS: I'd like to continue if
- 15 possible.
- 16 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir. Then let's
- 17 proceed. Can you read this into the record, Kara?
- 18 MS. SPAIN: Yes. Let me share my screen
- 19 quickly.
- MR. BAJANDAS: I'm on video now.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: Hang on one sec. Sorry. This is
- 22 not something that we normally do. We normally have
- 23 someone run this for us, so I apologize.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: No worries. Thank you very
- 25 much.

1 MS. KAUTZ: All right. It's an application

- 2 for a revision to a previously issued special certificate
- 3 of appropriateness for the property at 4412 Santa Maria
- 4 Street, a contributing resource within the Santa Maria
- 5 Street Historic District legally described as the south 15
- 6 feet of Lot 22, and all of Lot 23, and Lot 24 less south
- 7 15 feet, Block 93, Coral Gables Country Club Section Part
- 8 Five, as recorded in Plat Book 23, Page 55 of the public
- 9 records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
- 10 The application requesting design approval
- 11 for additions and alterations to the residence and site
- 12 work was approved with conditions on June 21st, 2018.
- 13 This revision requests design approval for alterations to
- 14 the front perimeter fence. You all cannot see my screen.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Not yet. Okay. We can see
- 16 it now.
- 17 MS. KAUTZ: All right. This is a location
- 18 map of the property mid-point on Santa Maria Street on the
- 19 west side.
- 20 This is a photo from the 1940s of the
- 21 property, and this was a rendering of the fence and the
- 22 front wall as it was presented in the approved certificate
- 23 of appropriateness.
- 24 And I just wanted to note for you all that as
- 25 part of the condition of approval of the special COA, we

- 1 had noted that the design of the fence and gates as they
- 2 were included on the site plan but not in elevations.
- 3 This is the only rendering that we saw that we would do as
- 4 a separate standard COA.
- 5 During permitting, the fence and the gates
- 6 were included as part of the master permit, and it would
- 7 have been difficult to bisect the two at the time, so we
- 8 went ahead and approved it as part of the special and
- 9 didn't give it a separate number.
- 10 So now this revision represents a deviation
- 11 from the fence as approved in the master permit set of
- 12 drawings, and so what you see on the top of the screen,
- 13 and there are copies in your packet that are probably
- 14 easier to read, what was originally proposed were low, low
- 15 piers with aluminum pickets to simulate the wood that's
- 16 allowed and found on Santa Maria Street, and what they're
- 17 proposing instead.
- 18 The piers have already been installed. You
- 19 can see them on the left-hand side, and they are both
- 20 taller and thinner and rise up at the pedestrian entry and
- 21 have pickets now with spear caps.
- 22 I think Nelson is on. He was going to give a
- 23 presentation, so let me stop sharing and so he can get on.
- 24 THE COURT REPORTER: He hasn't been sworn
- 25 yet, right?

- 1 MR. DE LEON: No, I have not.
- MS. KAUTZ: He has not.
- 3 THE COURT REPORTER: Would you raise your
- 4 right hand, Mr. De Leon?
- 5 (Thereupon, Mr. De Leon was duly sworn on oath by the
- 6 court reporter.)
- 7 MR. DE LEON: Okay. Kara, can I go ahead and
- 8 share?
- 9 MS. KAUTZ: I believe you have that ability,
- 10 yes.
- MR. DE LEON: Okay, okay. Let me know if you
- 12 can all see this first page, 4412 Santa Maria.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes.
- MR. DE LEON: Okay, good. I'll just, I'll
- 15 scroll through this. This is going to be a brief
- 16 presentation.
- 17 So we have a few pictures of the home as it
- 18 is today. The home is, the renovation is almost 100
- 19 percent complete pending the side fence and the
- 20 landscaping which is on hold because of the fence work
- 21 which will damage that part of the landscape, so for the
- 22 most part the remodeling portion as it pertains to the
- 23 house and the interiors is almost 100 percent complete.
- So here is a view straight on looking at the
- 25 house showing the remodeling to the right, the addition to

- 1 the left, and the house itself, the house proper exists as
- 2 it has since probably '35, '39, when it was built.
- 3 So all we did there was the brick, which it's
- 4 hard to see in this photo, but the brick that's under the
- 5 pairs of casements had been painted over, and we just, we
- 6 turned that back to its original look, and then added
- 7 that, a similar detail on the addition.
- 8 So the original design, and I'm going to
- 9 scroll right to the, right to the inspirational images,
- 10 the original design was more of a wood picket or it was a
- 11 wood picket fence.
- 12 During the process, the client through some
- 13 of their travels saw quite a few homes in different areas
- 14 with more of a wrought iron look with spears, and to that
- 15 effect asked us to go ahead and redesign to incorporate
- 16 some of the things that they had seen in their travels
- 17 that they really liked.
- 18 So coincidentally all the pictures that
- 19 you're going to now see are pictures that I've taken, you
- 20 know, during my travels through Savannah and Charleston,
- 21 so the idea of having a picket that's a more of a wrought
- 22 iron with a spear, you'll see through all of these
- 23 pictures is something that's actually very common and more
- 24 so common than a picket fence in many of these historic
- 25 districts.

1 So this is one that has alternating spears,

- 2 and then this one has kind of an elongated spear, but part
- 3 of what I'm trying to show with the pictures is not only
- 4 the fence style, but also that the homes, many of these
- 5 date from the 18th century, 19th century, was kind of a
- 6 common element to use, to use more of a wrought iron with
- 7 a spear termination at the cap.
- 8 So that's what we did. We tried to take
- 9 these images and just work with a more contemporary
- 10 language. Many of these railings that I'm showing you are
- 11 actually wrought iron, and some of them are a hundred
- 12 years old, so it's hard to pick up all those exact details
- 13 that you would with wrought iron.
- But these were some of the inspirational
- 15 images that we looked at. We worked with the owner on
- 16 this, and they were really, they were really kind of
- 17 enamored of this particular style, of this kind of fence
- 18 that was a little bit lighter, a little bit more
- 19 see-through in nature, so that's what we did. We tried to
- 20 work with that and within the framework of the house.
- 21 So the fence itself to the top of the spears
- 22 is roughly four foot four. The caps, the lower caps to
- 23 the top of the stone cap are four nine, and then to the
- 24 bottom of that cap is four six.
- So we tried to, we tried to keep the top of

- 1 the spear just slightly below the bottom of the stone cap,
- 2 so that helped us have a fence that was a little bit more
- 3 in scale with a lot of the fences that are on that street.
- 4 We didn't, we didn't want to do a full five-foot high
- 5 which we thought was going to be too much for the area.
- 6 So the fence itself as it moves through the
- 7 rhythm of those columns is roughly four four.
- 8 The idea is to put a hedge, and we're not 100
- 9 percent sure at the end of the day whether that hedge is
- 10 going to be a four-foot hedge or a two-foot hedge or what
- 11 the actual hedge final height will be, but the idea was to
- 12 keep that railing at a scale that was more conducive with
- 13 its neighbors.
- So in essence that's the inspiration for the
- 15 railing, and this is our, our interpretation of some of
- 16 those pictures that you saw and working again with the
- 17 client on trying to design something for them that they
- 18 really, really loved after having traveled to some of
- 19 these cities, so I'll turn it over to you now.
- 20 MS. KAUTZ: Thank you. As we already noted
- 21 in the staff report, it's staff's recommendation that the
- 22 -- we just found that they are competing, the iron work is
- 23 competing with the iron work found on the house, and that
- 24 most of the examples that Nelson just showed have wooden
- 25 railings, so there's no competition between the two.

1 And staff also found that when we went back

- 2 to look at what's been previously approved and that for
- 3 the most part, the board has been pretty consistent at
- 4 keeping the height of the fences and piers along Santa
- 5 Maria at about four feet where these are now proposed to
- 6 be four-foot ten rising up to five-foot six at the
- 7 pedestrian gate.
- 8 So we did recommend denial of the application
- 9 and that it go back to what it was approved before, and if
- 10 you do accept the revision, we ask that it is lowered to
- 11 four feet and that the gate is bisected.
- 12 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Kara. Does any
- 13 member of the board wish to ask questions of the staff or
- 14 the applicant?
- MR. FULLERTON: Does the department know how
- 16 this was built to this scale in this dimension when the
- 17 drawings originally had something different? Is that
- 18 true?
- 19 MS. KAUTZ: The piers are already built. I
- 20 can't answer that question. Perhaps the owner or
- 21 applicant or Nelson can. I can't answer that.
- 22 MR. FULLERTON: But were they built according
- 23 to drawings that were submitted to the department in any
- 24 way?
- MS. KAUTZ: No, no.

- 1 MR. BAJANDAS: Can I answer that?
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, please.
- 3 MR. BAJANDAS: Yes. Do I need to swear in?
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, you do.
- 5 THE COURT REPORTER: Who is speaking?
- 6 MR. BAJANDAS: The homeowner.
- 7 THE COURT REPORTER: Can you state your name
- 8 and spell it, please?
- 9 MR. BAJANDAS: Ricardo Bajandas. It's, last
- 10 name is B-A-J-A-N-D-A-S.
- 11 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you, sir.
- 12 (Thereupon, Mr. Bajandas was duly remotely sworn on oath
- 13 by the court reporter.)
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Bajandas, you're
- 15 recognized.
- 16 MR. BAJANDAS: Okay, thank you. All of the
- 17 columns are built exactly per the drawings within height
- 18 except for the four in the middle, okay, so the four in
- 19 the middle, if you're asking us to reduce it, that's fine,
- 20 but all the other ones are per the drawings.
- 21 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Bajandas.
- MR. BAJANDAS: Yes.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Kara, is that correct?
- MS. KAUTZ: Not according to the drawings
- 25 that I have. Nelson, can you confirm that?

- 1 MR. DE LEON: You know, I didn't go back to
- 2 the original drawings since we were doing the fence design
- 3 within the framework of actual conditions, so I didn't go
- 4 back to our drawings, but it's easy enough to look at the
- 5 permit set to verify.
- 6 MR. BAJANDAS: Let me, if I can clarify one
- 7 more thing. Everything on this street is built to a level
- 8 even, so the lowest one is four feet, and the street goes
- 9 from high to low as you go towards the south so that the
- 10 smallest one is four feet and everything else is even.
- 11 It would have looked bizarre, if you went to
- 12 cut them all to four feet, it's going to look horrible all
- 13 along that front.
- So the lowest one is four feet, and we kept
- 15 that consistent all the way across, and the widths are all
- 16 the same. We can go out there and measure. I have no
- 17 problem meeting the measuring, both of those aspects of
- 18 it.
- 19 MS. KAUTZ: So the revision drawings as
- 20 included in your packet, that's the revision that was
- 21 permitted in December of 2019, show a pier height at,
- 22 capping out at three foot six, and then what was submitted
- 23 now shows them, piers, I think four foot ten.
- MR. BAJANDAS: Let me go back to the original
- 25 plan.

- 1 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Kara --
- 2 MR. FULLERTON: For --
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Sorry, John.
- 4 MR. FULLERTON: No, go ahead.
- 5 MS. BACHE-WIIG: I don't know if this is
- 6 helpful, but on the cover of the architect's package, that
- 7 pier, like the first column is next door to the owner's
- 8 home, and they look like they're the same height.
- 9 MR. FULLERTON: Yes.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: So.
- MR. BAJANDAS: They are.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yeah.
- MS. KAUTZ: Hold on one second.
- MR. BAJANDAS: And that would be a huge -- I
- 15 mean, to ask us to cut all those down for six inches, even
- 16 if that's the case, would be a huge burden on us and I
- 17 think unfair.
- 18 We did everything that we could possible to
- 19 keep this as consistent as possible with the historic
- 20 nature of the house and we spent a lot of money to do it,
- 21 and you know, and I don't think this is material to, to --
- 22 the four in the center are higher, I admit it. We'll cut
- 23 those down if you want.
- 24 But to have us cut every one of those columns
- 25 down to meet the height when the others, when our

- 1 neighbor's are the same height is patently unfair I
- 2 believe.
- 3 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Bajandas.
- 4 MR. FULLERTON: I'm glad that Alicia noticed
- 5 that in the photograph because that indicates to me that
- 6 they're appropriate for the neighborhood.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, John. Let's
- 8 see. Kara, are you going to -- are you still looking up
- 9 something?
- 10 MS. KAUTZ: You can go ahead. I'm looking
- 11 for a photograph, but go ahead.
- MR. DE LEON: Here is a low-tech.
- 13 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. De Leon.
- MR. DE LEON: You see the --
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: We have those.
- 16 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. De Leon. We
- 17 do have copies of those.
- 18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Mr. Chair?
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, Mr. Rodriquez.
- 20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'd also point out in the
- 21 same photograph, that the column is the same size, but the
- 22 fence there next door is also a picket fence which is
- 23 consistent with what was originally planned, so in order
- 24 to have consistency on that block, it would make sense to
- 25 continue the picket look as as opposed to the spear look.

1 MR. DE LEON: There are, if I could just say

- 2 one more thing, there are two or three houses with iron
- 3 wrought fences. They're not all picket fences on there.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Right. Miss Rolando?
- 5 MS. ROLANDO: Yes. I drove that street today
- 6 before, I drove down Santa Maria before I came here
- 7 because, to verify my recollection, and my recollection
- 8 was that the fences were modest and low.
- 9 Now, I have no objection to this fence being
- 10 reduced to the same size as the fence of the neighbor
- 11 that's adjoining.
- 12 However, when you look at this fence, the
- drawings as presented for approval today, they're too
- 14 high. They're incompatible with the neighborhood, and
- 15 many of the fences on Santa Maria are lower than the one
- 16 that is adjacent to this home.
- 17 So I'm willing to go with what is, with the
- 18 fence in keeping with what is adjacent, but I'm not
- 19 willing to vote in favor of the modifications proposed.
- 20 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Rolando.
- 21 Mr. De Leon, can you confirm that the height of the
- 22 columns as built are the same as per the permit document?
- MR. DE LEON: Well, it appears that there's a
- 24 dip in that road. As you look at the picture again that
- 25 shows the whole front, the house, immediately to the right

- 1 of that house, we were the architect that worked on the
- 2 restoration and additions to that home, and that fence is
- 3 at four feet.
- 4 So what, what I think the contractor did is
- 5 he put his first post at four feet, and there must be an
- 6 elevation drop as you head to the south, and he kept that
- 7 cap height, so as you got to a certain point on that
- 8 property, there's, there's a potential six or seven or
- 9 eight-inch difference.
- 10 But without going there and measuring every
- 11 single one of those posts, I really don't know that --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. De Leon.
- MR. DE LEON: -- knowing the neighbor next
- 14 door has a four-foot fence.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: That does help. Miss
- 16 Rolando, did you understand that it's the slope of the
- 17 Earth, that the columns may be a little bit taller or
- 18 shorter? The one on the right is the same size, the one
- 19 on the left is taller, but in the real world it's the same
- 20 height.
- MS. ROLANDO: Okay, but those piers in the
- 22 center definitely are not the same height.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: That's correct.
- MS. ROLANDO: And these piers, because of the
- 25 size, read higher and bigger.

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. Thank you.
- 2 MS. ROLANDO: The four-footers look beefier.
- 3 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. Any questions
- 4 from the board to staff or the applicant? Then just speak
- 5 up because I can't see you.
- 6 MR. FULLERTON: I don't have another question
- 7 necessarily, but I think it's appropriate to have a
- 8 different size column at the entrance. That's kind of a
- 9 signal that is the entrance to the home and that is
- 10 where the front gate is, rather than have it the same size
- 11 as the other ones.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you.
- MR. FULLERTON: And I think very frankly that
- 14 I think there's enough metal pickets, you know, on that
- 15 street to look, to make this look at home. I do regret
- 16 that the metal on the house is dramatically different.
- MS. ROLANDO: Right.
- 18 MR. FULLERTON: But I still think the dark --
- 19 is it going to be dark picket, or you know, the metal was
- 20 going to be black or some dark color?
- 21 MR. BAJANDAS: It was intended to be black.
- 22 MR. FULLERTON: Yeah, okay. From my, I think
- 23 it would be a very appropriate thing for that street
- 24 because it has a lot of that style of architecture and I
- 25 think there's a lot of metal fencing.

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 2 MR. BAJANDAS: There is a house at the end of
- 3 the street too that has a higher, higher columns where the
- 4 entrance is too.
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Bajandas.
- 6 MR. FULLERTON: I think if it was a picket,
- 7 it might even be more intrusive because there would be a
- 8 lot more material showing, and now this one would allow
- 9 landscaping to take over the real look of that front
- 10 facade.
- 11 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 12 Are there any questions or comments from board to staff or
- 13 the applicant, questions? We can have discussion after.
- MS. SPAIN: I have a question for Kara.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, Miss Spain.
- 16 MS. SPAIN: Kara, I don't remember ever
- 17 approving columns that are greater than four feet. It
- 18 makes sense to me if there's a dip in the road because I
- 19 just -- the only thing that concerns me is that we
- 20 shouldn't do for one person that we haven't or wouldn't do
- 21 for somebody else.
- MS. ROLANDO: Right.
- MS. SPAIN: And I know that this board and
- 24 staff have been very consistent keeping the fences very
- 25 low on Santa Maria Street.

- 1 MS. ROLANDO: Maria, right.
- MS. SPAIN: And very often staff has had to
- 3 tell people that wanted to do higher, wanted to know, it
- 4 needs to be a minimum of four feet.
- Now, it doesn't look as if this is higher
- 6 than four feet if that neighbor is at four feet, and I
- 7 think it is, so I'm confused and a little torn.
- 8 But I think it would look ridiculous to have
- 9 it be four feet from, from the surface of the sidewalk and
- 10 actually do a dip. This would look much better if, in
- 11 fact, that's what's happening.
- 12 MS. KAUTZ: So I can't confirm that is what's
- 13 happening.
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- 15 MS. KAUTZ: I do know that that fence, the
- 16 neighboring side, was permitted at four feet.
- 17 MS. SPAIN: I believe that.
- 18 MS. KAUTZ: I don't know if they built it at
- 19 four feet.
- MS. SPAIN: Right.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: The house at 4209 Santa Maria was
- 22 reduced, that Portuondo design was reduced to four feet as
- 23 well.
- 24 MS. SPAIN: I remember that conversation.
- 25 MS. KAUTZ: As was 4125.

- 1 MS. SPAIN: Right.
- 2 MS. KAUTZ: That they came to you all for a
- 3 fence. They were all limited to four feet in height.
- 4 MS. SPAIN: Right.
- 5 MR. BAJANDAS: It is a condition of the road.
- 6 I can confirm that. It starts at four feet and goes
- 7 higher because of the dip in the road.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Kara, Miss
- 9 Spain. Any other board member have a question or a
- 10 comment for staff or the applicant?
- 11 MR. EHRENHAFT: Bruce Ehrenhaft. When I
- 12 started looking at the packet and the staff report, I was
- 13 considering the fact that there were a number of homes on
- 14 the street that had pickets, and so in my mind I was
- 15 thinking that that would create additional harmony and
- 16 that it would fit with, you know, with the Colonial
- 17 Plantation kind of a style of the house.
- 18 But when I was looking at the piers as built,
- 19 and not, not knowing that they may be at the same height
- 20 as the one on the right, but thinking that they were like
- 21 14 to 16 inches higher than what had been approved, I was
- 22 looking at the columns and they seemed like they were out
- 23 of scale.
- 24 And the other thing that I noticed that it
- 25 appears that on the face of each one of those columns, it

1 looks like there's what must be an LED light or something

- 2 on each one of them, and when the columns are built as
- 3 they are with no base -- if you look at the rendering for
- 4 the pickets, each one of those columns has the collar or
- 5 the base just at the foot of the pier, and that
- 6 recapitulates the architectural style of the columns on
- 7 the front of the porch.
- 8 To me, these columns, especially with the
- 9 addition of the lights, read as something that you'd see
- in the front of a, you know, a modern style house, and so
- 11 I was thinking that in keeping with the architecture in
- 12 the main part of the house, if at the bottom of each one
- 13 those, it would not probably be extraordinarily difficult
- 14 or expensive, but if they could clad each one of those
- 15 columns with some, with some concrete or stone, something
- 16 that can be made in some columns or pickets, it would be
- 17 harmonious with the architecture of the client's intent to
- 18 tie it together.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Ehrenhaft.
- 20 Did you want to make that request of the architect now?
- 21 MR. EHRENHAFT: I want to know, I'm putting
- 22 that out out because I'd like to know what the other board
- 23 members think. I would request that that be added if it's
- 24 possible because I think it would make it seem more
- 25 harmonious, more harmonious. I don't know.

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Before we go to the board,
- does Mr. De Leon, do you wish to address that comment?
- 3 MR. DE LEON: Adding a base detail is not a
- 4 difficult thing, you know. I'll review with my client,
- 5 but I don't think he'd have an issue with adding a base.
- 6 I think that's something that could be done.
- 7 It's certainly much easier to do than cutting
- 8 the columns all to four feet and then having them stagger
- 9 along the sidewalk.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. De Leon.
- MR. BAJANDAS: We don't have any problem.
- 12 MR. EHRENHAFT: Are those indeed lights on
- 13 the front of each one of those columns?
- MR. BAJANDAS: Yes.
- 15 MR. EHRENHAFT: Okay, because I find that to
- 16 be kind of incongruous with the style of the home, but
- 17 that's my personal feeling, so.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Bruce. Any
- 19 other board member have a question or a comment for either
- 20 staff or the applicant?
- 21 MS. SPAIN: Do you know what type of light
- 22 you're planning on putting on these columns? They're
- 23 going to be an awful lot of lights marching down the
- 24 street. Any other home on Santa Maria have a light on
- 25 every column? I can't remember. I don't get out at

- 1 night.
- 2 MR. DE LEON: Your old house has lights on
- 3 the columns.
- 4 MS. SPAIN: Well, there you go. All right.
- 5 I should know to just keep my mouth shut if you're talking
- 6 about Santa Maria.
- 7 MS. KAUTZ: But you didn't do it.
- 8 MS. SPAIN: I didn't do it. I had very low
- 9 columns on it.
- 10 MS. ROLANDO: I would note that if you look
- 11 at the fence on the home to the left or to the south, the
- 12 fence is about a foot lower in the photo. It's the photo
- 13 with the front fence looking north.
- 14 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. That looks like about a
- 15 three foot.
- 16 MS. ROLANDO: Yeah, and most of the homes on
- 17 Santa Maria have fences of this scale or slightly higher.
- 18 MR. BAJANDAS: There is a home catty corner
- 19 that has a higher fence and higher wall. It's not true
- 20 that they're all that scale.
- 21 MS. ROLANDO: I didn't say they were all. I
- 22 said most.
- MR. BAJANDAS: Okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Is there any other question
- 25 for staff or the applicant for the board members? If not,

- 1 I do have one for Mr. De Leon.
- 2 Can you give us the dimension as scaled in
- 3 the drawings of the column on the left?
- 4 MR. DE LEON: Is that directed at me?
- 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir.
- 6 MR. DE LEON: Yeah. Well, all of the columns
- 7 are ten by ten.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: The height.
- 9 MR. DE LEON: I don't know, but I could -- I
- 10 know that near the middle it was four foot nine to the top
- 11 of the cast cap, but I did not -- we did not, rather, take
- 12 one at each end. We kind of picked a couple near the
- 13 entrance and we didn't really hit enough of them.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Per the dimension drawings,
- 15 Mr. De Leon, not the construction, what do the drawings
- 16 say?
- 17 MR. DE LEON: Oh, our drawings? Let me run
- 18 off the plan.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Please.
- MR. DE LEON: Well, the last package we
- 21 submitted, we took that dimension of four foot nine and
- 22 used that for the entire drawing.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay.
- MR. DE LEON: Yeah.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: So it may not be accurate

- 1 then?
- 2 MR. DE LEON: Right. We actually didn't look
- 3 to see, I hadn't noticed that there was an elevation drop,
- 4 so we'd have to look at the survey and see what the corner
- 5 points are.
- 6 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you,
- 7 Mr. DeLeon.
- 8 MR. DE LEON: Which, while we're having this,
- 9 I'll have my staff take a quick look at that.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Any other questions
- 11 from the board for applicant or staff before we go to
- 12 public hearing?
- 13 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. I'd like to ask one
- 14 more question.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir.
- 16 MR. FULLERTON: This may just be an
- 17 oversight, but on Page A-01.2, the elevations where you
- 18 see a blowup of the front fence, the house itself shows a
- 19 picket on the balcony behind it instead of the decorative.
- MS. SPAIN: Yeah. I noticed that.
- MR. FULLERTON: What does that indicate? Are
- 22 you going to change that one? Or which would make great
- 23 sense to me, but.
- 24 MR. DE LEON: You mean the second floor
- 25 railing?

- 1 MR. FULLERTON: Yes.
- MR. DE LEON: Yes, that's actually a very
- 3 ornate kind of --
- 4 MR. FULLERTON: I know.
- 5 MR. DE LEON: -- design.
- 6 MR. FULLERTON: Yeah, I know, yeah. I know
- 7 it's there.
- MR. DE LEON: I took a look at that and said
- 9 if I have to draw that, I'm going to have to seek
- 10 employment elsewhere.
- 11 So because it's so ornate, at this scale it
- 12 would have basically read as black so the best thing to do
- 13 is look at the photo.
- MR. FULLERTON: Okay, so not
- 15 representational, okay.
- 16 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 17 Any other questions from the board for staff or the
- 18 applicant?
- 19 Hearing none, hearing none, I'd like to open
- 20 it for public hearing. Does anybody wish to comment on
- 21 this project or application? If you do so, speak up or
- 22 raise your hand. We'll try to accommodate you.
- MR. DE LEON: May I add something real quick?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Actually hold on a second,
- 25 Mr. De Leon.

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: I don't see that anyone has
- 2 indicated they want to speak.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Hearing none, we're
- 4 going to close the public hearing. Mr. DeLeon, you're
- 5 recognized.
- 6 MR. DE LEON: Again, low-tech approach, but
- 7 this is kind of right across the street, maybe a little
- 8 bit over, and sorry for the quality, but it's picket with
- 9 concrete and obviously not the same style home, but the
- 10 fence is -- and Rick, maybe you could tell me if this is
- 11 directly across the street or a little bit over?
- MR. BAJANDAS: It's catty corner.
- MR. DE LEON: Catty corner?
- MR. BAJANDAS: Yeah.
- MR. DE LEON: Okay.
- MR. BAJANDAS: It's got iron fencing and the
- 17 columns are higher, much higher than four, but I know it's
- 18 not everyone on the street.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. Mr. De Leon,
- 20 before I pull it back to the board, do you have an answer
- 21 to the question of the height of the survey, the
- 22 discrepancy?
- MR. DE LEON: We looked at the survey, and
- 24 there's no elevation marks on it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you very much.

1 All right. So closing public hearing, going back to the

- 2 board, any questions or comments to discuss amongst
- 3 ourselves? Or we can entertain a motion and then do
- 4 comments. Any discussion? Does anybody want to move the
- 5 item? If somebody is moving the item, you're on mute.
- 6 MR. FULLERTON: I'll make a motion to approve
- 7 as presented, this application with the drawings that I
- 8 see on Page A-01.2 for approval.
- 9 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 10 Is there a second to move the item as presented?
- 11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'll second it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Seconded by Mr. Rodriguez.
- 13 Open for discussion. Does anybody wish to discuss any of
- 14 the item?
- 15 MR. FULLERTON: Should the chair remind the
- 16 applicant that he needs five votes just in case? I don't
- 17 know what the feeling of the board is, but.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: I did remind the chair --
- 19 or I did remind the applicant prior to the application,
- 20 and he wanted to proceed.
- MR. FULLERTON: Okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Does any board member wish
- 23 to have a discussion on the item before we vote?
- 24 MS. SPAIN: You know, I'm comfortable -- I'm
- 25 not comfortable unless that end column is at four feet to

- 1 match the neighbor and it goes, and it dips down, you
- 2 know, I'm just, I'm not really comfortable. I think it --
- 3 I don't know.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Is there a way that you
- 5 could propose an amendment to the motion, or you're just
- 6 stating that you're not comfortable with the motion as
- 7 stated?
- 8 MS. SPAIN: I'm not comfortable with the
- 9 motion as stated.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Spain.
- 11 Does anybody have a further amendment to the motion or
- 12 wishes to discuss the motion? It's at the board. Okay,
- 13 hearing none --
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Well, just --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, Mr. Rodriguez.
- 16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: -- if what he was going to
- 17 suggest would be that it's acceptable to him, what Dona is
- 18 suggesting, perhaps I'd be in a position to request an
- 19 amendment to the motion.
- 20 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. I did request of
- 21 Miss Spain if she had an amendment. She said no.
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: So would you like to make
- 24 an amendment, Mr. Rodriguez?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: No. I'd like to know --

1 there's an architect who raised his hand. I'd like to

- 2 know what he had in mind.
- MR. DE LEON: Well, I just -- we just found
- 4 the elevation marks, and there's about a one-inch drop
- 5 from one end to the other, so 11.1 at one end, 10.4 at the
- 6 other end.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay, perfect.
- 8 MR. DE LEON: So that's kind of what we
- 9 suspected happened with the GC. He took the low point at
- 10 the high end and threw his line across.
- 11 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. DeLeon.
- 12 Back to the board, does anybody wish to have further
- 13 conversation, discussion, or make an amendment to the
- 14 motion on the floor?
- 15 MS. SPAIN: Nelson, would you be, or the
- 16 owner, would you be comfortable if the amendment were that
- 17 the high point, the height of the column is at four feet?
- 18 MR. BAJANDAS: You mean at the --
- 19 MS. SPAIN: You know what I'm saying? At the
- 20 high, the high point of the road --
- MR. BAJANDAS LEON: Yes.
- 22 MS. SPAIN: -- that column that's adjacent to
- 23 the neighbor that I believe is built at four feet, that as
- long as that's, that one column is at four feet and then
- 25 it stays level?

1 MR. BAJANDAS: Yeah. I think that's already

- 2 the case.
- MS. SPAIN: Okay.
- 4 MR. BAJANDAS: So, yeah.
- 5 MS. SPAIN: Okay, because that's what I would
- 6 like to amend.
- 7 MR. FULLERTON: I'll accept that, unless it
- 8 has to go through the second or the first.
- 9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'll accept the amendment.
- MR. FULLERTON: And so will I.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. So are we clear as
- 12 to the motion on the floor now, is to accept it as
- 13 presented, ensuring that the column on the right -- is
- 14 that the north, south? Anybody want to give me the
- 15 direction?
- MR. BAJANDAS: North.
- MS. SPAIN: At the north.
- 18 MR. GARCIA-PONS: That's the northern? The
- 19 northern column, the northernmost column is four feet max.
- 20 Is that correct, Miss Spain?
- MS. SPAIN: Yes.
- MS. ROLANDO: Are all the columns at four
- 23 feet, or are the four taller ones to remain?
- 24 MR. GARCIA-PONS: The four center ones are to
- 25 remain as presented unless you have an amendment to that.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: But they're not taller.

- MS. SPAIN: They are.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: They're taller but just to
- 4 make everything even.
- 5 MS. SPAIN: No, no.
- 6 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Rodriguez, hold,
- 7 everybody hold. Mr. Rodriguez, the four center columns
- 8 are taller.
- 9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay, the four center
- 10 columns, okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: So Miss Rolando, would you
- 12 like to make a friendly amendment to the motion? Okay.
- 13 So the motion stands as presented with the northernmost
- 14 column a maximum of four feet. All right, call the roll.
- 15 MS. SPAIN: Can I ask -- I'm sorry. I really
- 16 apologize. I know I'm being a pain, but in the staff
- 17 recommendations, they were asking that the vehicular gate
- 18 be split into two segments so it's not a single
- 19 16-foot-wide rolling gate. Is that something that anybody
- 20 cares about?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Fullerton?
- MR. FULLERTON: That doesn't offend me.
- MS. SPAIN: Okay.
- MR. FULLERTON: I did notice it, though, on
- 25 the drawing.

Page 89 1 MS. SPAIN: Okay. MR. FULLERTON: I didn't concentrate on it. 2 MS. SPAIN: I just wanted to make sure. 3 MR. FULLERTON: Yeah, thanks. 4 5 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Can we call the roll? 6 7 MS. KAUTZ: No problem. 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. 9 MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Ehrenhaft? 10 MR. EHRENHAFT: No. 11 MS. KAUTZ: Miss Spain? 12 MS. SPAIN: I'm sorry, did you call me? 13 MS. KAUTZ: Yes. 14 MS. SPAIN: Yes. MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Fullerton? 15 16 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. MS. KAUTZ: Miss Bache-Wiig? 17 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes. 18 MS. KAUTZ: Miss Rolando? 19 20 MS. ROLANDO: No. MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Garcia-Pons? 21 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes. 23 MS. KAUTZ: Mr. Rodriguez? 24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. 25 MS. KAUTZ: Motion passes. Did you, not to

1 confuse the issue, did you want to address the cladding

- 2 that Mr. Ehrenhaft asked about earlier?
- 3 MR. GARCIA-PONS: The motion was passed.
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: Okay, okay. Is there another
- 5 agenda item? Thank you very much.
- 6 MR. BAJANDAS: Thank you.
- 7 MR. DE LEON: Thank you, board members.
- 8 Thank you, staff.
- 9 MS. KAUTZ: Thank you. There is one more
- 10 item, if I can just share my screen briefly. It's a
- 11 discussion item.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, please.
- MR. FULLERTON: I need a little help with my
- 14 computer. I've got something over half the page here. I
- 15 can't -- I don't know how to get rid of it.
- MS. KAUTZ: Help is on the way.
- 17 MR. FULLERTON: Thank you.
- 18 MS. KAUTZ: All right. So can you all see my
- 19 screen?
- MS. ROLANDO: Yes.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: Yes. Okay, so this is a
- 22 discussion item that I wanted to bring to you all because
- 23 I would like some direction, please, regarding the removal
- of an original decorative urn at the property at 525
- 25 Alhambra Circle.

1 So this is the location map -- that's not the

- 2 location map of this property. Sorry. That's actually
- 3 Castille. This is the property in question. This is in
- 4 the 500 block of Alhambra on the north side of the street.
- 5 It's an Art Deco home, just had actually
- 6 quite a bit of work done to it. It turned out beautifully
- 7 with the exception of the removal of the urn that
- 8 unfortunately is right behind the tree in this picture, so
- 9 you know how that happens.
- 10 Anyway, this is the urn in question. It's
- original to the property. It's about I think 38, 40
- 12 inches tall, and it was removed by the current owner.
- When we went to go do our final inspection of
- 14 the property, we requested that there were some shutters
- 15 on the rear of the property that were removed, and noted
- 16 that the urn was removed as well.
- 17 The shutters, a reasonable facsimile was put
- 18 back in place on the rear of the house, but the urn is
- 19 gone. The owner and I have been speaking back and forth.
- 20 She's frustrated.
- 21 My rejection note said that an appropriately
- 22 sized vase needed to be returned to the property that at
- 23 least replicates what was there, and this is what's being
- 24 proposed, so.
- MR. FULLERTON: What?

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: Yes, so I'm at a bit of a loss,
- 2 whether to leave it on -- again, it's an original feature,
- 3 it's pretty indicative of the time period -- or if we just
- 4 leave it as an open item and continue to search.
- 5 I believe the owner -- let me unshare my
- 6 screen quickly. I believe the owner might be on the call
- 7 if she would like to speak and be sworn in and just
- 8 discuss, but this was just something I needed direction
- 9 with because --
- 10 MS. SPAIN: Was this individually designated,
- 11 Kara?
- MS. KAUTZ: No. It's part of the district.
- 13 MS. SPAIN: So there was no mention of this
- 14 urn on anything because it didn't have it's own
- 15 designation report?
- MS. KAUTZ: Correct.
- MS. SPAIN: Oh, wow.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Let's, if the owner wishes
- 19 to speak, we'll take some comment now. I don't know who
- 20 that is, Kara.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: I believe it's Anna on the Zoom
- 22 call. That's who I would guess it is.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Anna, if you want to speak,
- 24 raise your hand.
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Yes.

- 1 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, please, state your
- 2 name.
- 3 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Ann Zichy-Thyssen.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: And one moment please to be
- 5 sworn in.
- 6 THE COURT REPORTER: Did you say Anna
- 7 rodriguez?
- 8 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: No; Ann Zichy-Thyssen.
- 9 THE COURT REPORTER: Can you spell that,
- 10 please?
- 11 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Z-I-C-H-Y, dash, T-H-Y,
- 12 double S, E-N.
- MS. SPAIN: Wow.
- 14 THE COURT REPORTER: Okay, It begins with C
- 15 like cat, you said?
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Me?
- 17 THE COURT REPORTER: Your last name begins
- 18 with C like cat you said?
- 19 MS. KAUTZ: No. I'll send you, Doreen, I'll
- 20 send you the spelling.
- 21 THE COURT REPORTER: Okay, great. She'll
- 22 send it to me.
- 23 (Thereupon, Ms. Zichy-Thyssen was duly remotely sworn on
- oath remotely by the court reporter.)
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Anna. Please

- 1 proceed.
- 2 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: So the urn was actually
- 3 cracked, and it was a fountain at some point I guess, but
- 4 it never worked since I moved into the house. It was
- 5 cracked, a lot of bugs, and then in a storm it cracked
- 6 even worse.
- 7 So I mean, there was nothing to be fixed. It
- 8 just, just disintegrated, so I took it. I didn't realize
- 9 it was going to be such a big issue that that happened,
- 10 and I wanted to replace it with something that I thought
- 11 was a fountain.
- 12 That thing, the picture is not very good, is
- 13 more Art Deco so it goes better with the house than the
- 14 urn that had these angels and I didn't think it was
- 15 (inaudible).
- 16 (Reporter clarification.)
- 17 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: As Art Deco as the other
- 18 one. The house in the outside, the facade of the house is
- 19 Art Deco, and this new one that I found, I thought it was
- 20 more Art Deco.
- 21 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you, Anna.
- 22 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: It goes better with the
- 23 lines of the house. I mean, the house right now is
- 24 painted white, and you can see better the style of the
- 25 house than in all the other pictures that Kara show you

- 1 before.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Great. Thank you so much.
- 3 Anna -- excuse me, Kara.
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: Yes, so I think at this point
- 5 it's more of just how you guys feel about leaving it off
- 6 versus introducing something completely new and different.
- 7 I'm not a fan of the one that's proposed. I think it's
- 8 way, way too far afield.
- 9 But from what Ana has said that she's been
- 10 looking around at different places and she can get an urn,
- 11 but it's going to be about, you know, a foot and a half
- 12 tall, so it will never look the same. I'm just, I'm at a
- 13 -- I'm not -- I don't know what to do about it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Kara. So
- 15 without all of us speaking at once, does anybody have any
- 16 thoughts on this particular issue to help Miss Kautz out?
- 17 MR. EHRENHAFT: Mr. Chair, may I ask a
- 18 question?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir.
- 20 MR. EHRENHAFT: May I address you as Anna
- 21 since I can't -- I didn't hear your last name. So the urn
- 22 was destroyed when it was removed and discarded, or is it,
- 23 was it left intact but moved someplace else?
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: No, no. It was already
- 25 cracked, already --

1 MR. EHRENHAFT: I understand that it was

- 2 cracked, but what happened to it? Was it broken apart and
- 3 thrown away?
- 4 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: It was, yes.
- 5 MR. EHRENHAFT: Or was it removed whole?
- 6 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: It broke, it broke.
- 7 MR. EHRENHAFT: It broke?
- 8 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: It broke. I wanted to
- 9 fix it, and actually it was worse. It broke, so there was
- 10 no -- I couldn't do anything really. It was just, it fell
- 11 apart, unfortunately.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay, thank you.
- MR. EHRENHAFT: Thank you.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Anything else, Bruce?
- MR. EHRENHAFT: No, unless, unless I could,
- 16 could then, since I'm speaking already, address Kara.
- 17 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, please do.
- 18 MR. EHRENHAFT: In this instance, I mean, I
- 19 would have preferred to have had the pieces, you know,
- 20 recovered and professionally restored, but that's not an
- 21 option.
- 22 In this instance, my feeling is that, you
- 23 know, it's a shame that it's gone, but to introduce
- 24 something that was not original to the structure where the
- 25 removed item was, I don't think helps, so in this

- 1 instance, I would, I would be okay with not trying to
- 2 replace it with something that's an attempt but doesn't
- 3 hit the original mark.
- 4 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Ehrenhaft.
- 5 Any other board member have any comments or thoughts to
- 6 share?
- 7 MR. FULLERTON: I was thinking when I looked
- 8 at it, it's a beautifully shaped urn, and it's a very
- 9 classical design. It's one that's very available other
- 10 than that finial or ornamentation on the top.
- MS. ROLANDO: Right.
- MR. FULLERTON: Which is a little unusual and
- 13 makes it that much more beautiful, but I know the shape of
- 14 that urn, there were allegedly two of those in front of my
- 15 house. I've been looking to replace them but have not
- 16 been successful in finding them yet, but I know that there
- 17 are things available that have that general urn-like
- 18 shape.
- 19 And I think it is not a bad idea to try to
- 20 replicate a detail like that which is so fundamental in
- 21 the original design, I think, and something that adds a
- 22 detail that I think is nice. It's just beautiful,
- 23 beautiful.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 25 Miss Rolando?

- 1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: May I ask a question?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, sir, Mr. Rodriguez.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Kara, do you have
- 4 photographs of the original house?
- 5 MS. KAUTZ: The one I showed you from the
- 6 '40s where there's a palm tree strategically placed right
- 7 in front of it. I mean, it's original to the house. We
- 8 have photos from the time when the district was designated
- 9 up until, you know, listing photos from I think 2017 that
- 10 show it.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Well, how do you know it was
- 12 original to the house?
- 13 MS. KAUTZ: It's in the 1940s photograph and
- 14 this is a late 1930s home. It was intended to be there.
- 15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I would support Bruce's view
- 16 that now that it's gone, replacing it with something which
- 17 is not going to -- they're never going to find a good
- 18 match. I would leave it as is.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Rodriquez.
- 20 Miss Spain, Miss Bache-Wiig, any thoughts or comments?
- 21 MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes. I happen to agree with
- 22 the comments that John made.
- I did have the benefit of being on a computer
- 24 so I did a quick like Google search of urns, you know, and
- 25 they're everywhere. You know, that is a classical looking

- 1 urn.
- 2 And I do think that there's some value to,
- 3 you know, matching an in-kind, you know, replacing it with
- 4 an in-kind, you know, urn. I mean, I'm in agreement that
- 5 I think, Kara, it would just, you know, continue the look
- 6 and the feel and the value of what was already there, and
- 7 not having anything just because something broke, you
- 8 know, I don't know. I think it's kind of -- you know. I
- 9 don't know if I'm being clear, but I think --
- 10 MS. KAUTZ: No, I understand. That was my
- 11 reaction too.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yeah.
- MS. KAUTZ: But, you know, in the meantime
- 14 I'm going to have to leave the inspection open and
- 15 rejected --
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Right.
- 17 MS. KAUTZ: -- you know, until something can
- 18 be done, so it sort of leaves her in a just open-ended
- 19 kind of situation.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: Right.
- 21 MS. KAUTZ: And I see value on both sides,
- 22 which is why --
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: I mean, if it was a very
- 24 unique shape that you could not find anywhere, I would say
- 25 forget it, you know, because it was original, but since

- 1 it's such a classical, you know, urn, like John said, I
- 2 mean, they're everywhere. I just Googled them. I found
- 3 like many, and they're in Florida. You know, they're vary
- 4 available, so.
- 5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: John has been looking for
- 6 them for a while. He hasn't found one.
- 7 MR. FULLERTON: Well, mine were unique and I
- 8 had to have two of them, so that was something different.
- 9 But I think it's a part of what the designer
- 10 of that house had in mind for a detail that made it what
- 11 he wanted it to be. That's all.
- 12 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton.
- 13 MR. FULLERTON: It's not my idea that she has
- 14 to do it right this minute, but I think somebody said that
- 15 we could leave it pending and allow it to take its course
- 16 and hopefully keep looking for it and see if we can't help
- 17 them find what they want.
- 18 MS. SPAIN: I don't know how to raise my hand
- 19 on this thing.
- 20 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Miss Spain.
- 21 MS. SPAIN: I apologize. I know how to do it
- 22 on my I-Pad at home.
- 23 Kara, is it possible to close out the permit
- 24 and just if she wants to put something there, she'd need
- 25 approval from the department so she doesn't -- my only

- 1 concern is having an open permit, you know, that you
- 2 can't, you can't close it out for her. She's done
- 3 everything else other than this urn.
- 4 I would like to see a replacement there and
- 5 it's probably easy to do, but in the meantime, you know,
- 6 it doesn't have to go back. I don't know that we need to
- 7 require it for her to put an urn back. I don't know.
- 8 It may be possible to close out the permit
- 9 and then if she's able to find something that she can show
- 10 to Kara and they can put it there. I don't know.
- 11 MR. FULLERTON: I'd go along with that. I
- 12 would hate, though, that --
- MS. SPAIN: And it doesn't happen.
- MR. FULLERTON: Well, it won't happen
- 15 probably, but.
- MS. SPAIN: Right.
- MR. FULLERTON: But I would hate for that
- 18 alternative that we saw to be the possible replacement
- 19 because --
- MS. SPAIN: Right.
- 21 MR. FULLERTON: -- I don't think that is
- 22 appropriate at all.
- MS. SPAIN: No, I agree.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Kara, there's a question,
- 25 can we close the permit and just leave that item open, and

1 if she wants to replace it, it would be under a separate

- 2 process?
- 3 MS. SPAIN: A standard something, standard
- 4 COA?
- 5 MS. KAUTZ: Yes, we can do that, but as Dona
- 6 is probably well aware, that once you take that
- 7 requirement away --
- 8 MS. SPAIN: Yes. It's never going to happen.
- 9 MS. KAUTZ: Yes, so you know, and Anna may
- 10 agree to it with her whole heart, and then sell the
- 11 property, so you know.
- MS. SPAIN: Right, right.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Understood.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: So I think every board
- 15 member has spoken. I don't know, Miss Rolando, if you
- 16 have anything.
- 17 MS. ROLANDO: I have the good fortune I guess
- 18 to have one of those gigantic urns that came with the
- 19 house, so, and I see them around regularly. Mine is
- 20 concrete. I don't know if hers was stone or a concrete.
- I know that they are available. It's just, I
- 22 think the scale is pretty significant. You don't want
- 23 something too small because it won't work, so I don't feel
- 24 strongly one way or another except that I do find them
- 25 charming, so, but I'm not -- I would not hold up closing

- 1 out the permit for it.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Rolando.
- 3 So Kara, this is a discussion item. Do you have -- have
- 4 you had enough discussion, or would you like more from the
- 5 board?
- 6 MS. KAUTZ: Well, I have three for leaving it
- 7 off and three for replacing it, so you didn't help me at
- 8 all.
- 9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Well, several people have
- 10 said close the permit and then deal with it afterwards. I
- 11 think that's the approach we should take here.
- MR. FULLERTON: I agree with that.
- 13 MR. EHRENHAFT: May I interject?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, Mr. Ehrenhaft, please.
- 15 MR. EHRENHAFT: Okay. The basis for my
- 16 statement for leaving it off was that I was looking at the
- 17 totality of the ornamentation at the top of that urn, and
- 18 I was thinking to myself that what that was in its
- 19 totality cannot be found.
- 20 If you're talking about a more simple urn
- 21 that has the same lines and feel, then, then I would be in
- 22 favor of having the owner look for it and replace it if
- 23 she and her husband could, but I too would not want to
- 24 have her stuck with an open permit. She can talk to
- 25 staff. I think I saw her wanting to speak again, she

- 1 looked like she was --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Ehrenhaft.
- 3 MR. EHRENHAFT: Yes, you know, so.
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: And Anna, if that's something
- 5 that you're willing to keep on the search for, for just
- 6 the urn, you know, without the finial on the top, then we
- 7 can go from there.
- 8 I think what the board has, what we've all
- 9 sort of agreed is that the proposed urn is not in keeping
- 10 with the house and that they'd like to see it go back to
- 11 what was there originally if you can find it.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: I think, there's also I think
- 13 a sense -- sorry.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Rodriguez. So Anna,
- 15 you understand that I think the decision moving forward is
- 16 that we will be able to close the application and then
- 17 encourage you to replace it with a more like urn when you
- 18 can through an administrative process through the historic
- 19 preservation staff.
- 20 MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: The person that said it
- 21 was easy to find, it's not easy to find. I look on line
- 22 everywhere, and there's not the right size. Most of it is
- 23 the size that is almost impossible.
- 24 And Kara knows, I sent her three billion
- ones. Poor Kara had to go through millions of my e-mails

- 1 asking if that was okay, because as you can imagine, they
- 2 weigh a lot so I didn't want to bring things home that she
- 3 will -- so I keep sending her pictures every time I go
- 4 through, and it's been impossible, I mean, the actual
- 5 stuff, or they are more modern looking, not in Miami at
- 6 least, and I went on line and it was hard to find even on
- 7 line.
- 8 So I don't know, whoever said that it was
- 9 easy to find, it's not.
- 10 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am, so I think --
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: And Kara knows.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am. So moving
- 13 forward, the intent is to close out the permit with
- 14 nothing.
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Okay.
- 16 MR. GARCIA-PONS: And then if and when the
- 17 opportunity arises that you can replace it with a like
- 18 urn, you could do it administratively with staff.
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Okay, okay.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay? Okay, thank you.
- MS. ZICHY-THYSSEN: Thank you.
- 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Kara, is that enough?
- MS. KAUTZ: That's fine. I appreciate it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay. Thank you so much.
- 25 Can we close that item?

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: Yes.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: So we did skip a couple
- 3 things. I don't know if there are any board items, city
- 4 commission projects, city project updates or items from
- 5 the secretary.
- 6 MS. KAUTZ: Yes. So I was completely remiss
- 7 at the start of this meeting trying to get you all
- 8 situated and on and visible and heard, but as you may have
- 9 seen on the Zoom call, there is a new staff member who is,
- 10 as of yesterday, the director of the department, so I'd
- 11 like, you know, to introduce you to him.
- 12 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Adams, you are
- 13 recognized.
- MR. ADAMS: Can you see me?
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, we can. I'm looking
- 16 at you.
- 17 MR. ADAMS: Good evening. I'd just like to
- 18 say I'm very, very happy to be here and I am looking
- 19 forward to working with all of you. If any of you have
- 20 any questions for me, then please do, please do contact
- 21 me. Thank you.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: So Mr. Adams, we're not
- 23 going to do it at this meeting, but at the next meeting,
- 24 we'd love for you to introduce yourself a little bit more
- 25 formally. Is that okay?

- 1 MR. ADAMS: Absolutely. Thank you.
- 2 MR. GARCIA-PONS: I appreciate it. Thank you
- 3 so much.
- 4 MS. KAUTZ: Yes, and he sort of came in when
- 5 we had this already, you know, train rolling, so I was
- 6 remiss and apologize for not introduce him at the
- 7 beginning of the meeting.
- 8 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Kara.
- 9 MS. KAUTZ: And I want to just let you guys
- 10 know if you haven't already heard that Illuminate Coral
- 11 Gables displays are up and running throughout downtown,
- 12 and I'm actually being blinded by one across the street
- 13 that's shining into this building right now, so every time
- 14 I look that way, I'm getting part of it.
- So they're in different areas throughout the
- 16 city where the artwork are on display through March 13th,
- 17 so I encourage you all to go socially distance look at
- 18 them because they're very nice.
- 19 The Fink, groundbreaking for the Fink Studio
- 20 happened, and a couple of you guys were there for that, so
- 21 we appreciate that. They are hoping to get the economic
- 22 development department into that building by the late
- 23 summer.
- 24 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, what
- 25 department, what department, Kara, what department?

- 1 MS. KAUTZ: Economic development.
- THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
- 3 MS. KAUTZ: By the late summer, and then
- 4 tomorrow, just so you all know and are aware, there is a
- 5 public meeting held for the presentation of the Granada
- 6 golf shelters. That's happening via Zoom. That will be a
- 7 public meeting for input, so if you all are interested or
- 8 want to listen to it, you may.
- 9 MS. SPAIN: Is that going to come to us, back
- 10 to us?
- 11 MS. KAUTZ: It already has.
- MS. SPAIN: No. I recused myself, so.
- MS. KAUTZ: No. It's done with you all.
- MS. SPAIN: Okay.
- MS. KAUTZ: So it's just going into a public
- 16 input phase.
- MS. SPAIN: Okay.
- MS. KAUTZ: So, and that's all.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Kara. For the
- 20 board, is there any old business that wish to be
- 21 discussed? Any new business board members wish to
- 22 discuss?
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: I have a comment --
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: -- Mr. Garcia-Pons. I just

1 want to say, like I know that John may have made a comment

- 2 about it, but I was, disappointed and, you know, like very
- 3 turned off to hear that the applicant for Segovia Circle
- 4 had -- you know, her experience in all this with regards
- 5 to, you know, other associations or supporters of the
- 6 designation, you know, coming, I guess in her, words
- 7 coming at them in the way that she described that they
- 8 did.
- 9 And I just think that the tone, you know,
- 10 doesn't have to be that way. I don't think it's in the
- 11 spirit of this board or the residents or the city, and I
- 12 just, I think that we need to quench those fires, and you
- 13 know, and maybe rechannel that passion that people have
- 14 for preservation and just let's give it a positive tone.
- 15 Because we're not going to accomplish, you
- 16 know, what we're doing here, you know, with -- you know,
- 17 what is it, the means doesn't justify the end?
- 18 And I think that we have to like show by
- 19 example, which we do, but I think we need to somehow, you
- 20 know, quench that, because we're getting a bad rap, like
- 21 the city is not benefiting from that kind of rhetoric.
- MS. ROLANDO: Right.
- MS. BACHE-WIIG: I don't know. I just wanted
- 24 to put it out there because it stayed with me.
- 25 If we want people to have a positive

- 1 relationship to, you know, historic preservation and
- 2 understand and be educated, that's not going to happen
- 3 until they come to do the process, but I think that this
- 4 this new wave of people, you know -- I'm not going to say
- 5 protesting, but in the spirit of, you know, supporting a
- 6 designation to take it in a negative tone by sharing on
- 7 social media and spreading things that might not be true
- 8 that they're going to be torn down.
- 9 You know, that's not, that's not who we are,
- 10 really, and I don't know what we can do, but I hope we can
- 11 figure something out.
- 12 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Fullerton,
- 13 Miss Bache-Wiig.
- MR. FULLERTON: Real quick.
- 15 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Mr. Fullerton, one moment.
- 16 Thank you, Miss Bache-Wiig.
- 17 I would like to say that's the reason we have
- 18 these public meetings, just so that we can do it in the
- 19 sunshine with a professional board, so we as board members
- 20 and staff have this opportunity to clarify for the record,
- 21 so I appreciate your comments and I share them.
- 22 Mr. Fullerton.
- 23 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. I was wondering is
- there some way we can help educate the realtors in a way
- 25 way that's beneficial to this whole idea of preservation

- 1 and get them into a seminar or, you know, invite them to
- 2 the Biltmore and give them some coffee and donuts and tell
- 3 them what it's about and don't allow your clients to come
- 4 into the home and, you know, make silly statements that
- 5 are not true.
- 6 MS. SPAIN: There's an annual, there's an
- 7 annual realtors seminar that is given in Coral Gables that
- 8 they invite Coral Gables staff, which I went to every year
- 9 and gave my little spiel about preservation, and I would
- 10 show up to individual realtors' offices to talk to them
- 11 about it, so you know, you can only do so much.
- 12 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Miss Spain.
- 13 Mr. Adams and Miss Kautz, I think you have some
- 14 suggestions from the board to continue that practice and
- 15 perhaps expand on it if we can.
- 16 MS. KAUTZ: Absolutely. There is, Cesar,
- 17 there is someone on the Zoom call whose name is Javier
- 18 Ross that has his hand up but I am not sure about what.
- 19 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Public comment is over, so.
- 20 MS. KAUTZ: Just wanted to let you know.
- 21 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you. Is there any
- 22 other new business? Okay. Is there a motion to adjourn?
- MS. SPAIN: I'll make that motion.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second it.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Miss Spain.

- 1 MR. ROSS: I'm sorry, I was muted. Can I
- 2 speak now? This is Javier Ross. Sorry about that.
- MR. GARCIA-PONS: Javier, we actually are
- 4 moving to adjournment now.
- 5 MR. FULLERTON: Maybe there's something he'd
- 6 like -- might be interesting to us.
- 7 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Would you like to hear from
- 8 Mr. --
- 9 MR. FULLERTON: Yes. Let's hear from
- 10 Mr. Ross.
- 11 THE COURT REPORTER: I can't see him so it
- 12 wouldn't be sworn.
- 13 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Got it. Okay, you're
- 14 recognized.
- 15 MR. ROSS: I don't think I need to be sworn
- 16 in. I just have a question of a hearing that was going to
- 17 occur today but it didn't, Case File 2021-001. I'm just
- 18 wondering if it got rescheduled.
- 19 MS. KAUTZ: Yes. It will be on, it will be
- 20 on the March 17th agenda.
- MR. ROSS: Okay, I guess.
- 22 MR. GARCIA-PONS: Thank you, Mr. Ross. Okay.
- 23 Is there a motion to adjourn?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: We had one.
- MR. FULLERTON: I'll second.

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                  MR. GARCIA-PONS: The motion by Miss Spain,
 2
     second by Mr. Rodriguez?
 3
                  MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
                  MR. GARCIA-PONS: Okay
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                  MS. KAUTZ: All in favor?
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 6
                  THE BOARD MEMBERS (Collectively): Aye.
7
     (Thereupon, proceedings were concluded at 6:32 p.m.)
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