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CITY OF CORAL GABLES HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 4:05 p.m. 405 Biltmore Way Coral Gables, Florida

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| 4 | PARTICIPANTS |
| 5 | VENNY TORRE, Chairman |
| 6 | ALICIA G. BACHE-WIIG, Board Member |
| 7 | ALEJANDRO SILVA, Board Member |
| 8 | JOHN FULLERTON, Board Member |
| 9 | BRUCE EHRENHAFT, Board Member |
| 10 | RAUL RODRIGUEZ, Board Member |
| 11 | ROBERT PARSLEY, Board Member |
| 12 | ALBERT MENENDEZ, Board Member |
| 13 | JANICE E. THOMSON, Board Member |
| 14 |  |
| 15 | DONA M. SPAIN, Historical Resources and Cultural Director |
| 16 |  |
| $17$ |  |
|  | GUSTAVO CEBALLOS, Assistant City Attorney |
|  | $18$ |
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| 1 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: Is there a second? |
| 2 | MR. EHRENHAFT: Second. |
| 3 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: All those in favor please |
| 4 | say aye. |
| 5 | THE BOARD: Aye. |
| 6 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: Those against. Thank |
| 7 | you. |
| 8 | Notice regarding ex parte communications. |
| 9 | Please be advised that this board is a |
| 10 | quasi-judicial board and the items on the agenda |
| 11 | are quasi-judicial in nature which require board |
| 12 | members to disclose all ex-parte communications. |
| 13 | An ex-parte communication is defined as any |
| 14 | contact, communication, conversation, |
| 15 | correspondence, memorandum, or other written or |
| 16 | verbal communication that takes place outside a |
| 17 | public hearing between a member of the public and a |
| 18 | member of a quasi-judicial board regarding matters |
| 19 | to be heard by the quasi-judicial board. If anyone |
| 20 | who has made any contact with a board member, when |
| 21 | the issue comes before the board, the member must |
| 22 | state on the record the existence of the ex-parte |
| 23 | communication, the party who originated the |
| 24 | communication, and whether the communication will |
| 25 | affect the board member's ability to impartially |




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| 1 | a designation by staff. So in accordance with |
| 2 | Article 3, Section 3-1103 of the Coral Gables |
| 3 | Zoning Code, the criteria for destination of |
| 4 | historic landmarks: A local historic landmark must |
| 5 | have significant character, interest or value as |
| 6 | part of the historical, cultural, archeological, |
| 7 | aesthetic or architectural heritage of the city, |
| 8 | nation or the state. For designation, the property |
| 9 | must meet one of the criteria outlined in the code. |
| 10 | Staff has determined that 910 Capri is eligible as |
| 11 | a local historic landmark based on four criteria. |
| 12 | First is historical cultural significance. |
| 13 | It exemplifies the historical, cultural, political, |
| 14 | economic, and/or social trends of the community. |
| 15 | Also based on its architectural significance, |
| 16 | portrays the environment in an era of history |
| 17 | characterized by one or more distinctive |
| 18 | architectural styles, in this case Mediterranean |
| 19 | Revival, embodies those distinguishing |
| 20 | characteristics of the architectural style or |
| 21 | period or method of construction and contains |
| 22 | elements of design, detail, materials or |
| 23 | craftsmanship of an outstanding quality which |
| 24 | presents significant innovation or adaptation to |
| 25 | the South Florida environment. |








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| 1 | artistically attached garage, it exemplifies many |
| 2 | of the character defining features of this style. |
| 3 | These include the thick masonry walls which keep |
| 4 | the home cool, light colored texture stucco, thick |
| 5 | exterior walls to reflect the sun's heat, the |
| 6 | deeply recessed and varied windows that provide |
| 7 | much needed ventilation and light in the tropical |
| 8 | environment, roofs of varying heights and types |
| 9 | with two piece barrel tile, projecting screen |
| 10 | porch, which has now been enclosed, articulated |
| 11 | decorative door and window surrounds, decorative |
| 12 | mason screens, exteriors of arched openings, |
| 13 | prominent chimney, a series of curved wing walls, |
| 14 | oculus windows, the protruding window sills, an |
| 15 | arched niche with a pedestal and ornamental |
| 16 | metalwork. |
| 17 | So let's take a quick walk around the |
| 18 | building. Here you can see the front east facade. |
| 19 | The northern half on the two story north is the |
| 20 | original portion of the building. You see the one |
| 21 | story southern wing is -- was built in 1951 to add |
| 22 | another bedroom and bath to the house. Looking at |
| 23 | the side elevation, you can get a better idea of |
| 24 | how that two story cross gable in the original |
| 25 | section forms that $T$ with the cross gable section |




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| 1 | the time. So that 1951 addition here is outlined |
| 2 | in blue, but you see in orange is identified here |
| 3 | on the tax card as a sleeping porch. Now, the |
| 4 | Other building plans that we have don't have a |
| 5 | sleeping porch in this area. And looking at this |
| 6 | little piece, it looks a little awkward there and |
| 7 | not really where you would put a sleeping porch. |
| 8 | You're not getting much ventilation or breeze |
| 9 | through there. So we think that the sleeping porch |
| 10 | was actually an infill, that that is an addition, |
| 11 | just a little infill that then later was |
| 12 | enclosed. And then the green shows the location of |
| 13 | the front porch which was originally screened and |
| 14 | later enclosed. You can see a detail from the |
| 15 | historic photo and then what it looks like today. |
| 16 | After it was enclosed, you can see that one of the |
| 17 | alterations was they took off that -- the slender |
| 18 | column in the middle and these larger columns of |
| 19 | different proportions were added to the sides and |
| 20 | then the middle one replaced. Another thing that |
| 21 | happened when they added the windows here, as you |
| 22 | can see, this little curved detail at the bottom of |
| 23 | the arch at that spring point there, that was |
| 24 | removed when they put the windows in. However, |
| 25 | they kept the windows basically in the same |



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| 1 | home is easily distinguishable from the later |
| 2 | alterations and addition and the home retains its |
| 3 | historic integrity. |
| 4 | So, in conclusion, constructed in circa |
| 5 | 1923, the single family home at 910 Capri is |
| 6 | significant as a classic example of the early |
| 7 | single family residence in Coral Gables. When |
| 8 | founder George Merrick began planning and |
| 9 | developing Coral Gables, he envisioned it as a |
| 10 | cohesively designed Mediterranean inspired city. |
| 11 | During the 1920s, careful attention was paid by his |
| 12 | development team to ensure that the building and |
| 13 | streetscapes conformed to the Mediterranean ideals |
| 14 | that Merrick felt that this type of architecture |
| 15 | harmonized best with South Florida's climate and |
| 16 | lifestyle. |
| 17 | The home is attributed to H. George Fink |
| 18 | who was an original member of Merrick's design team |
| 19 | and exhibits many of the character defining |
| 20 | features of the Mediterranean Revival style. |
| 21 | The home, built prior to the city's |
| 22 | incorporation, was part of the initial development |
| 23 | of the Granada Section. It characterizes both |
| 24 | Merrick's vision and makes contribution to the |
| 25 | shaping of Coral Gables. The single family |




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| 1 | issue? |
| 2 | MS. SPAIN: That is a dead issue. |
| 3 | MS. THOMAS: Yeah, because I just wanted |
| 4 | to make sure that somehow that doesn't get all |
| 5 | wrapped up with this. |
| 6 | MS. SPAIN: I was just trying to explain |
| 7 | to them how it got here. |
| 8 | MS. THOMAS: Okay. No, listen, I've never |
| 9 | been here before. This is all new to me. |
| 10 | MS. SPAIN: That's not going to happen to |
| 11 | this property. |
| 12 | MS. THOMSON: What was that concern again? |
| 13 | I'm sorry, I could not hear. |
| 14 | MS. SPAIN: The lot separation. She was |
| 15 | concerned that it could possibly be separated, but |
| 16 | that will not happen. |
| 17 | MS. THOMSON: Okay. |
| 18 | MS. THOMAS: Go ahead. |
| 19 | MS. SPAIN: On the record. |
| 20 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: I'm going to continue |
| 21 | with the motion. |
| 22 | So we have a motion from Mr. Fullerton. |
| 23 | MS. THOMSON: I second it. |
| 24 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: We have a second, |
| 25 | Ms. Thomson. |


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| 1 | Any further discussion? |
| 2 | Go for role call. |
| 3 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Menendez. |
| 4 | MR. MENENDEZ: Yes. |
| 5 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Ehrenhaft. |
| 6 | MR. EHRENHAFT: Yes. |
| 7 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Rodriguez. |
| 8 | MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. |
| 9 | MS. DIAZ: Ms. Thomson. |
| 10 | MS. THOMSON: Yes. |
| 11 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Fullerton. |
| 12 | MR. FULLERTON: Yes. |
| 13 | MS. DIAZ: Ms. Bache-Wiig. |
| 14 | MS. BACHE-WIIG: Yes. |
| 15 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Parsley. |
| 16 | MR. PARSLEY: Yes. |
| 17 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Silva. |
| 18 | MR. SILVA: Yes. |
| 19 | MS. DIAZ: Mr. Torre. |
| 20 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: Yes. |
| 21 | MS. SPAIN: Done. Congratulations. |
| 22 | MS. MUINOS: Thank you. |
| 23 | MS. GUIN: Thank you all. |
| 24 | CHAIRMAN TORRE: Thank you. |
| 25 | All right. The next item will be case |


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| 1 | file COA (ST) 2018-154. This is an application for |
| 2 | the issuance of a Special Certificate of |
| 3 | Appropriateness for the building located within the |
| 4 | University of Miami Main Campus Frost School of |
| 5 | Music. This is referred to as the Arnold Volpe |
| 6 | Music School located at 5489 San Amaro Drive, |
| 7 | legally described as All of the Arnold Volpe Music |
| 8 | Building as now existing, laid out and in use, the |
| 9 | same being a portion of Tract 1 of Amended Plat |
| 10 | Portion of Main Campus University of Miami, |
| 11 | according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat |
| 12 | Book 46 at Page 81 of the Public Records of Miami- |
| 13 | Dade County, now Miami-Dade County, Florida. The |
| 14 | application requests design approval for the window |
| 15 | and door replacement. |
| 16 | MS. SPAIN: So I'm going to turn this over |
| 17 | to representatives from the University of Miami. |
| 18 | MR. BASS: Mr. Chairman, members of the |
| 19 | board. Good afternoon, Jeffrey Bass is my name, 46 |
| 20 | Southwest 1st Street is my address. I'm a lawyer. |
| 21 | I represent the University of Miami. We're here |
| 22 | today seeking your approval for a Special |
| 23 | Certificate of Appropriateness. And today is |
| 24 | really a continuation of the conversation that we |
| 25 | started with this board back in March 2018, where |














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CHAIRMAN TORRE: On the other side, the same size?

MR. POLAK: It is about two and a quarter. The total is about two and a quarter inches. And I think what the fabricator did is he just cut -- he just ripped the piece of the aluminum here.

CHAIRMAN TORRE: Are they going to be two of them side by side joined together so this piece and the other piece make up the middle?

MR. POLAK: What you'll have in the middle
is a one piece -- the aluminum extrusion in one piece. And then what will happen is this piece right here, which is the filler piece, what we're working with with the manufacturer is to make that not flush with the frame, with the two frames, but to recess it back so that we get a reveal. And if you look at the picture, you'll see that is kind of what they did. I think you have it right here.

CHAIRMAN TORRE: Let me --
MR. POLAK: You'll see it right there.
CHAIRMAN TORRE: Right. So the window on top of this, which is the transom, I guess, is going to be just a replicate of this -MR. POLAK: It is going to be a window. CHAIRMAN TORRE: -- moving up.








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| 1 | consistency and the main members you're going to |
| 2 | see being very lined up and equal. |
| 3 | MR. POLAK: There was one other change I |
| 4 | wanted to make sure I didn't forget about. |
| 5 | We also -- the doors were -- there were |
| 6 | solid panel doors, but because of the system, they |
| 7 | are going to be single-lite French -- you know, |
| 8 | single-lite French front doors in lieu of that, |
| 9 | simply because that's -- they get the NOA. |
| 10 | We haven't really sat down with the dean |
| 11 | and talked about whether they want those frosted -- |
| 12 | that glass frosted or not. But they would be, |
| 13 | instead of being solid panel metal doors, they will |
| 14 | be single-lite aluminum store front system doors. |
| 15 | And that is shown on the drawings as well. But I |
| 16 | think with that, I think I have probably given |
| 17 | you -- |
| 18 | MS. SPAIN: I want to say we did that at |
| 19 | the architecture school. Do you remember, Rick, in |
| 20 | the architecture school whether we made that |
| 21 | single -- the single-lites? They were also solid |
| 22 | metal doors. Do you remember the doors, |
| 23 | themselves? Do you remember if they were glass? |
| 24 | UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, I wasn't |
| 25 | involved in that. |


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| 1 | MS. SPAIN: Anyhow, I was okay with it. |
| 2 | MS. THOMSON: Well, they did put the |
| 3 | single glass doors in the other part of the music |
| 4 | building where the band room is -- |
| 5 | MR. POLAK: Yes. Yes, those are. |
| 6 | MS. THOMSON: They did those. I play in |
| 7 | the band every Tuesday. |
| 8 | MR. EHRENHAFT: So can I ask one more |
| 9 | question? |
| 10 | MR. POLAK: Sure. |
| 11 | MR. EHRENHAFT: As a follow-up. So the |
| 12 | glazing that is going to provide the humidity |
| 13 | control and wind impact will be inside the louvers. |
| 14 | MR. POLAK: Correct. |
| 15 | MR. EHRENHAFT: But if one is on the |
| 16 | walkway at the ground level or on the second level, |
| 17 | one can reach out and touch these louvers. |
| 18 | MR. POLAK: Yes. |
| 19 | MR. EHRENHAFT: There will be no glazing |
| 20 | in front of them. |
| 21 | MR. POLAK: No. |
| 22 | MR. EHRENHAFT: And did you say they were |
| 23 | going to be fixed, or the model was fixed and that |
| 24 | the installed material would be operable? |
| 25 | MR. POLAK: No, the intention is to -- is |


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| 1 | to have the louvers fixed. We do need to work -- |
| 2 | we're still working out the details to be able to |
| 3 | kind of remove them and to be able to clean the |
| 4 | glass. So that is one thing -- that's sort of why |
| 5 | we're talking about how we're screwing them into |
| 6 | the system and how they will be cleaned. But that |
| 7 | is the other thing. But it will just simply -- the |
| 8 | concern is that if they were operable, over time |
| 9 | they would not be operable and then they get played |
| 10 | with and then -- |
| 11 | MR. EHRENHAFT: Right. |
| 12 | MS. THOMSON: What are the ballistic -- |
| 13 | I'm talking bullets consideration on these windows, |
| 14 | you know, because with all the school shootings |
| 15 | that go on. |
| 16 | MR. POLAK: That has not even been |
| 17 | considered in this -- in this scope of work. |
| 18 | MS. THOMSON: Okay. |
| 19 | MS. SPAIN: But it is impact glass. |
| 20 | MR. POLAK: It is impact glass, but it is |
| 21 | not ballistic impact glass, but it's impact glass. |
| 22 | MR. FULLERTON: I have a question |
| 23 | completely unrelated, and that is the railing |
| 24 | system. Right now all of those two and three story |
| 25 | buildings have completely violating -- violations |








