

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
 → **MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2013 - 5:00 P.M.**
CITY HALL FIRST FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBER
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Cumulative Attendance</u>	
		<u>6:2012 through 5/2013</u>	
		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Matthew DeFelice, Chair	P	7	1
David Kyner, Vice Chair	P	8	0
Brenda Flowers [arr. 5:05]	P	8	0
Marie Harrison	P	5	3
Richard Heidelberger	P	7	1
Phillip Morgan	P	8	0
Richard Schulze	P	5	3
Jackie Scott	A	3	1
Gretchen Thompson	P	7	1

City Staff

Merrilyn Rathbun, Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, Consultant to HPB
 Anthony Fajardo, Historic Preservation Board Liaison
 Lynda Crase, Board Liaison
 Linda Mia Franco, Board Liaison
 Carrie Sarver, Assistant City Attorney
 Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc

Communication to the City Commission

→ **Motion** made by Mr. Schulze, seconded by Ms. Thompson to inform the City Commission that the HPB supports the position of the Central Beach Alliance regarding the Casa Alhambra/Vintro Hotel project and requests that the applicant present the project to the HPB for review and comment as part of the approval process. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

→ **Motion** made by Mr. Schulze, seconded by Mr. Morgan to request the City Commission direct staff to apply for local designation of the Casa Alhambra and Café Casa Blanca properties. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Schulze, seconded by Mr. Morgan to request the City Commission direct staff to explore options for protecting the umbrella tree on the old City Hall property. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Regarding televising the Board's meetings, Ms. Sarver explained that this required a City Commission resolution. If the Board desired, they could discuss this and submit a request to the City Commission.

Ms. Sarver reported the City Attorney's office was commenting on the new ordinance and the document, with comments, would be submitted to the working group, Board members and the City Commission.

Ms. Sarver had no new information regarding designation of City park archeological sites. Chair DeFelice volunteered to attend a Parks and Recreation Board meeting to discuss this topic with them on behalf of the HPB.

Motion made by Mr. Schulze, seconded by Mr. Heidelberger to designate Chair DeFelice as the representative of the HPB to attend and Parks and Recreation Board meeting to discuss preservation of archeological and historic resources in City Parks. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

→ **3. Good of the City**

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Chair DeFelice said Steve Glassman had contacted him regarding a proposed project in the Central Beach area: the Vintro Hotel. Fred Carlson, representing the Central Beach Alliance (CBA), entered Mr. Glassman's letter into the record and Chair DeFelice read it. The plan was to demolish the 1925 Casa Alhambra and to build a 14-story Vintro Hotel and restaurant on the site. Mr. Glassman indicated that a CoA from the HPB was not required since the property was not designated or located in an historic district, but the HPB should review and comment on the plan as part of the DRC process. Mr. Glassman felt the City should codify the historic surveys that existed and "give some teeth to these lists."

Mr. Carlson stated at their last meeting, the CBA membership had "heartily" disapproved of the project. He remarked on the number of historic structures in the City that were not being protected and urged the Board to act to preserve these structures. Mr. Carlson described the Casa Blanca restaurant across the street from the Casa Alhambra as a "stellar attraction" in Fort Lauderdale with a feeling of history. He worried about the impact a 14-story building would have on a 100-foot by 125-foot lot. Mr. Carlson felt this project would be an insult to the Casa Blanca and other nearby two-story buildings and "rudely destructive" to ideas the CBA had for the future.

Ms. Thompson remarked this was happening all over the City.

Mr. Heidelberger stated a similar incident had occurred in his neighborhood years ago. He advised Mr. Carlson to monitor the project along the way.

Mr. Carlson requested the Board's support of the CBA's stance.

Charles Jordan endorsed the CBA's position. He stated the building had previously been a senator's house and was next to a Francis Abreu house.

Ms. McClellan said the house was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Rathbun stated the Casa Blanca was no longer eligible since it had been redeveloped and the second floor removed. Ms. Rathbun informed Mr. Schulze that it was possible to request local designation of both buildings.

Chair DeFelice stated according to the Comprehensive Plan, any property on the Florida Master Site File should be presented to the HPB for review and comment. Mr. Fajardo said City staff was discussing this with Broward County; until this was concluded, the City would only bring locally designated properties to the HPB for review and comment.

Chair DeFelice reported he had reviewed the historic and archeological significance of this property for the County.

→ **Motion** made by Mr. Schulze, seconded by Ms. Thompson to inform the City Commission that the HPB supports the efforts of the Central Beach Alliance to prevent the approval of the Vintro Hotel project.

Mr. Morgan did not want to take a position without hearing from both sides. Mr. Heidelberger agreed, and suggested a general statement supporting the CBA's efforts to control development in their area.

Mr. Morgan amended his motion to request that the applicant present the project to the HPB for review and comment before the completion of the approval process.

Ms. Sarver restated the motion:

To inform the City Commission that the HPB supports the position of the CBA regarding the Casa Alhambra/Vintro Hotel project and requested that the applicant present the project to the HPB for review and comment as part of the approval process.

Mr. Schulze suggested the City apply to designate this property.

Chair DeFelice reminded the Board that A1A had been designated as a scenic highway and one of the recommendations was that an historic inventory of the corridor be conducted. If this were done, these two properties would be included.

Mr. Schulze stated there was an umbrella palm on the old City Hall property that was of historic significance but was not designated. Mr. Fajardo explained this could be declared a protected tree by the City Commission.

Chair DeFelice asked Mr. Fajardo if an archeological survey was required for a development planned on SW 12 Street and Mr. Fajardo explained that anything over four units required DRC site plan review but there was no trigger for an archeological survey. He was not aware of the project Chair DeFelice mentioned.

4. Communication to the City Commission

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Discussed earlier.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03.

Next Meeting

The Board's next regular meeting was scheduled for February 4, 2013.

Chairman,


Matthew DeFelice, Chair

Attest:


ProtoType Inc./Recording Secretary

The City of Fort Lauderdale maintains a Website for the Historic Preservation Board Meeting Agendas and Results: <http://ci.ftlaud.fl.us/documents/hpb/hpbagenda.htm>