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139 North County Road, Suite 33 • Palm Beach, Florida 33480
561-655-0820 • www.palmbeachcivic.org

January 31, 2022

Mr. Richard Rene Silvin, Chairman
Landmarks Preservation Commission
422 Australian Avenue
Palm Beach, FL 33480

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Dear Chairman Silvin and fellow landmarks commissioners,

The Palm Beach Civic Association supports the concept of a cultural space at the Royal Poinciana Plaza with greater flexibility to serve town residents in multiple ways, such as what is being proposed by the plaza management.

The Civic Association also supports the concept of combined uses - a restaurant, cultural space and retail - that would complement one another in the Playhouse.

We support these concepts because we believe, if successfully completed, they will enhance the quality of life of town residents. Indeed, restoration of the Playhouse, which has sat idle for nearly 20 years, has been a top priority for the town's government precisely because this site has the potential to offer so much for town residents.

We do not, however, speak to or express any opinion as to the specific variances that the applicant is seeking for the project.

Plaza manager WS Development has, through its substantial revitalization of the long-struggling plaza, demonstrated a commitment and ability to do what is necessary to make this new venture successful.

The Civic Association expresses confidence in the plan for WS Development to partner with INNOVATE, a publicly held company chaired by Palm Beach resident Avram "Avie" Glazer, which would operate the programming for the cultural arts center.

Avie Glazer has said he and his wife Jill are committed to hiring a team of experienced professionals who will work full-time to provide a diverse menu of quality cultural and arts programming worthy of Palm Beach and of interest to its residents.

The Glazers are rooted in the local community and have demonstrated an interest in the arts, architecture, and preservation. They have lived in Palm Beach for 20 years. Their children were educated in local schools.

Jill Glazer has served on Palm Beach Day Academy board of directors.

The couple was awarded the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach's 2020 Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award for their contemporary home in the estate section of Palm Beach.

The Glazers helped fund the Glazer Children's Museum in Tampa and made possible the Glazer Family Club at Tulane University's Yulman Stadium. Avie Glazer received the Distinguished Alumni award in 2013 from Washington University in St. Louis. Jill Glazer is a Tulane University graduate and member of its board of trustees.

As Avie Glazer has said, the Royal Poinciana Playhouse has languished in the dark for far too long. It is time to turn on the lights and bring this jewel box back to life.

The Palm Beach Civic Association applauds this initiative.

Thank You.

Mary Robosson

Mary Robosson
President

Respectfully submitted by:
The Officers and Executive Committee of the Palm Beach Civic Association.