

Profile

Martin

I

Klein

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

1060 North Ocean Blvd.

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Palm Beach

City

FL

State

33480

Postal Code

martin@miklein.com

Email Address

Home: (561) 881-8000

Primary Phone

Mobile: (917) 453-9800

Alternate Phone

Question applies to multiple boards

I am a registered voter in the Town of Palm Beach (Initial below)

MIK

Question applies to multiple boards

Appointment to the Architectural Commission (ARCOM), Landmarks Preservation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Recreation Advisory Commission, & Underground Utilities Task Force (UUTF) requires the applicant to be a registered voter in the Town of Palm Beach. Please attach a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Voter Registration card with your application. Failure to provide the required copy of the voter registration card shall be grounds for rejection of the application.

Question applies to multiple boards

Upload a Voter Registration Card (Front)

Question applies to multiple boards

[Verified -KMC 8/7/23](#)

Upload a Voter Registration Card (Back)

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning and Zoning Commission: Submitted

In what area of town do you live?

☒ North

Interests/Experience

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

Why are you interested in serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission?

I am interested in working with the town Council and the newly engaged consultants on overall zoning code reform and to preserve the quality of our life in Palm Beach and in planning for the next generation.

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

How many meetings of the Planning and Zoning Committee have you attended in the last year?

All

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

Are you willing and available to attend meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission as described below? Please select all that apply. *

- ☒ Meetings which last a full day (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or even later)?
- ☒ Meetings on consecutive dates?
- ☒ Meetings which might be scheduled for multiple dates within the same month
- ☒ Meetings scheduled year-round

Please indicate if there are any periods of time for which you will be unavailable for meetings.

None

Question applies to multiple boards

If you have served on any boards/commissions/committees in the Town of Palm Beach or elsewhere, please list them and include details such as length of service, attendance record, etc.

Planning and Zoning Commission-20 years. Code Enforcement Board-8 years Palm Beach County Land Development and Regulation Advisory Board 12 years

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

Do you have any experience in requesting comprehensive plan amendments or zoning approvals from the Town of Palm Beach or other jurisdictions? (Please explain.)

Yes. See attached.

Martin I Klein

Are you a member of any of the following organizations? (Check all that apply)

- ☒ Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce
- ☒ Palm Beach Civic Association
- ☒ Citizens' Association of Palm Beach

Present Occupation

Attorney

No. of years

40 years

Past occupation(s)

No. of years

Please provide details regarding your educational background:

See attached resume

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

**Do you have a degree in, or have you taken courses in, any of the following fields of study:
(Check as many as are applicable) ***

- ☒ Law

Upload a Resume

Have you ever been convicted or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a crime other than minor traffic violations?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If you are currently serving on a Town board, commission, or committee, please identify in the space below and check the "I Agree" box indicating that you will resign from that position if you are appointed to the position you are seeking in this application.

I agree that I will resign from the board, commission, or committee if I am appointed to the position I am seeking in this application.

☒ I Agree

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

Why do you feel that you are qualified to serve on the Town’s Planning and Zoning Commission?

20 years of experience. See attached.

Question applies to multiple boards

In the event you are applying to be a Regular Member and you are not successful, will you accept appointment as an Alternate Member should the Town Council wish to appoint you as an Alternate Member?

☐ Yes ☒ No

To enable Town Council to consider potential conflicts of interest, please list the family members who live and/or work in the Town of Palm Beach, including your spouse, parents, siblings or children.

Diane Klein-Fashion consultant Michele Levbarg Klein-The Real Real

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity

☒ Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

☒ Male

Physically Disabled

☒ Yes ☐ No

I hereby certify that I have read the sections of the Town Code of Ordinances for the particular board/commission/committee that I have selected above and have noted the description of the board/commission/committee and its members' duties, and further I have read the regulations concerning absences and conflicts of interests. I certify the information given by me is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any falsification of material facts will be grounds for rejection of this application of dismissal after appointment.

☒ I Agree

Question applies to Planning and Zoning Commission

Please provide a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Palm Beach County Voter Registration card, which shows your Town of Palm Beach address, with your application.

Please note that Commission applications will expire on December 15 of each year.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning and Zoning Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Town Council in all matters relating to municipal planning and development. The Commission is required to follow the concepts and contents of the Town's comprehensive land use plan in all planning, zoning and development related deliberations and decisions. The Commission shall also have such powers and duties as may be prescribed by Ordinance. The members of the Commission must be registered voters in the Town of Palm Beach. The seven regular members serve for terms of three years. Three alternate members of the Zoning Commission may be appointed by the Town Council who serve when called upon by the Chair of the Commission in the absence of any regular member.

Addendum to Application for Reappointment
as a Regular Member on the Town of Palm
Beach's Planning and Zoning Commission
Submitted by Martin I. Klein and
Dated August 4, 2023

Question: Why are you interested in serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission?

Answer: I am interested in working with the Town Council and others to preserve the quality of our life in Palm Beach and in planning for the next generation of residents. This is not a new interest; Palm Beach has been part of my life for over 50 years since I first spent time here as a child with my grandmother. Over time, I've seen change-some good and some that I would prefer that didn't take place. I resolved to defend and preserve our "oasis" for my child, and for her children.

I believe the "planning function" of the Commission will be more important than ever and that we must develop a long-term vision for our Town. This is particularly true now that we have retained consultants to review our zoning code.

Palm Beach is at a critical juncture. Many of our residents are concerned with what they perceive as over-development, yet that concern is juxtaposed with the desire of a property owner to utilize his or her own property. How we solve that dilemma will shape our Town for generations to come.

Planning and zoning are the core and background of our Town; without it, our Town as we know it will disappear. Planning and zoning are far more delicate and experience demanding than other aspects of local government because it deals with our future-without pictures or submitted plans. It is the guardian of our future.

Our residents want and need a strong, competent planning and zoning commission with members who are knowledgeable in the intricacies of our zoning code, in Town affairs, cognizant of Town history, and who possess significant experience. I believe I meet that requirement and I look forward to continuing to serve our Town. We are losing many with historical reference.

I also believe that I can contribute to solving the current dilemma facing the planning and zoning commission. The commission is vital to the future of the town, but it has deviated from its core mission and its historical function. This has caused the town council to question the future of the commission. I believe I can be a part of the solution and I am anxious to contribute my time, history and talent.

Question: If you have served on any boards/commissions/committees in the Town of Palm Beach or elsewhere, please list them and include details such as length of service, attendance record, etc.

Answer: I have served a total of almost 20 years on the Town of Palm Beach's Planning and Zoning Commission, including two years as its Secretary and five years at its Chairman. During that period of time, I attended all of the meetings of the Commission and many meetings of the Town Council, including those on zoning and planning issues.

I served on the Town of Palm Beach's Code Enforcement Board for over two years until I resigned to accept appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Now I have served an additional 3 years. I particularly enjoyed my service on the Code Board. My fellow commissioners were a delight to work with; I am proud to call them my friends; the Town staff, particularly the Code Enforcement staff, originally with the Building Department and then with the Police Department, were a source of great personal and professional satisfaction, and finally serving on the Board gave me insight into enforcing some of the issues facing the Planning and Zoning Commission. I am pleased to have been re-appointed to the Code Enforcement Board and I continue to enjoy my service, but I realize that my talent and experience can best be utilized on Planning and Zoning.

I also completed nine years of service on the Palm Beach County Land Development Regulation Advisory Board. This gave me a countywide perspective on land use regulation that I hope adds to my ability to serve on our Town's Planning and Zoning Commission.

Question. Do you have any experience in requesting comprehensive plan amendments or zoning approvals from the Town of Palm Beach or other jurisdictions?

Answer: From my extensive service on the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission and my service on the County's Land Development Regulation Advisory Board, I am familiar with both our comprehensive plan, the County's ULDC and various planning and zoning processes. From a Commission and Board Member's perspective, I have seen and have reviewed many such submissions and accordingly have considerable experience in such matters.

Question. Please provide details concerning your educational background.

Answer: I graduated Lehigh University in 1969, graduated American University School of Law in 1972 while also working for the U.S. Senate where I was privileged to work for Senators Kennedy and Javits in areas of labor, education and public welfare. I have written numerous articles for law publications, have chaired legal conferences, and appeared as a guest columnist in many other publications. I have also been president of one of New York's largest religious institutions and chaired the board of an airline (Global Aviation) among other things. My resume is attached.

Question: Why do you feel that you are qualified to serve on the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission?

Answer: I believe that my answers above more than completely describe why I am qualified to serve on the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission. I have a lifetime of training and experience in the law. I have had more than fifteen years of service on the Commission. At a time when history is so important, I possess history of our Town and our planning and zoning processes that I don't think many others have. I am familiar with our zoning code. Finally, I have followed land use issues not only in Palm Beach but also in our larger community and have utilized my experience on a countywide level as well.

Additionally, having spent so many years in Palm Beach, I believe I understand its history, its ever-changing demographics, and the needs of our residents. Planning and zoning are a specialized commitment with which I am very familiar and the results of which are of utmost concern to me.

MARTIN I. KLEIN

1060 North Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach, Florida 33480 / (561) 881-8000 / martin@miklein.com

Senior legal counsel and corporate advisor for global clients, including luxury brands, financial institutions and real estate developers. Provides strategic guidance for a broad range of commercial and civil matters. Expertise in corporate restructuring/reorganization, bankruptcy, real estate development, finance, litigation, employment, discrimination and international law. Widely published and cited globally on bankruptcy matters and creditor's rights. Notable board appointments at public companies, non-profit organizations and municipalities.

EXPERIENCE

Martin I. Klein, PC, New York, NY and Palm Beach, FL

Founder/Managing Partner (1995 to present)

- Advise clients, provide proactive strategic legal guidance and manage cases for commercial matters including corporate restructuring/reorganization, bankruptcy, real estate development, finance, litigation, employment, discrimination and international law.
- Work with a broad range of clients, including global real estate developers, leading financial institutions, media and apparel companies and large corporations; collaborate with investment bankers, finance teams and specialized legal counsel.
- Serve as general counsel for the North American business of a leading global luxury apparel company and regularly advise a leading shopping center developer; former general counsel for a global real estate development firm and a NYSE-listed consumer products company; former personal counsel to a leading global financial innovator.
- Represent secured and unsecured creditors, debtors, creditors committees and reorganization trustees in Chapter 7 and 11 cases (and in Chapter X, XI and XII cases under the former Bankruptcy Act); negotiate/draft reorganization and liquidation plans, financings and asset purchases/sales and lead clients through all aspects of bankruptcy court proceedings.
- Regularly contacted and cited by major domestic and international print and broadcast media as noted legal source on bankruptcy matters and creditor's rights.

Shea & Gould, New York, NY

Partner (1993 to 1995)

- Handpicked to lead the bankruptcy department of a former leading global full-service law firm.
- Advised and represented public and private high-profile real estate and financial services clients in a wide range of corporate matters, including bankruptcy, restructuring, debt and equity reorganization and other financial and strategic transactions, governance and shareholder issues.

Dreyer & Traub, New York, NY

Partner (1980 to 1993)

- Established, led and grew the bankruptcy and commercial litigation departments of a leading real estate law firm, significantly increasing revenue.
- Advised high-profile financial, business and real estate clients and served on firm's Management Committee.
- Represented US and European banks in major restructurings (\$100 million+) and notable corporate clients in confidential industry-related investigations, criminal and civil proceedings.

BOARD/APPOINTED POSITIONS

Global Aviation Holdings, Peachtree City, GA

Chairman of the Board (January 2014 to present)

Director (2013 to present)

- Recruited to lead an organizational restructuring/recovery initiative and CEO search (on behalf of shareholders), at the largest commercial provider of air transportation for the US Military and a leading provider of commercial passenger charter and air cargo transportation.
- Oversee liquidation of \$75 million in assets and company wind-down (1,000 employees); serve as Chairman of the Compensation Committee and Member of the Audit and Governance Committees.

City of New York, New York, NY*Administrative Law Judge, Environmental Control Board (2007 to 2010)*

- Conducted hearings and adjudicated violations of city and state statutes and ordinances.
- Reviewed and adjudicated appeals of ECB decisions for the Appeal Section.

Central Synagogue, New York, NY*Honorary President and Trustee (1999 to 2018)**President (1995 to 1999)*

- Led a major non-profit organization, overseeing business strategy, operations/administration, finance and fundraising for a 7,000-member congregation (one of the largest/oldest in the US); previously served as Vice President and Treasurer.
- Significantly increased congregation membership and enrollment in the early childhood and religious schools; led organization through a \$50 million reconstruction and organizational recovery project following a fire disaster.
- Led monthly Board of Trustee meetings and various weekly committee meetings.

Palm Beach County Citizen's Committee on Airport Noise*Member (2022-**Review airport noise conditions for County and consider potential noise mitigation***Planning and Zoning Commission of The Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL***Member (1994 to 2002, 2009 to 2014)**Chairman (1998 to 2000; 2017-2020)*

- Reviewed plans for town residential and commercial projects.
- Analyzed population density, determined short/long-term town planning goals and identified community needs and zoning/development priorities.

Palm Beach County Land Development Regulation Advisory Board, Palm Beach, FL*Member (2004 to 2013)*

- Conducted periodic review and updates to the County's Unified Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan.
- Advised the Board of County Commissioners on land use regulations to protect the health, safety and welfare of the county residents.

Chock Full O'Nuts Corporation (NYSE), New York, NY*Director and Chairman of Audit Committee (1987 to 1994)***Regency Equities Corporation (OTC), Beverly Hills, CA***Director (1978 to 1979)***PUBLICATIONS**

- *Author, The New York State Bar Journal, Philadelphia Law Journal, Florida Bar Journal, Los Angeles Law Journal and Commercial Law Journal (1977 to present)* Widely published in leading law journals on financial, real estate, bankruptcy and commercial law.
- *Member of the Board of Editors, The Florida Bar Journal (1994 to 2013)*
- *Columnist, New York Law Journal (1995 to 2009)* Wrote monthly column on bankruptcy issues.
- *Member of the Board of Editors, The Bankruptcy Strategist (1995 to 2008)*

SELECTED ACADEMIC/SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- *Adjunct Associate Professor of Law, Benjamin Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University.*
- *Lecturer, Columbia University School of Law, American Law Institute-American Bar Association Committee on Continuing Education (ALI-ABA), The Practising Law Institute (PLI) and Mathematica.*
- *Presenter, Joint Conference of INSOL International and The European Insolvency Practitioners Association, Florence, Italy (1995).*

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **American Bar Association**
Chairman, Subcommittee on Bankruptcy Court Litigation
Business Bankruptcy Committee
- **The Florida Bar**
Judicial Evaluation Committee
Board of Editors, Florida Bar Journal
- **The Association of the Bar of New York**
Committee on State Legislation
- **United States District Court, Eastern District of New York**
Panel of Mediators
Panel of Arbitrators
- **United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York**
Panel of Mediators
- **Civil Court, City of New York**
Small Claims Arbitrator
- **American Arbitration Association**
Panel of Commercial Arbitrators
- **The English Law Society**
- **The Society of Practitioners of Insolvency** (United Kingdom)

LICENSURE

- Bar admission in New York, Florida, District of Columbia and California.
- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of London and Wales (United Kingdom).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Early legal experience in bankruptcy, real estate, intellectual property and litigation at mid-sized New York law firms.
- *Former Legislative Aide*, **Senator Jacob K. Javits** and the **US Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare** (91st and 92nd Congresses); primary staff responsibility for proposed revisions to the Fair Labor Standards Act (Minimum Wage Law Amendments enacted in 1974); instrumental in drafting the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), the Employment Retirement Income Security Act and various health, education and anti-poverty legislation.
- Conversational French and Italian.

EDUCATION

American University Law School, Washington, DC

Juris Doctor (1972), Awards for excellence in Constitutional Law and Criminal Law

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

Bachelor of Arts, International Relations (1969)