

XI. DESIGNATION HEARINGS

4. **ITEM 3: 1250 N OCEAN BLVD.**

Owner: Marsha C Beeson

Mses. Brooker, Metzger, and Mr. Ives disclosed ex-parte communications.

Janet Murphy, MurphyStillings, LLC, testified to the architecture and history of the Mediterranean Revival style residence. Ms. Murphy pointed out the design features of the residence. Ms. Murphy testified that the buildings met the following criteria for designation as a landmark:

Sec. 54-161 (1) Exemplifies or reflects the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of the nation, state, county, or town; and, Sec. 54-161 (3) Embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or is a specimen inherently valuable of the study of a period, style, method of construction, or use of Indigenous materials or craftsmanship, Sect. 54-161 (4) Is representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual ability has been recognized or who influenced his age.

A motion was made by Mr. Ives and was seconded by Ms. Albarran to make the designation report for 1250 N. Ocean Blvd. part of the record. The motion was carried unanimously, 7-0.

Ms. Patterson asked for confirmation on proof of publication. Ms. Mittner provided confirmation.

Ms. Patterson called for public comment.

Attorney James Green, representing the owner, stated Mr. John Beeson, the owner, would explain why it was not worthy of designation.

The owner, John Beeson, discussed the faux material on the home's exterior and added that behind that material was rot.

Wes Blackman, CWB Associates, half of Mr. Beeson, historic preservation planner, stated that work is ongoing regarding water penetration into the building. He stated the reasons he did not believe this structure should be landmarked.

Ms. Murphy indicated that when researching the property, the work explained had not been permitted through the town. Seeing the pictures of the property, she still believed the home was worthy of designation.

Mr. Green stated that the owner sent a letter with photographs to the Town indicating the home's condition.

Aimee Sunny, The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach, felt this request for a landmark was tricky. She found the history in the designation report very interesting but did not have personal knowledge of the structure.

Despite its disrepair, Ms. Patterson thought the home was worthy of the landmark designation.

Ms. Fairfax questioned when the home was initiated for designation. Ms. Murphy stated that the report was written almost four years ago. Ms. Fairfax did not believe she had enough information on which to base her decision.

Ms. Murphy thought the house would be more visible if the landscaping were removed.

Ms. Fairfax questioned how the house got to the Landmarks Preservation Commission since it could not be seen from the road due to the landscaping. Ms. Murphy said the house was discovered when historical research was being done.

Mr. Ives thought the home met the criteria outlined in the designation report and supported the property's landmarking.

Ms. Herzig-Desnick thought the home should be repaired if designated, and some guidelines should be provided to the homeowner. She thought the home was worthy of designation.

A motion was made by Mr. Ives and was seconded by Ms. Fairfax to recommend 1250 N. Ocean Blvd. to the Town Council for designation as a Landmark of the Town of Palm Beach based on criteria 1, 3, and 4 in Section 54-161 and with the acknowledgment that the owners of the residence opposed the designation. The motion was carried unanimously, 7-0.