Board Member Basics



Commissioner Commandments

- 1. READ YOUR ORDINANCE
- 2. Know your design guidelines
- 3. Know your historic resources inventory
- 4. Keep educating yourself on historic preservation issues
- 5. Work with the public and educate them on what you know
- 6. Know your partners in local government
- 7. Do your homework: LOOK AT THE SITE BEFORE THE HEARING.
- 8. Put reasons for every decision into the motion making that decision
- 9. Be objective and consistent in your decisions
- 10. Plan for Preservation





Read Your Ordinance

- How does your local designation process work?
- What criteria are outlined for evaluating changes to historic properties?
 - Secretary of the Interior Standards
 - Local Design Guidelines
- What process is outlined to deal with cases of demolition by neglect?
- What are the consequences for noncompliance? What provisions are available for enforcing decisions?



ARTICLE 11: HISTORIC PRESERVATION STANDARDS

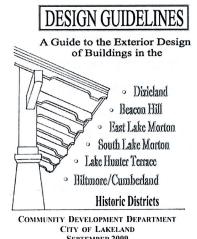
11.1 HITERT AND APPLICABILITY

a. Intent

It is the intent of this Article to establish the frame-work for a comprehensive historic preservation organism the City of Laksford, to protect and preserve unique historic and cultural recovers by deterobying and designating historic shortes, to prevent the prevention pregnant in the City of Laksford, to protect and preserve unique historic and cultural recovers by deterobying and designating historic shortes, to prevent the control of Control of

Historical Resources_

Know Your Design Guidelines







Know Your Historic Resources Inventory

- Know your local historic designations
 - Visit them, if possible. (Ideally, walk them). Get a feel for the historic character of the districts.
- Familiarize yourself with National Register listed properties and districts in your community
- · Identify what areas have been surveyed, and those that have not
 - Are there neighborhoods or properties related to the history of underrepresented communities that have not been surveyed?
 - Are there particular property types that have not been surveyed? (Industrial, agricultural, landscapes)





Keep Learning

- National Alliance for Preservation Commissions
 - · Alliance Magazine
 - FORUM conference
 - NAPC Listserv
- · National Trust for Historic Preservation
 - · Savingplaces.org
 - facebook.com/NationalTrustforHistoricPreservation
- Florida Division of Historical Resources
 - Flheritage.com; facebook.com/FLheritage
 - Webinars
 - CLG Trainings
- Florida Trust for Historic Preservation
 - floridatrust.org
 - facebook.com/floridatrustforhistoricpreservation

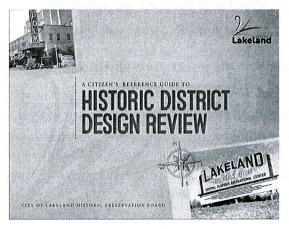






Educate the Public









Remember that your board is an arm of the local government

- Abide by Sunshine and Open Meeting Laws
 - Be careful with your email communications (do not "reply all")
 - Avoid ex-parte communications
 - Avoid "accidental" meetings (when quorum is present and projects are discussed)
 - · Determine if board members site visits need to be noticed
- Communicate with your city attorney often
- Develop relationships and work closely with Code Enforcement
- Involve your local Elected Officials when possible
 - Invite them to local preservation events and to participate in successes



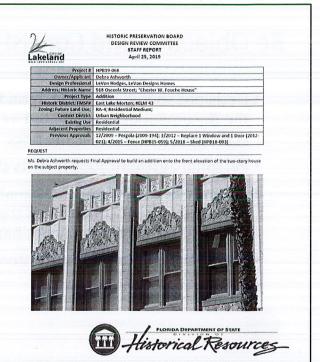


Do Your Homework!

Prior to the HPB Meeting:

- Read the staff report closely
- Take notes about your thoughts and concerns regarding the project
- If at all possible, visit the site in person (but don't trespass!)
 - · Examine the contributing buildings closely
 - Pay close attention to the primary façade
 - · If not, examine it using Google Streetview





Carefully Craft Your Motions

- Put reasons for every decision into the motion making that decision.
 - Identify your findings of fact
 - Identify the criteria by which you are making your decision
 - Secretary of the Interior Standards
 - Local Design Guidelines
 - Identify the scope of work that is being approved/denied
 - Make a motion (to approve, to approve with conditions, to request more information, or to deny)

I find that the property at 2683 Monroe St. is a contributing resource to the Aliceville Historic District, and that the proposed replacement of fourteen windows on the north, south, and west facades is in compliance with the local historic district guidelines as the new windows match the original in size, configuration, and proportion; therefore, I move that we approve the applicant's request without conditions.





Be Objective and Consistent in Your Decisions

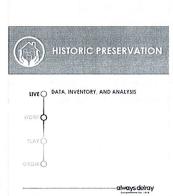
- Decisions should be based upon facts presented to the board through the documentation submitted as part of an application and through staff reports and public hearings
- Personal aesthetic judgements should be avoided
- When reviewing historic designations, decisions should be based upon the current condition of the building, and not future plans for a property that may or may not happen
- Encourage your city/county attorney to attend your meetings

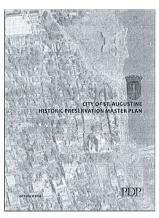




Plan for Preservation

- Helpful Planning Documents
 - Annual Work Plan
 - Historic Preservation Element of Comprehensive Plan
 - Standalone Preservation Plan
- · Items to Plan for
 - Application timelines for future grant projects
 - Future surveys
 - Future local designations
 - Future National Register Nominations
 - Future Educational/Promotional projects









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