



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** October 18, 2023

**TITLE:**

Introduction of new Board Member.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Kennedy Higgins, Planner, Development Services Department

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

A little bit about our new member.

In 1983 Lisa bought her old house (a 1922 Craftsman bungalow in the Travis Heights area of Austin) and fell in love with the history a house of that age brings. She learned how to care for the house such as how to replace sash cords in a double hung window, or how to install wallpaper. Through this process she realized the time and money that it takes to maintain a historic home, but in the end, it is a labor of love.

The next historic house she purchased was right here in Bastrop, the E.C. Erhard House at 1507 Pecan Street. After this she moved back to Austin due to familial necessity and moved into a stone home in the Castle Hill area. This house was built in 1901 – she was thrilled with the renovations of the kitchen and bathroom. At the same time, she was appointed as the Travis County Bar Association representative to the City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission. She served with the Austin HLC for 8 years, 3 of which she was the chair. Through her time with them she was able to help preserve Austins Historic homes from the relentless development.

When she purchased the B.D. Orgain House, an 1888 Victorian home on Church Street here in Bastrop, it was a dream come true for her husband and her. They were able to move back to Bastrop, with her mother Mary, and truly enjoy the history of the house they had just purchased. They take pride in being the house's caretaker and protector. She is thrilled to be serving with the Bastrop HLC, "I'm so grateful to now be able to help this Commission honor and protect Bastrop's historic fabric." – Lisa Laky.