

Florida Historical Commission
500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida, Room 307 R.A. Gray Building
Friday, May 12, 2017 10:30 a.m. - Conclusion

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present In-Person: Dr. Clifford Smith; Mr. Stephen Birtman.

Commission Members Participating via Teleconference: Mr. Rick Gonzalez, Vice Chair; Ms. Kathy Fleming; Mr. John Phelps; Ms. Ellen Uguccioni.

Commission Members Not Present: Ms. Marion Almy; Ms. Mimi Reid Hardman; Ms. Judy Kane; Mr. Bob Ward.

DOS Staff Members Present: Ms. Christie Fitz-Patrick, Deputy Secretary of State; Dr. Angela Tomlinson, Assistant Director; Dr. Sarah Liko, Program Administrator; Dr. Mary Glowacki, Chief, Bureau of Archaeological Research; Ms. Alissa Lotane, Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation; Mr. Ruben Acosta, Survey and Registration Supervisor.

Members of the Public Present: None.

Item I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. and asked Dr. Liko to call the roll. Quorum was confirmed.

Item II. Introduction of Commission, Staff & Guests

Mr. Gonzalez asked the commissioners to introduce themselves. Dr. Tomlinson then introduced herself and Department of State staff did as well.

Item III. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Fleming moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Birtman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item IV. Approval of Minutes from February 10, 2017, Meeting

Dr. Smith moved to approve the minutes for the February 10, 2017, meeting. Mr. Birtman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item V. Approval of Minutes from March, 28, 2017, Meeting

Mr. Birtman moved to approve the minutes for the March 28, 2017, meeting. Dr. Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item VI. Business Items

Mr. Birtman moved to approve the nominations for the Mary Call Darby Collins and Senator Bob Williams Award, and Mr. Phelps seconded the motion. Ms. Uguccioni asked Mr. Birtman for the names of those individuals nominated. Mr. Birtman informed the commissioners that the individuals nominated are Mr. Nick McAuliffe for the Mary Call Darby Collins Award and

Governor Bob Graham for the Senator Bob Williams Award. Mr. Gonzalez asked if there was any further discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Liko informed the commissioners that several appointments and reappointments are pending in the Governor's Appointments Office, and Chairman Almy previously provided her opinion that the vice chair election be tabled until new members are appointed. Ms. Uguccioni asked if there is a limit to the period for which one can serve as vice chair, and Dr. Liko answered that no there is no limit. Dr. Smith made a motion to table the vote. Mr. Phelps seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Tomlinson asked about potential dates for the next Florida Historical Commission (FHC) business meeting. Dr. Liko informed the commissioners that there are two options: August 11 to correspond with the National Register Review Board meeting the previous day or a date in September to correspond with the Special Category Grant panels. The commissioners opted to meet the morning of August 11, 2017. Dr. Tomlinson clarified that the commissioners will still meet in September for the Special Categories Grant panels. Mr. Gonzalez asked for those dates, and Dr. Tomlinson informed the commissioners that the panels will be September 19 and 20, 2017.

Item VII. Director's Comments

Mr. Gonzalez recognized Dr. Tomlinson to deliver the Director's report. Dr. Tomlinson began the report by explaining that the Division is working to move forward with new appointments to the FHC in close cooperation with Department of State management. She informed the commissioners that the 2017-2021 State of Florida Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan had been sent to the National Park Service for their review, and that after receiving and addressing their comments the Division will work with a designer to create a final product for distribution.

Dr. Tomlinson provided the commissioners updates regarding the 2017 legislative session, including the Division's funding for Fiscal Year 2018. Mr. Birtman asked if SB214 went to committee. Ms. Fitz-Patrick answered that it did not. Mr. Phelps asked Dr. Tomlinson which member projects were included in the budget. Dr. Tomlinson listed the member projects under the Small Matching and Special Category grants. Dr. Smith asked if Dr. Tomlinson could inform the commissioners which Special Category grant projects were include in the budget, and she proceeded to read that list.

Dr. Tomlinson continued with the Director's report by explaining that the Historic Preservation fund was reauthorized for seven years at the very end of the 114th Congress, and informing the commissioners that the Division continues to closely monitor efforts at tax reform that could impact the historic preservation tax credit program.

Dr. Tomlinson concluded the Director's comments and asked for questions. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his displeasure with development pressure in South Florida and its effect on historic districts. He asked that it be discussed at the next FHC meeting. Mr. Gonzalez announced that he would be willing to help out in any way possible, including volunteering, because he believes preservationists are losing the battle in South Florida. Ms. Uguccioni informed Mr. Gonzalez that

she believes the master plans also need to be reviewed. Dr. Smith explained that the preservation laws function at the local level, and that real change can only happen if those organizations are better educated. Mr. Gonzalez agreed, but believes that the Division should lead the way and take action.

Item VIII. Committee Reports

Mr. Gonzalez recognized Dr. Glowacki and asked her to give the Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) updates. Dr. Glowacki announced that Mike Wisebaker will be retiring soon after working with the Division for 30 years. Other staff changes include two new hires to the Underwater section for a total of five staff members. Dr. Glowacki also informed the commissioners that one member of the Conservation staff will be leaving at the end of the summer for graduate school. She provided updated review numbers and current research for the Public Lands section, including two major surveys that have been completed.

She also informed the commissioners that Florida State University has requested to have three field schools, every other spring, at Mission San Luis to address several questions, including whether the Apalachee were living within the Mission center and to identify the location of the Camino Real.

Regarding the underwater program, she explained that 1A-31 permit activity had slowed down with the exception of two companies. Staff are also revisiting communities located along the Shipwreck Trail in order to provide education about the wrecks, and encourage tourism and visitors to the sites. Dr. Glowacki informed the commissioners of the work of staff at the Manasota Key Offshore Site, including the offer from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to provide divers to help staff. She also announced that they would potentially be acquiring a larger boat from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

Dr. Glowacki informed the FHC that 15,000 artifact lots have been added so far this year to collections, and that they are conducting a feasibility study to address the need for additional space. In addition, there is currently no space to take in more oversized items. She described the Florida History in 3D website project and plans to launch the site later in 2017.

Dr. Glowacki continued the report by discussing the discovery and exhumation of the earliest Parish in St. Augustine, for which the City asked BAR for assistance. BAR also generated a 3D model of the burials. She ended her report by informing the commissioners of Florida Public Archaeology Network's (FPAN) Heritage Monitoring Scouts effort – a statewide network of volunteers who help monitor archaeological sites.

Ms. Fleming asked about Dr. Glowacki's previous request for conservation equipment. Ms. Fitz-Patrick asked if she was referring to the science and technology appropriation for BAR, and Kathy answered affirmatively. Ms. Fitz-Patrick answered the issue did not make it into the Division's final budget at the conclusion of the Conference process. Ms. Fleming asked if the Division will be requesting the same appropriation next year, and Ms. Fitz-Patrick answered that the Division will assess its needs for legislative budget requests in the upcoming months.

Mr. Gonzalez recognized Ms. Lotane for the Bureau of Historic Preservation (BHP) update. She began by discussing Preservation Month and how staff are participating in the #thisplacematters efforts to promote historic preservation. She informed the commissioners that several individuals formerly with the Division received lifetime achievement awards from the Tallahassee Trust.

Other updates regarding BHP staff include a training on mid-century resources offered by the National Preservation Institute facilitated by Mr. Jim Massey, and the Department of Economic Opportunity Asset Mapping project for which staff visited Frostproof, Stuart, and Hendry County. Ms. Lotane then provided the FHC with section reports. The Florida Master Site File recently surpassed 205,000 resources recorded and added a staff member, Satin Platt. Compliance added new staff, Mercedes Harrold and Rachel Thompson, and staff have been helping to provide single day Section 106 training sessions with the Forest Service and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). She explained that compliance will also hold a Cultural Resource Management Summit, which they hope to hold every two years going forward. Ms. Lotane and Mr. Jason Aldridge will be attending a training for adapting historic buildings for flooding in New Orleans hosted by the National Park Service.

Architecture staff are assisting grant staff with closeouts and reviewing grant applications, and also working on tax credits. In addition, architecture staff are planning another possible tax credit workshop for June. Main Street staff facilitated a quarterly meeting in Winter Haven, and Ms. Ronni Wood has been traveling to prospective Main Streets and participating in Grants Workshops. The Main Street program is expecting applications from Havana, Defuniak Springs, Frostproof, and Waldo. Ms. Wood is also preparing for the annual Florida Main Street Conference in Fernandina Beach. In addition, she attended the National Main Street Conference in Pittsburg during the week of May 1st. The Certified Local Governments (CLG) program has been working with Arcadia on their application, which – if approved – would make 75 CLGs in Florida. Mr. Gonzalez asked for clarification that only one staff member works with CLGs, and Alissa answered that Mr. Michael Zimny staffs the CLG program. She also explained that Mr. Ruben Acosta and Mr. Zimny facilitated four regional CLG trainings in March and April – in Monticello, Gainesville, Tampa, and Coral Gables.

Ms. Lotane then informed the commissioners that she had asked Mr. Acosta to discuss the regional trainings and to update the FHC on the National Register (NR) review board meeting the previous day. Mr. Acosta described the topics of the CLG trainings, and explained that they included 91 representatives from individual communities across the state. He informed the commissioners that the Division plans to provide webinars and additional training workshops in the future. Mr. Gonzalez offered to volunteer at CLG trainings in South Florida and webinars, and encouraged the other commissioners to volunteer as well. Mr. Acosta thanked him for this offer. Mr. Gonzalez said that he could share with these communities lessons he had learned as an architect. Mr. Acosta explained that he should be receiving word soon regarding the official listing of three properties in Florida. Nine nominations, one delisting, and one amendment to an existing district were approved on May 11 by the NR review board. Mr. Acosta also informed the commissioners that the next NR review board meeting will be held on the afternoon of August 10.

Mr. Gonzalez recognized Dr. Tomlinson to give the Grants Program updates. Staff changes include the addition of one new staff member, Timothy Knoepke. Dr. Tomlinson discussed the new grants system, and informed the commissioners that 93 applications were submitted for Small Matching grants during most recent cycle. She provided the cycle dates of the Special Category grants, and informed the commissioners that the review and ranking meetings are scheduled for September 19 and 20, but may want to extend to another half day depending on how many applications are submitted. Ms. Uguccioni asked if there are any special provisions give to Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) communities for Small Matching grants. Dr. Tomlinson answered that they are ranked in the same way, but for Small Matching grants they do not have to provide a match and for Special Category they only have to provide a 10% match. Mr. Birtman asked about proviso language regarding the REDI communities, and who was behind it. Ms. Fitz-Patrick explained that the language would have provided that REDI communities be ranked separately, and that the FHC would have been reviewing four separate lists. Mr. Birtman asked how the Division informs applicants if they are awarded a grant. Dr. Tomlinson answered that Grants staff reach out to funded grantees with a letter after receiving the signed budget by the Governor. Mr. Birtman asked if those who are not funded also receive a letter and Dr. Tomlinson answered affirmatively.

Item IX. Other Business

None.

Item X. Public Comment

None.

Item XI. Adjourn

Mr. Gonzalez requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Birtman so moved.

 Presiding Officer

 State Historic Preservation Officer and
Director, Division of Historical Resources

Approved: _____ 8/11/2017