

**Florida Historical Commission
R.A. Gray Building, Room 307
Tallahassee, Florida
October 24, 2013**

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present: Mrs. Marion Almy, Chair; Ms. Malinda Horton; Mr. John Phelps

Commission Members Present via Telephone: Mr. Del Acosta; Ms. Kathy Fleming; Mrs. Judy Kane; Dr. William Lees; Ms. Ellen Ugucioni

Commission Members Unable to Attend: Mr. Rick Gonzalez, Vice Chairman; Dr. Adam Hirsch; Ms. Mimi Hardman

Division of Historical Resources Staff Present: Mr. Robert F. Bendus, State Historic Preservation Officer and Division Director; Ms. Celeste Ivory, Division Operations Administrator; Mrs. Alissa Slade Lotane, Chief of the Bureau of Historic Preservation; Dr. Mary Glowacki, Chief of the Bureau of Archaeological Research and State Archaeologist; Dr. Barbara Mattick, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Survey and Registration; Ms. Angie Tomlinson, Program Administrator; Ms. Susanne Hunt, Outreach Programs Supervisor

Guests Present via Telephone: Mr. Joe McCann, Ballard Partners

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff & Guests

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adopt the agenda as emailed. Motion made by Commissioner Phelps to adopt the agenda as emailed. Commissioner Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes from July 31, 2013 Meeting

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adopt the minutes as emailed. Motion made by Commissioner Kane to approve the minutes as emailed. Motion made by Commissioner Kane to adopt the minutes as emailed. Commissioner Fleming seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Chairman's Comments

Chairman Almy thanked the division and Commission for their efforts to make all meetings run smoothly.

VI. Director's Division Updates

Director Bendus thanked the Commission for their time in helping the division accomplish the great work it is mandated to do. Director Bendus introduced the division's Bureau Chiefs for the presentation of their bureau reports.

Dr. Glowacki provided the Commission with an overview of Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) programs, facilities, staff, and recent activities. Dr. Glowacki advised the Commission of a research project at Letchworth Mounds; an event collaboration commemorating America's First Christmas, to be held at the Governor Martin House/Hernando de Soto 1539-1540 Winter Encampment Site to promote archaeology; Public Lands Archaeology (PLA) land management reviews; development of Camino Real interpretive data; the Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) Training program; the prehistoric dugout canoe database; staff's urban resource and management advice on the Miami Circle and Grenada; processing of material recovered from Mission San Luis' (MSL) Council House and Fort; a survey pilot project for the Underwater Archaeology Program; the completion of installation of compressed shelving for the state's archaeological collection at Mission San Luis; Egmont Key Lighthouse light base pedestal restoration; educational program and camps, increased visitation counts, event rentals, and annual events at Mission San Luis.

Director Bendus highlighted BAR's strategic focuses on more comprehensive surveying of state lands, both terrestrial and underwater; enhanced room for growth with newly installed compact shelving and digitization efforts for the state archaeological collection to make it available to a much broader audience; and the upcoming launch of the state's twelfth Underwater Archaeological Preserve, the USS *Narcissus*.

Mrs. Lotane provided the Bureau of Historical Preservation (BHP) update, advising the Commission on BHP programs, facilities, and staffing. Mrs. Lotane reported that bureau has recently experienced much transition, with the new hires of fifteen of the bureau's thirty-six employees within the past year; division hosting of a Cultural Resource Summit workshop in September; division duties related to the state's Bed and Breakfast Task Force for the State Fire Marshal's Office and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) assessments; Small-Matching Grant hearings in September; Chapter 2013-154 Florida Administrative Code (Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1309) requirements to revise current grant award agreements to comply with this law; grant lists funding; the addition of Chattahoochee and Tallahassee as Florida Main Street communities; Great Floridians Program activities; Florida Historic Golf Trail progress, website information at www.FloridaHistoricGolfTrail.com; the reprint of division publications, design development and printing of the Florida French Heritage Trail, and the upcoming start of research on the Florida British Heritage Trail.

Commissioner Phelps offered promotional assistance by the British Consulate on the Florida British Heritage Trail project.

Director Bendus emphasized the ongoing focus on promotion and outreach for the division.

Discussion ensued on digital mapping tools and apps to aid the division's heritage tourism programs, teach history, and aid the state's economy; social media communication plans; delays in payment of grant projects, and changes in grant award agreements.

Dr. Mattick provided the Commission with a report on the prior day's National Register Review Board meeting and properties reviewed; and notified the Commission on the completion of the rollout of the Statewide Historic Preservation Comprehensive Plan.

Director Bendus discussed the impacts to the division from the federal shutdown; initiatives in the division, including creating a better working relationship with the Tribes; legislative budget requests, including grant funding as well as program funding for the de Soto site, The Grove, the Camino Real site; the need to fill the upcoming vacancies of the cultural resource management professionals at the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to ensure continued protection of the cultural resources on state lands; and the department's work with the Florida State University to establish an interdisciplinary anthropology program concept that will better train the next generation of cultural resource managers.

VII. Business Items

A. Annual Appointment of Selection Committee and Election of the Presiding Officer of the Historic Preservation Awards Nominating Committee (Vote at next meeting)

Director Bendus requested that Chairman Almy create a nominating committee, which will elect a presiding officer, review the awards, pass them on to the full Commission for a vote, and then move the recommendations to the Secretary of State. Chairman Almy nominated Commissioner Fleming to serve as the Chair of the subcommittee, and Commissioners Acosta and Horton to serve on the subcommittee.

B. Special Category Grants

Director Bendus presented the division's recommendation that the Commission's previous Special Category Grant ranked list which rolled over and did not receive funding be carried over and attached in the previously ranked order to the bottom of the newly ranked Special Category grant list to be submitted for consideration of funding to the Florida Legislature.

A motion was made by Commissioner Phelps for the list of grantees not funded last year to be attached as an addendum to this years' ranked list of Special Category grantees. Commissioner Acosta seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Discussion on Division History and Role of the Commission

Director Bendus discussed the duties and responsibilities of the Commission as defined in Chapter 267.0612, *Florida Statutes*, including assisting the division in the process of identification and ranking of properties for the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC), which implements Florida Forever funding to purchase conservation lands throughout the state for future generations; evaluating proposals for awards of Special Category historic preservation grants-in-aid; providing a public outreach program to help the division get its message out about the importance and relevancy of historic preservation in the state; and providing more feedback on the preservation issues and efforts in the communities across the state, that the division needs to be more involved in and aware of.

Chairman Almy suggested that all Commissioners be listed on the agenda of the March 2014 meeting to report on these items; and noted a past practice of issuing state business cards to the Commission to help with networking and representative efforts.

Director Bendus also requested networking assistance from the Commission with the Grants Program; recommended the Commission identify and present themselves at all preservation opportunities to forward the concept of historic preservation; and review of the properties listed in the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) surplus lands list.

X. Other Business

Commissioner Phelps discussed monuments placed on the Historic Capitol grounds, the need for governance of the process, and solicited advice of the Commission

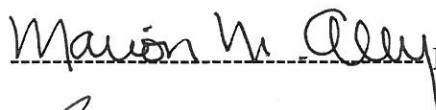
XI. Public Comment

None.

XII. Adjourn

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Phelps so moved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horton. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.


----- Presiding Officer


----- Director, Division of Historical Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer


----- Approved