

**Florida Historical Commission
R.A. Gray Building, Room 307
Tallahassee, FL
December 1, 2016**

Commission Members Present:

Commissioner Clifford Smith

Commission Members Participating by Teleconference:

Commission Chair Marion Almy; Commissioner Rick Gonzalez; Commissioner Steve Birtman; Commissioner John Phelps; Commissioner Ellen Ugucioni.

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Timothy A. Parsons, RPA, Director, Division of Historical Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer; Angela Tomlinson, Ph.D., Assistant Director; Nicholas Yarbrough, Assistant to the Director; Alissa Lotane, Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation; Dr. Mary Glowacki, Chief, Bureau of Archaeological Research

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff, and Guests

Commissioners and staff who were in attendance introduced themselves. There were no guests present at the meeting.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Gonzalez motioned to adopt the agenda at 10:10 a.m. and Commissioner Ugucioni seconded that motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes from October 17, 2016, Meeting

Commissioner Smith motioned to adopt the minutes at 10:12 a.m. from the previous meeting and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Director's Comments

Dr. Parsons provided an update on the Special Category Grants program results and an overview of the process that took place. Dr. Parsons mentioned that he, along with the Division's Bureau Chiefs, were finalizing the comprehensive plan that is required by the National Park Service

every five years. Dr. Parsons provided an update on the structure and development of the Friends of Florida History Citizen Support Organization. Dr. Parsons mentioned the forthcoming creation of an archaeological fund endowment and he talked about the current plans to improve the Governor Martin House for rentals and events, so that the house can be used as a local resource. Dr. Parsons announced that the Department of State is planning on a March 2017 opening of the Grove. Dr. Parsons reiterated the legislative budget updates from the previous meeting. Dr. Parsons reminded the Commission that a bill or other initiative might emerge that would require DHR to issue permits for the recovery of archaeological material from river bottoms. The Division has been working to educate legislators as much as possible on this issue and Dr. Parsons encouraged the Commission members to reach out to legislators in their districts in regards to that subject.

Dr. Parsons discussed the possibility of a State historic preservation tax credit bill. Dr. Parsons provided an update on the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) reauthorization process, saying that the Fund still has not been reauthorized and that it probably will not be by the end of the calendar year. The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers is seeking reauthorization and an increase in funding but it is unclear how that will proceed in the upcoming congress. The two most likely paths to reauthorization are House Resolution 2817 and Senate 2012, the Energy Policy Modernization Act, which would also permanently reauthorize the HPF.

Dr. Parsons provided an update on the shipwreck remains off the coast of Cape Canaveral. He delivered a broad overview of the process that has led up to the current situation and he explained the legal process related to France's formal claims on the shipwreck remains. Dr. Parsons offered to provide more information to anyone wishing to know more about it.

VI. Committee Reports

Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) Update

Dr. Glowacki reported that there will be a new employee in Public Lands Archaeology (PLA) soon, and this addition will help to bring together the PLA and Underwater (UW) programs. Paulette McFadden, Archaeologist III, is working to implement a Law Enforcement Training program aimed at law enforcement officers who deal mainly with submerged cultural resources. Dr. Glowacki explained that this training will take a proactive stance on cultural resources and send the message that the state is trying to protect them. She mentioned that the aquatic preserves are now under BAR jurisdiction and these preserves require both terrestrial and underwater survey methods.

Dr. Glowacki began her report on the UW program by saying that they have made progress on the Venice Beach archaeological site, as they are trying to complete work between a Phase I and Phase II survey. The UW team is working with a company to determine what is peat, what is archaeological, and how to best protect everything as the burials there are threatened by nature and by people. BAR and the UW team are trying to bring in researchers who are interested in studying this site before more is lost. UW archaeologists Melissa Price and Franklin Price are looking to increase the state's knowledge on historical barges, specifically to add more documentation about vernacular watercraft. They are hoping to work on vernacular watercraft

that have previously been underrepresented in UW surveys. Julie Duggins, Archaeologist III, will be working with law enforcement officials to address regional concerns by talking to land managers, specifically about how to train more people with less travel on their part.

Dr. Glowacki reported that Collections and Conservation (C&C) will move forward with plans to expand and improve this program's facilities by working with the Department of Management Services (DMS). Dr. Parsons mentioned that he is working with C&C to replace their software and he asked that those who use these resources be patient as the program implements the new improvements. Dr. Glowacki continued her report by reminding everyone that archaeology month is coming up soon, and that C&C will showcase their "Museums in 3D" program in conjunction with archaeology month.

The Conservation lab has a new conservator, Ileana Olmos, and Dr. Glowacki provided some professional background information on Ms. Olmos. Dr. Glowacki explained that the Conservation lab continues to bring in outside projects for conservation that generate revenue, and this helps to defer the costs of in-house projects. The Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) launched a new scout monitoring program to address archaeological resources under threat from any and all causes. Dr. Glowacki extended an invitation to the commissioners to the holiday party at the Governor Martin House on December 16, 2016.

Dr. Smith had a question about the modernization and upgrading of the collections software. He asked how they have tested the migration of data from the old software to the new software. Dr. Glowacki explained that staff with computer programming experience have been working together to ensure a smooth transition to the new "Axial Adlib" software. Dr. Parsons explained his experience helping to create new Compliance and Review software and what he and other staff learned from that. That task was done successfully and there was no disruption to operations.

Bureau of Historic Preservation (BHP) Update

Ms. Lotane discussed the recent updates to the comprehensive plan. There were three main issues identified; first, the issue of sea-level rise and the Bureau is seeking direction from the National Park Service on this subject; second, a need to involve more "millennials" in historic preservation while providing more internships and contacts; third, a plan to enhance the Certified Local Government program to provide more benefit to participating governments and offer more training.

Ms. Lotane then explained some of BHP's goals for the near future and the steps to achieve each goal. The first goal was to improve the documentation and preservation in Florida's historic places. Ms. Lotane's second goal was to expand public participation of preservation by promoting and facilitating the economic benefits of preservation, holding related events and activities, and highlighting under-represented groups. The third goal was to foster an increased appreciation for Florida's history. The fourth and final goal was to become a more effective partner for local and regional preservation by promoting the use of historic preservation grants, improve local preservation bonds, and develop a network of preservation advocates.

Ms. Lotane went on to describe other BHP activities, including the monitoring of a situation with the St. Cloud Main Street. There is the potential for a 15 story hotel with a nearly 200 car

parking garage to be built in downtown St. Cloud, where there is no other structure beyond about four stories high. Ms. Ronni Wood, supervisor of the Main Street program is currently traveling around the state to conduct regional meetings. Plant City has rejoined the Main Street program after being inactive for some time, bringing the program to 47 active Main Streets.

Ms. Lotane explained that BHP is still working with the Town of Fruitland Park, where a new library is proposed on the site of the National Register listed Fruitland Park Casino. As per Chapter 267 of the Florida statutes and the library grant guidelines, the Bureau recommended another site for the new library. BHP was told that the recommended action was not possible and that the city would like to enter mitigation. The Bureau proposed the mitigation strategy of performing a Level III Historic American Building Survey (HABS). Rather than demolishing the structure, it was recommended that the town use a salvage plan to dismantle, by hand, and reuse as much of the material as possible and re-mill timbers that may be usable elsewhere in the new library.

Once the mitigation strategy is implemented and the results are approved by DHR, the library grant could be executed with payment of the grant funds contingent upon deliverables. The deliverables would include a State Historical Marker, execution of the Salvage Plan, and the addition of historical information panels in the new library highlighting the history of Fruitland Park and the Casino. No grant funding would go toward dismantling the building or toward any of the mitigation items.

Ms. Lotane reported that the Certified Local Government (CLG) program is planning regional meetings for the spring of 2017. There have been no new CLGs since August and the program is hoping to receive the annual reports from 74 current CLGs. Compliance and Review is catching up to their 30-day deadline for reviews since Lindsay Smith transferred over from the Grants section. A Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Summit will take place in either April or May and more firm dates will be provided by the end of the year.

Chairman Almy requested that minutes be taken during the CRM summit and a summary of the events be produced afterwards. Dr. Parsons agreed and said that this can be done to provide recommendations and directions to CRM firms. Chairman Almy mentioned that Dr. Parsons could help CRM firms by providing a summary report in return for their investment in time and resources to participate. Dr. Glowacki mentioned how the previous CRM summits were handled.

Ms. Lotane asked for suggestions for topics of discussion at the proposed CRM summit. One response was that more information about architecture and historic buildings should be provided. Chairman Almy asked for some formal statements on linear areas such as roads, canals, etc., and for more information regarding trailer parks. Dr. Smith mentioned a need for more guidance on how to work with historic bridges. Commissioner Uguccione expressed her concerns about new construction within historic districts and she asked about residences and commercial buildings with regards to tax credits. Ms. Lotane explained that the credits are just for commercial buildings.

Ms. Lotane mentioned that tax credit applications are slowly coming in to the Bureau. Ms. Lotane said that she had already started to research State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, particularly in Texas since their tax credit is based on franchise and corporate taxes which may be the most appropriate model for Florida. Ms. Lotane said she expects that state tax credits will be introduced in a bill during this coming legislative session.

The Bureau held a webinar for the National Register Review Board (NRRB) on November 28, 2016, and the NRRB meets again on December 1, 2016. Bob Jones retired on October 31, 2016, and the Bureau is preparing to advertise for this position soon. The Bureau held a tax credit workshop on November 17, 2016, with the help of the City of Jacksonville, and approximately 30 people attended, most of whom were realtors. This concluded Ms. Lotane's Bureau report.

Dr. Parsons mentioned that he had just received an e-mail related to House Bill 27 which would recognize the fundamental injustice of slavery and establish a Florida Slavery Memorial. The proposed bill stipulates that DMS shall establish that memorial on the capitol complex after receiving advice from the Florida Historical Commission. Commissioner Uguccione asked about putting together a committee to discuss general ideas on memorials and she asked if that is necessary. Dr. Parsons provided an answer, explaining DHR's role in providing input on the Holocaust memorial. As part of the DMS plan, a series of guidelines will be set forth for monument height, weight, and other criteria. Monuments and memorials can only be placed in certain areas of the Capitol Complex due to structural and engineering requirements. Commissioner Uguccione asked if those guidelines are ready for review yet. Dr. Parsons confirmed that the Division will contact DMS to get those guidelines as soon as they are available.

VII. Business Items

Approval of Nominations for the Mary Collins and Senator Bob Williams Awards

Chairman Almy asked the Commission for award nominations. Mr. Yarbrough named the three current nominations and some discussion ensued among the commission and staff.

Commissioner Uguccione asked to extend the deadline to allow for more nominations to be put forward. Dr. Parsons recommended wrapping up the nomination period by the end of January to give everyone time to finalize the process, notify recipients, and produce the awards.

Commissioner Uguccione motioned to extend the deadline to January 31, 2017.

Commissioner Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Annual Election of the Assistant Presiding Officer

The annual election of the assistant presiding officer began. Commissioner Gonzalez and Commissioner Smith both offered to serve as the assistant presiding officer. **Commissioner Smith made a motion to nominate himself and Commissioner Uguccione seconded that motion. Commissioner Phelps made a motion to nominate Commissioner Gonzalez and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded the motion.** The vote for these two candidates commenced with Mr. Yarbrough calling the roll and noting each vote. Commissioner Gonzalez received two votes and Commissioner Smith received three votes. It became apparent at this point that Commissioner Birtman had disconnected from the teleconference at some point just prior to the vote and, as such, a quorum no longer existed in this meeting. As a result of that situation, the election was postponed until the next meeting, when a quorum could be reached.

Commissioner Uguccioni asked about the election and the rotation of presiding officers on the National Register Review Board. Ms. Lotane explained that elections had not been addressed recently and that they will address that at the next meeting after the December 1, 2016, meeting.

Discuss Dates for the Next Meeting

There was some discussion of the dates for the next meeting. Ms. Lotane, on behalf of the National Register section, requested that the Commission set meeting dates for the future so that Certified Local Governments and applicants know when their deadlines will be. Four dates were proposed for 2017 for the National Register review. The tentative date of February 9, 2017, was suggested for the next meeting. The dates of May 11, August 10, and November 9, 2017, were all suggested as possibilities. Division staff offered to work with those tentative dates in mind to schedule the next NR and FHC meetings together.

VIII. Other Business

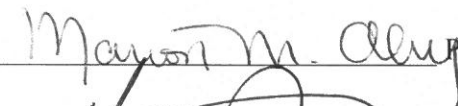
There was no other business brought forth to the commission.

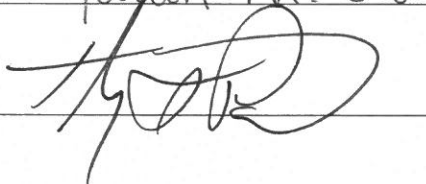
IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment received.

X. Adjourn

Commissioner Phelps pointed out that a motion was not needed at this point because of the lack of a quorum. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.


_____ Presiding Officer


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

Approved: _____