

Florida National Register Review Board
September 4, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Board members in attendance in person: Mrs. Marion Almy and Dr. Clifford Smith

Board members in attendance via webinar/phone: Ms. Ellen Ugucconi, Chairman; Mr. Rick Gonzalez; and Dr. Adam Hirsch

Division Staff Present: Mr. Robert F. Bendus, State Historic Preservation Officer; Ms. Desiree Estabrook, National Register supervisor; Mr. Robert Jones; Dr. Carl Shiver; and Mr. Michael Hart, National Register staff; (staff observing are Ms. Susanne Hunt; Ms. Ginny Jones; Ms. Deena Woodward; Mr. Andrew Waber; Ms. Robin Jackson; and Mr. Jason Aldridge)

Members of the public attending in person and via the webinar: Ms. Jenny Warren, Ms. Mercy Patoja, and Mr. Gary Apell (Vagabond Motel); Ms. Nathalie Wright, and Ms. Debbie Griffin, and Ms. Elizabeth Schrey and Mr. Steven Avdakov (Mai Kai Restaurant); Mr. Morris Hilton (Scott Building); (Sunset Hotel); Ms. Altha Manning, and Mr. James Ransom (Rogers Golf Course Park site); Ms. Candice Mitchell, and Ms. Hazel Dixon, and Mr. Donald Dixon, and (Los Robles Historic District); Ms. Jennifer Wolfe, and Mr. Paul Weaver (St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course); Ms. Cindie Catellier, and Mr. Michael Catellier (Palafox Historic District); Ms. Anne Peery (Director, Florida Trust for Historic Preservation)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ugucconi at 1:05 pm

II. Introductions

Board members and Division staff introduced themselves.

III. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smith, and passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, and passed unanimously.

V. Chairman's Comments

Ms. Uguccioni announced that she had been reappointed to serve on the Board for two more years.

VI. SHPO/Supervisor Comments

Mr. Bendus welcomed Dr. Clifford Smith to his first meeting with the Florida National Register Review Board.

VII. Review of Nomination Proposals

The Vagabond Motel, located in Miami Beach, in Dade County, was presented by Dr. Shiver. The motel is nominated under Criteria A and C for its significance in Entertainment/Recreation and Architecture. Constructed in 1953, it is an excellent example of Miami Modern (MiMo) architecture. The motel is undergoing review through the Federal Tax Credit Program, and the National Park Service (NPS) recently approved Part II of the application.

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, and passed unanimously.

The Mai Kai Restaurant, located in Oakland Park, Broward County, was presented by Dr. Shiver. The 1956 restaurant is nominated under Criteria A and C in the areas of Commerce and Architecture. This Polynesian-Pop themed restaurant, complete with outdoor gardens, Tiki and exotic adornments, exemplifies this style popular from the 1920s well into the 1970s. Board members had concerns regarding its style, and found they lacked comparable examples regarding the architectural significance. Board members favored a nomination proposal for Criteria A.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, and passed unanimously.

The Scott Commercial Building, located in Sarasota, Sarasota County, was presented by Dr. Shiver. Constructed in 1960, it is nominated under Criterion A, and under the "Architectural Resources of the Sarasota School of Architecture" multiple property cover for Architecture. It was designed by architect William Rupp and associate Joseph Farrell. Board member Dr. Smith recused himself from the discussion due to his local involvement with the Sarasota Preservation Review Board. After discussion, board members questioned the exceptional nature of the design, despite the connection to the Sarasota School of Architecture. Mr. Hylton, Director of the University of Florida Historic Preservation Program, spoke in favor of the building.

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the proposal. No one seconded the motion, nor proposed an alternative motion. The motion died for a lack of support.

Ms. Uguccioni, the chairman, called for a ten minute break. The meeting resumed at 3:44 p.m.

The Sunset Hotel, in St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, was presented by Dr. Shiver. The Mediterranean Revival style, built in 1915, is nominated under Criteria A and C in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Architecture.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hirsch, and passed unanimously.

The Rogers Park Golf Course Site, located in Tampa, Hillsborough County, was presented by Dr. Shiver. This nomination proposal has previously been vetted by Board members, and now stands as a proposal to nominate the site of the original nine holes designed by Mr. Willie Black in 1947, without contributing buildings. The site is nominated under Criterion A for Black Ethnic Heritage, Social History, and Entertainment/Recreation. Mr. Ransom spoke in favor of the nomination.

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smith, and passed unanimously.

The Strickland School, located in north Leon County, was presented by Mr. Jones. The one-room school house was built ca.1888 by local builders, and is nominated under Criteria A and C for Education and Architecture.

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smith, and passed unanimously.

The Los Robles Historic District, located in Tallahassee, Leon County, was presented by Mr. Jones. The 1926 subdivision is nominated under Criteria A and C for Community Planning/Development and Architecture. The district is comprised of a variety of styles, with 70 contributing residences, and one park. Three resources are previously listed individually on the National Register.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded Dr. Smith, and passed unanimously.

The City of St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course, located in St. Augustine, St. Johns County, was presented by Mr. Jones. The golf course is nominated under Criteria A and C in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation, Social History, and Landscape Architecture. This miniature golf course is a unique example of a technical, rather than whimsical design.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded Mrs. Almy, and passed unanimously.

The Palafox Historic District, located in Pensacola, Escambia County, was presented by Ms. Estabrook and Ms. Catellier. The historic commercial district dates to the 1880s, and is nominated under Criteria A and C in the areas of Community Development and Planning, and Architecture. The Board questioned whether or not the district was nationally significant, and

chose to vote on this current proposal for its local significance rather than delay until further research could be done.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded Mrs. Almy, and passed unanimously.

VIII. Other business

Discussion of a date for the next Review Board will be held tomorrow at the Florida Historical Council meeting.

IX. Public comments

There were no public comments.

X. Motion to adjourn

A motion was made by Mrs. Almy to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smith, and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

_____, Chairman

Date _____

_____, Director, Division of Historical Resources Date _____