Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present: Mrs. Marion M. Almy, Chair; Mrs. Malinda J. Horton; and Dr. Clifford E. Smith, Jr., RPA.

Commission Members Present via Telephone: Mr. Del Acosta; Ms. Kathy A. Fleming; Mr. Rick Gonzalez, AIA, Vice Chair; Mrs. Mimi Reid Hardman; Mrs. Judy Kane; and Mr. John B. Phelps.

Commission Members Unable to Attend: Dr. Adam J. Hirsch, and Ms. Ellen J. Uguccioni.

Division of Historical Resources Staff Present: Mr. Robert F. Bendus, State Historic Preservation Officer and Division Director; Ms. Celeste Ivory, Operations Administrator; Dr. Mary Glowacki, State Archaeologist and Chief of the Bureau of Archaeological Research; Dr. Timothy Parsons, Acting Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Historic Preservation and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for the Compliance and Review Section; Ms. Rachel Porter, Outreach and Digital Coordinator; Mr. Michael Zimny, Historical Markers and CLG Programs Coordinator; Ms. Susanne Hunt, Outreach Programs Supervisor; Ms. Angie Tomlinson, Program Administrator; and Mr. Bob Jones, Historic Sites Specialist.

Guests Present: Ms. Beth G. Lemke, AICP, Planning Solutions Corporation; Ms. Katie Orr, Education Coordinator, and Ms. Anne Peery, Executive Director, Florida Trust for Historic Preservation (FTHP).

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Almy at 9:02 a.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff & Guests

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adopt the agenda as emailed. Commissioner Hardman so moved. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Acosta and approved unanimously.
IV. Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2014

Chairman Almy called for a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Commissioner Horton so moved. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kane and approved unanimously.

V. Chairman’s Comments

Chairman Almy requested that staff’s presentations be succinct, and that discussions stick to the issues.

VI. Director’s Comments

Director Bendus welcomed Dr. Clifford Smith and thanked him for his commitment of time during his service on both the Florida Historical Commission and Florida National Register Review Board. Director Bendus advised the Commission on the 13 legislative budget requests submitted by the Division; and welcomed Ms. Rachel Porter back to the Division in her new role, creating a digital outreach strategy, in the Outreach Section.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) Update

Dr. Glowacki advised the Commission on the activities of the bureau. Dr. Glowacki discussed activities of the Public Lands Archaeology Program; the Underwater Archaeology Program, including recent events promoting the Panhandle Shipwreck Trail, the upcoming dedication of the state’s 12th Underwater Archaeological Preserve, the USS Narcissus, increased activity in the permitting program for Chapter 1A-31, Florida Administrative Code, and a National Maritime Heritage grant opportunity to create a documentary on some of Florida’s shipwreck sites; Collections and Conservation program updates, including the hire of a new Historical Conservator, Ms. Jessica Stika, the upcoming retirement of Dr. Dave Dickel in January 2015, and the continued consolidation efforts of Collections.

Discussion ensued on the backlog of archaeological material held by cultural resource management firms statewide and the need to expand the state collections facility to hold that volume of material. Dr. Glowacki noted the revised General Guidelines for Determining the Collection and Curation of Archaeological Materials Made Under 1A-32 Permitting are now posted on the Division’s website.

Dr. Glowacki also reported on Mission San Luis, including the Living History Program, visitor events, increased rentals, and CSO activities; and planning for site updates at the Governor Martin House/de Soto site.
B. Bureau of Historic Preservation (BHP) Update

Dr. Timothy Parsons provided the bureau report in Ms. Lotane’s absence, advising the Commission on the activities of the bureau. Dr. Parsons discussed staffing changes; recorded resources counts from the Florida Master Site File; project review counts, ongoing surveys and consultation updates from the Compliance and Review Section; upcoming launch of the Florida Historic Golf Trail on September 16; receipt of 20,000 copies of the Florida British Heritage Trail Guide and the upcoming publication of the Florida French Heritage Trail Guide in print; activities of the Florida Folklife Program; the recent Quarterly Main Street meeting; increase to the number of nominations reviewed annually in the Survey and Registration Section; activities of the Historical Marker Program; recent Certified Local Government designations; activities in the Architectural Preservation Services Section; and various Historic Preservation Grant Program cycles, changes to contract approvals, and activities of that program.

VIII. Business Items

A. Annual Appointment of Selection Committee and Election of the Presiding Officer of the Historic Preservation Awards Nominating Committee

Director Bendus requested that Chairman Almy create a nominating subcommittee, which will review the nominations, pass them on to the full Commission for a vote, and then move the recommendations to the Secretary of State. Chairman Almy nominated Commissioner Horton to serve the Chair of the subcommittee, and Commissioners Hardman and Phelps to serve on the subcommittee.

B. Discussion of Commission duties under Sections 265.00301, 265.111, and 267.0612(9), Florida Statutes

Director Bendus discussed recent legislation requiring the Commission to collaborate with the Department of Management Services (DMS) on the creation of a memorial garden on the Capitol Complex grounds. New duties involve review of the design and location of new memorials authorized by law, including the POW-MIA Chair of Honor Memorial. Commissioner Phelps discussed background on the legislation and communication with DMS. Director Bendus suggested a presentation by DMS and site visit during the Commission’s December meeting, if time allows.

IX. Other Business

The Commission discussed meeting scheduling and confirmed the dates of Monday, December 15 and Tuesday, December 16 for the Special Category Grants review and
The Florida National Register Review Board meeting will meet the following day, on Wednesday, December 17. FTHP Executive Director, Ms. Anne Peery, invited the Commission and division staff to attend a reception at the historic Hays-Hood House on the evening of Monday, December 15.

X. Public Comment

Ms. Peery discussed the Elliott Plantation, and commended the Division for its efforts and the FTHP Board for its involvement. Ms. Peery also announced the FTHP’s 2015 Annual Conference in Miami, and the 2016 Annual Conference in Tallahassee and the potential for commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act at that meeting. Commissioner Gonzalez discussed the “two-edged sword” of the economic upswing and the resulting demolitions of historic properties. Commissioner Acosta reiterated and emphasized Commissioner Gonzalez’ comments regarding the loss of important historic structures and their context. Commissioner Smith thanked all for the warm welcome to the Commission and expressed that he is honored to serve.

XI. Adjourn

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Phelps so moved. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Acosta and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

___________________________________ Presiding Officer

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

Approved: __________________________