

**Florida Folklife Council Meeting  
Via Teleconference  
December 2, 2014**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Folklife Council Members present:** Dr. Peggy Bulger; Dr. Keith Cartwright, Vice Chair; Dr. Larry Crook; Dr. José Fernandez; Dr. Annette Fromm, Chair; Dr. Jerrilyn Gregory; and Mr. Timothy Schmand

**Staff present:** Mr. Robert F. Bendus, Director, Division of Historical Resources; Ms. Alissa Lotane, Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation; Ms. Susanne Hunt, Supervisor, Outreach Programs; Ms. Elaine McGrath, Folk Festival Coordinator; Ms. Amanda Hardeman, State Folklorist; and Mr. Ross Brand, Folklife Program Assistant

**Members of the Public present:** none

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fromm at 10:01 a.m.

II. Introductions

Council members and Division staff introduced themselves.

**Dr. Crook made a motion to review the Florida Folk Heritage Awards after the agenda and minutes are adopted. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

III. Adoption of the Agenda

**Mr. Schmand made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

IV. Adoption of the minutes from the July 15, 2014 meeting

**Dr. Crook made a motion to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

V. Review and ranking of nominations for the 2015 Florida Folk Heritage Awards

Following the completion of the review and ranking of all five nominations for the awards, staff announced that, based on Council-member rankings, there were two tradition bearers and one advocate that were ranked highly among the field of nominations. The top three nominated, in order of rank, were:

- Lorene Gopher (Seminole advocate)
- Calvin "Buddy" Bills, Okeechobee (Cracker whip maker)
- Ruby Shaw, White Springs (North Florida foodways)

**Mr. Schmand made a motion that the Council recommend these three nominations to the Secretary of State as recipients of the 2015 Florida Folklife Heritage Award. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

VI. Old Business

A. Staff Report

Ms. Hardeman gave the staff report, covering Folklife Program events and activities, funding updates, and future outreach and survey activities. Discussion ensued.

B. Other Reports

Ms. McGrath updated the Council on budget changes at the Florida Folk Festival, as well as an effort by festival coordinators to bring traditional artists normally performing exclusively in the Folklife Area to other stages throughout the festival. Discussion ensued.

VII. New Business

A. Review of Folklife council member appointment status

Ms. Hardeman announced that Dr. Fernandez will not be renewing his term on the Council. She then offered possible candidates for replacing Dr. Fernandez. Discussion ensued.

**Dr. Crook made a motion that the Council recommend Dr. Natalie Underberg-Goode from the University of Central Florida to the Secretary of State to replace Dr. Fernandez. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

B. Improvements to Apprenticeship and Heritage Award guidelines

Ms. Hardeman announced that she would like to improve and streamline the guidelines and evaluations for the Apprenticeship Program and Heritage Award nominations. Discussion ensued.

C. Goals and agenda for March 2015 meeting

Chairman Fromm recommended a review of accomplishments in the long range plan, as well as the goals that might be reached in the coming year. Discussion ensued.

VIII. Other Business

A. Next meeting

Ms. Hunt announced that the next meeting of the Florida Folklife Council will occur the day after the 2015 Heritage Awards in March 2015, but the date for that event has yet to be officially confirmed.

B. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present to comment.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

**Chairman From called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Fernandez so moved. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

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*Chairman, Florida Folklife Council* *Date*

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*Director, Division of Historical Resources* *Date*

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