Florida Historical Commission Meeting
R.A. Gray Building, Room 307
Tallahassee, Florida
March 11, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present: Mr. Rick Gonzalez, AIA, Vice Chair; Mr. Steve Birtman; Ms. Kathy A. Fleming; Mrs. Mimi Reid Hardman; Mrs. Judy Kane; Dr. Clifford Smith; Ms. Ellen J. Uguccioni; and Mr. Bob Ward.

Commission Members Unable to Attend: Mrs. Marion M. Almy; Dr. Adam Hirsch; and Mr. John B. Phelps.

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

Guests Present: Mr. Tom Berger, DMS Director of Real Estate Development and Management; Mr. Gene Nicoloso, DMS Construction Planning and Design Manager; Mr. Pat Hoy, AIA, Principal, Ms. Erika Hagan, AIA, Principal, and Mr. Monty Stark, AIA, Principal, Hoy + Stark Architects; and Mr. Patrick Hodges, ASLA, Founding Principal, The Patrick Hodges Land Studio.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Gonzalez at 1:02 p.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff & Guests

Commission members and Division of Historical Resources staff introduced themselves.

Vice Chairman Gonzalez requested to adjust the agenda, to allow guests present to start the meeting with the Capitol Complex Update report. Vice Chairman Gonzalez called for a motion to adopt an agenda modification. Commissioner Fleming so moved. Commissioner Hardman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. Capitol Complex Update
Mr. Tom Berger discussed changes introduced from the Florida Legislature during the 2014 legislative session specific to the Commission’s responsibilities as they relate to the Capitol Complex and the memorial gardens that are being established there. Mr. Berger advised that DMS has been tasked with designating specific areas on the complex for the establishment of a memorial garden and charged to work with the Florida Historical Commission on this directive, as provided in Sections 265.111 and 267.0612(9), Florida Statutes. The project’s design team provided a presentation which included proposed design concepts and schematic diagrams, and noted upcoming project workshops they plan to host which will benefit from Commission participation. The presentation was followed by a brief recess.

Vice Chairman Gonzalez led discussion on considerations and options for moving forward with plan for the Capitol Complex Memorial Garden. Director Bendus encouraged the Commission to engage in participation from the start of the process.

Commissioner Hardman made a motion to empower Director Bendus to continue discussion with DMS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fleming and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to move forward with the formation of a subcommittee to begin assisting with the master planning. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ward and passed unanimously. Vice Chairman Gonzalez and Commissioners Uguccioni, Ward, and Fleming expressed interest in serving on the subcommittee.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chairman Gonzalez called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Fleming so moved. Commissioner Hardman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes from December 15 & 16, 2014 Meeting

Vice Chairman Gonzalez called for a motion to adopt the agenda as emailed. Commissioner Fleming so moved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

VI. Chairman’s Comments

Vice Chairman Gonzalez expressed his enthusiasm at the opportunity for the Commission to begin involvement in the Capitol Complex project.

VII. Director’s Comments
Director Bendus thanked the Commission for their service, time, and commitment to helping the Division. Director Bendus updated the Commission on his recent participation at the annual NCSHPO conference in Washington, D.C.; the need for advocacy for the reauthorization of the federal Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) and for ensuring the continuation of the Tax Credit Program; and discussed division successes of the past ten years.

VIII. Legislative Update

Director Bendus provided an update on the Governor’s recommended budget funding list in relation to the Division; and requested advocacy for the Governor’s recommended budget, funding for the Division’s Grants Program, and funding for the management of archaeological resources.

Vice Chairman Gonzalez advised preservation case studies are useful to advocate and inform all on the effectiveness and successes in various communities.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Bureau of Archaeological Research

Dr. Glowacki advised the Commission on Bureau activities. Dr. Glowacki discussed the great volume of archaeological management reviews and surveys on state lands; activity on the prehistoric dugout canoe database; considerations regarding the Chapter 1A-31 underwater salvage contract program; the recent dedication of the state’s 12th Underwater Archaeological Preserve, the USS Narcissus; completion of conservation work on the copper eagle from the Natural Bridge Battlefield; events at Mission San Luis; and funding for property maintenance.

B. Bureau of Historic Preservation

Ms. Lotane advised the Commission on Bureau activities. Ms. Lotane discussed the Florida Master Site File’s recent Geographic Information System (GIS) transition to the World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84), from the North American Datum of 1927 (NAD27); projects reviewed by the Compliance Review Section; the continuing development of the Florida Historic Golf Trail; Folklife Program apprenticeships; publication reprints and the upcoming release of the Seminole Wars Heritage Trail; travel and outreach by the Main Street Program; approvals of historic markers; recent National Register listings; recent designations of Certified Local Governments, and staff review of designated communities’ compliance with program requirements; an ADA document in development by Architectural Preservation Services; and the efforts to promote the benefits of the Tax Credit Program.
X. Business Items

A. Historic Preservation Grants Update

Ms. Lotane advised the Commission on the upcoming cycle and review dates involving the Grants Program.

B. National Preservation Month Plan

Ms. Lotane requested input from the Commission on ideas to celebrate 2015 National Preservation Month, and discussed a proposed historic cemetery recording initiative.

C. Division Regulatory Plan Update

Ms. Tomlinson provided an overview of Division rulemaking activity, including repealing Chapter 1A-35, amending Chapters 1A-40 and 1A-45, updating Chapters 1A-44, 1A-46, 1A-48, 1P, and developing a new Rule for The Grove.

XI. Other Business

Vice Chairman Gonzalez extended an invitation to the Florida Trust Annual Conference in May in Miami.

XII. Public Comment

None.

XIII. Adjourn

Vice Chairman Gonzalez called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hardman moved. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fleming and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

______________________________________ Presiding Officer

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

Approved: ____________________________