

HISTORIC PRESERVATION TASK FORCE

Location: **Planning Department Conference Room**

Date: **January 31, 2006**

Time: **2:00 p.m.**

Attendees: Brian Smith, David Walker, Jan Luth, Terry Fortner, Becky Nielsen
Cindy Tarapani, Joan Deming, Robert Ray, Sam Casella, Wally
Clark

I. Call to Order

II. Minutes – November 2005

(Brian skipped over them)

III. Chart of Historic Preservation Programs in the County

- ◆ 2 Charts were presented
- ◆ Dave Walker presented one chart, which lists all the cities that had preservation programs and ordinances in place.
- ◆ The other chart corresponded to the letter Com. Duncan had sent out to cities for support and interest for an inventory, which was tracked.
- ◆ It was requested that the members receive a copy of the letter that Comm. Duncan sent out to the municipalities, and follow up on those responses.
- ◆ Bob Jeffery was not at the meeting, but he had left materials with Brian Smith. These were distributed, and Brian gave a brief explanation of the St. Petersburg Program, which could be a possible example to other cities to follow.

IV. Historic Preservation Web Site.

- ◆ The website for the Historic Preservation was discussed by Brian Smith. There is a link from Pinellas County's website, listed under Programs of Interest.
- ◆ This is still a work in progress, but it's a good start. Suggestions for improvement were encouraged. It was suggested putting the charts of Historic Programs on the site.
- ◆ It was noted that there was a discrepancy for the meeting dates for the committee on the website, and a regular time and date for the committee is meet is still being discussed, although it will now probably be an afternoon meeting.

V. Grant Program Submittal to the State

- ◆ The grant will be effective next year, and will enable us to have a consultant to work with us and the file, and make professional judgments as to properties.
- ◆ The grant is for \$25,000, matching would be \$25,000
- ◆ Dave Walker said the grant would help update and organize the database and website with more information.

- ◆ Brian Smith mentioned that most cities were required to do this inventory as part of the Comp Plan, but we will have to think about what we do with the cities that have not done them.
- ◆ It was asked about the inventory for the unincorporated area, and what the grant will enable us to do. Brian Smith said that in 1993 the unincorporated area was inventoried for a cost of \$15,000 in consulting fees.
- ◆ It was suggested that they start looking for other grant sources besides the State for a major grant to update the data itself, and look at both the cities and unincorporated areas.
- ◆ We need to know what we are working to protect.
- ◆ We should know by April if we receive the Grant.

VI. Refinements to Developing Criteria

The idea is to establish a criteria for our County. National and State criteria were used as a basis. What are the most likely exceptions for Pinellas County, that wouldn't be found on the Federal criteria. Discussion followed on Pasco and Hillsborough counties criteria. What did the 1993 list accomplish? Brian said it helped identify properties, which were put in their Comp Plan, although they may not have the implementing detail.

The most important step will be obtaining the data, from the grant. Discussion followed on the flip chart demonstration that Commissioner Duncan gave, from which the current notes were based. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed to see what was discussed, to see if this was the right approach. What criteria was used in our inventory? State & Federal criteria is vague, we need to make our criteria more specific, and decide what will be used. Are there resources we can use as a basis for are decisions? The info is out there, but it would be very time consuming to gather. The grant would be able to help us make the decision on criteria standards and identification.

Discussion followed on what would be significant to the history of Pinellas, and that we could figure this out for ourselves, not the consultant. We could start doing this, as the committee has a lot of collective experience, then have the consultant fine-tune this. Brian suggested the committee could have Comm. Duncan go to the Commission for funding for the next effort, before the grant became available. Jan Luth questioned if we have enough info to move ahead to the next level, which is working with the consultant. Could a few people work to put something together? Cindy, Joan, and Becky agreed to work together. It was agreed a copy of the Pinellas County Historical Background will be send to the members. Brian explained how we could set forth new guidelines for what would be included in an ordinance to help developers preserve existing structures. Wally added that we should specify and create standardizations. According to Comm. Duncan's list, the next step should be mechanisms for Historic Preservation to be accomplished, and how to make it work in the County. Brian, Dave & Jan will work on an outline to define a broad concept of the program. This should include incentives, regulations, funding, technical assistance, inventory, education and taxes. Joan stated the groups should be formed to address these details.

In summary, there will be a sub-committee of Cindy, Joan, Becky, Jan and Ellen to work on drafting the local criteria. Brian, Dave & Jan will outline the work ahead to put the program together, then at the next meeting the committee will look at this list, and get some workgroups together. Terry stated that a citizen perspective would be good in the discussion. The Committee will keep Comm. Duncan informed. It was also mentioned about the need for work to the Mission Statement and the need for on-going networking.

Brian Smith will get with Commissioner Duncan to schedule the next meeting. It will be afternoon time 2 – 3:00. When a day is set everyone will be emailed.

Historic Preservation Task Force