

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD (HPAB) MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** May 6, 2010

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

**Location:** Pinellas County Planning Department Conference Room

**Attendees:** Commissioner John Morroni (presiding); Brian K. Smith; W.H. (Wally) Clark; Gina Clayton; Sam Cassella; Becky Nielsen; Charlie Harper; Cyndi Tarapani; Gordon Beardslee; Marcel Mohseni; Tom Moore, City of Largo; Vinnie Luisi; Peter Belmont, St. Petersburg Preservation, Inc. , Lorretta Wyandt; David Sadowsky

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- I. Call to Order** – Commissioner Morroni called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., and welcomed everyone.
- II. Minutes of March 4, 2010** – Becky Nielsen’s last name was misspelled, under Toolbox Committee, and Commissioner Morroni requested changing “the minutes ~~where~~ were accepted”. The minutes were approved and accepted as corrected.
- III. Procedural Chart for Designation Applications** – Review of Attorney Comments – Gordon Beardslee explained the two Procedural flow charts. For the first chart, there will be no need for a zoning overlay, and that chart shows what would be proposed to for designating a historic site and included in the Historic Preservation Code. The County or property owners would initiate the designation process, and a public meeting would be held with the HPAB, who would then review and make a recommendation to the BCC, who would then take action. The second chart refers to Historic Districts, and shows how the structure is already set up using the zoning process, which would stay in place. If cemeteries are historic, they would be included, and possibly historic schools. For the first chart, Gordon explained the public meeting could possibly be a public hearing, but currently the HPAB cannot have a public hearing unless the code is changed. Cyndi recommended that the HPAB be a public hearing, in order for interested people to be noticed, and the group agreed. Discussion followed on including the LPA process. The motion was made to accept the charts, with the word “meeting” changed to “hearing”. The charts were accepted as corrected. The Committee decided to not wait for the code update process. Gordon will let Dave Sadowsky know to start the adoption process, and this will also be rolled into the major code update. Gordon, Marcel & Dave will start drafting the changes
- IV. Report of Toolbox Subcommittee meeting** – Vinnie Luisi will be serving on the Toolbox Subcommittee, and Loretta Wyandt will be serving on the Education Subcommittee. Gina Clayton reported on the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Toolbox Subcommittee, during which they reviewed the large original list. Each member came up with a list of frequently asked questions by the community for the Toolbox, and they will start at today’s subcommittee meeting breaking up the workload. Several common questions were reviewed by the committee. They will be looking at coming up with a brochure, and have these questions on the website. The Historic Preservation Ordinance is in place, and some of the questions may relate to the ordinance.
- IV. Report of Education and Programs Subcommittee meeting** - Cyndi reported on the March 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Education & Programs Subcommittee. They had four main ideas, the first was developing the preservation network. They hope to have another meeting for this network scheduled by mid-June, and to have several experts in the field participating. This would not be a formal group, just a network of various experts, and interested people who could share ideas. Second was the Preservation

website- currently the HPAB is on the County website, the committee would like it to be a preservation website, with the Toolbox, and links to various other sites, a blog, etc. The third idea relates to first in Pinellas, made in Pinellas, only in Pinellas, etc. And the last idea involved the Centennial, to get the cities involved, and focused on an event. Marcel did a list of the counties in FL that were more than 100 years old, some are 150 years old. They will check these county's websites for ideas. Cyndi also had an idea to recognize centennial family businesses in the County, and have them tell their story. Commissioner Morroni thought there should be a central location for these businesses to go to, for any questions or help.

**VI. Centennial Committee** – Commissioner Morroni had invited Commissioner Seel to this meeting, unfortunately she was not able to attend. He then introduced Peter Belmont, an attorney from St. Petersburg. He is a Vice President with St. Petersburg Preservation. This group sponsored the centennial celebration in St. Petersburg, and he related their centennial activities, and what they had done for the city. He named the various events that were planned, and how they went about coming up with the ideas. Funding was discussed, as to how Pinellas would be able to fund it's centennial, in addition to liability insurance. Old photos would be a great idea for display, and all the local historical societies and museums could pick a topic and have a display relating to the centennial. Peter related how fundraising is more difficult now, how they were set up, and that choosing which events to host is important. Commissioner Morroni questioned which day will we actually celebrate? It's been suggested the first kickoff would be the voting day, and the climax would be the actual day that Pinellas split from Hillsborough. Having a Board meeting 100 years from the first board meeting Jan. 2, 1912 would be a great idea. Are there any cities in Pinellas County that would be 100 years old? Commissioner Morroni asked about identifying any important people from Pinellas's past and identifying where they are buried, and perhaps have a cemetery tour, along with some of the old homes. It was brought up again, about having the cities and historical societies participate, making this a year long event. Brian, Comm. Morroni and Comm. Seel will have a meeting on this issue to discuss the next step. The Preservation network will have a meeting in June, before the July HPAB meeting, to see if there is some interest.

**VII Other Business** – Commissioner Morroni talked with Ray Clair Johnson from Belleair, she would like to be on the committee. Brian indicated that Commissioner Morroni would need to take her name to the County Commission to be added to the Committee. Commissioner Morroni said he would do that. A question was asked about the two closed Clearwater schools, Brian Smith said the worry was that the School Bd would get rid of the property, but they now realize they may need the property in the coming years.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.