

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD (HPB) MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 18, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Pinellas County Strategic Planning & Initiatives
310 Court Streets, Clearwater

Attendees: Gina Clayton; Brian Smith; Cyndi Tarapani; Commissioner Charlie Justice; Ralph Reid; Gordon Beardslee; David Sadowsky; Marcel Mohseni; Emily Elwyn; John Barie; Rae Claire Johnson; Don Forehand

- I. Call to Order – Commissioner Charlie Justice called the meeting to order.
- II. The Minutes of November 20th – were approved unanimously. Comm. Justice welcomed Don Forehand of the Largo Historical Society to the meeting.
- III. Update on Landmark Designation of Ft. Desoto Batteries: Gordon Beardslee gave an update on the meeting with the Park Department and the PW Survey Dept. Marcel then explained the rationale for the proposed boundary designation, and why the recommendation proposed is to be extended further north. This will pick up the National Register boundary, extending it north, to include the entire battery. Cyndi questioned why the parking lot was not included within the boundary, as this would protect the whole site for future renovations. It was agreed that including the parking lot would be beneficial. Gordon and Marcel will get back with the Park Dept. on amending the boundary. Brian Smith made a motion to approve the boundary designation with the modifications. It was seconded, and approved.
- IV. Review of Other Landmark Designation Proposals: Marcel reviewed the list of prioritized sites that were proposed by the HPB. Cyndi questioned the reasoning for Yat Kitischee needing to be on the National Register before it can be designated. Gordon explained that this was done over 20 years ago, and may not be relevant any longer. He will contact the current Airport Director to see if he can do the National Register designation. Brian Smith then asked about amending the code. As there is no reason for this code any longer, Cyndi made the motion to amend the code, and it was decided to just delete the section, and go forward with it. This motion was approved unanimously. Marcel then continued to review the rest of the list. Comm. Justice asked about the process, or the best way to do this. Gordon stated that for OVIS Hall, we would need support from the owner, which is OVIS. Brian Smith felt that this would not be a problem.

Marcel stated that for City of Clearwater and Safety Harbor, Staff would need to work with them for the application and the letter of support. Gina Clayton offered to help with the paperwork, and provide the information, once the BCC decides to move forward with the information. For the Courthouse, we would need to contact Real Estate Management. For Weedon Island, the resources are in the unincorporated area, which is owned by Duke Energy. Emily Elwin will contact Duke to see about getting their support. Cyndi suggested reviewing the book that was compiled a number of years ago by the consultant, for site recommendations. Marcel said that a large number of the unincorporated sites were in the Crystal Beach and Ozona area. Cyndi suggested that

this listing be reviewed at the next meeting. Rae Claire stated that there needs to be a program in place to educate owners about the advantages of Historic designation. In addition, the County should have a designated person on staff, such as the City of St. Petersburg employs. John Barie suggested the Education Committee address this, and use the website to reach out to the public so that they are aware of the Board, and it's resources. Discussion followed on increasing public awareness regarding advantages of Historic Preservation, and the uses of various media, such as Facebook, website, etc

- V. Other business – John Barie reviewed the Historic Preservation website. Discussion followed on defining the website, and where it is headed. John went on to explain the current structure of the website, and the proposed set of revisions to it. Comm. Justice was pleased with the website, and felt it was well structured. Gina would like to drop the FAQ's, and felt it would be worthwhile to have someone not involved in HP review the website once completed. John would like a consensus on the structure today, so they can refine it and bring it back in January, and then present it at the Summit. Discussion followed on further defining the website. John will bring it back to the Education Committee after the meeting, for finalizing.
- VI. Update on Summit – Cyndi gave an update on the Summit, which will be February 19th 2014, 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm at the Largo Feed Store. She introduced Don Forehand of the Largo Area Historical Society, which will be partnering with the Board to co-host the event. Discussion followed on set up and format for the Summit. Cyndi is still awaiting written confirmation from the main speaker from the University of Florida. The possible agenda of the Summit would be welcome and introductions, the main speaker, the Preservation Network discussion and the website discussion, which would be the two breakout sessions. Atlas insurance Company would have a presentation, then a show and tell, perhaps the cities or organization could present what they are currently doing. The possibility of the 3-D imaging system presentation will not be able to be confirmed until next month. Rae Claire suggested having the Visitors and Convention Bureau there. It was suggested focusing on the goal of the Summit, which should be to re-invigorate those interested in preservation in Pinellas County, and to develop communication. Comm. Justice's office will send out a Save the Date to all the contacts, until an agenda is finalized. The contact lists were discussed, and these will be given to Ralph, and he will edit into one list by the next meeting. Don suggested advertising the meeting on the Feed Store sign. Brian suggested it would be good to know what the direction will be for the future.
- VII. Adjournment– The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am. The Committees met after the adjournment.