

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD (HPB) MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 15, 2014

Time: 9:00 a.m.

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

Attendees: Gina Clayton; Brian Smith; Commissioner Charlie Justice; Ralph Reid; Gordon Beardslee; David Sadowsky; Marcel Mohseni; Vinnie Luisi; Wally Clark; John Barie; Rae Claire Johnson

- I. Call to Order – Commissioner Charlie Justice called the meeting to order, and informed the Board that Chet Renfro will no longer be a member.
- II. The Minutes of December 18th – In paragraph V, the reference to Cyndi was corrected to refer to Gina, and in paragraph IV, a space was added after Brian's statement. The minutes were then approved unanimously, with those corrections.
- III. Update on Landmark Designation of Ft. Desoto Batteries: Gordon Beardslee explained that after last month's recommendation, the boundary was revised, then reviewed and OK'd by the Director of the Parks Department, Paul Cozzie. The County survey staff are now preparing the legal description. Once that is completed, it will go to the public hearing. As the next HPB meeting will be in March, it will be presented then. The public hearing for the BCC will be April 15th.
- IV. Other Landmark Designation Proposals - Update: Marcel reviewed the attached historic structures inventory results and maps that were included in the agenda packet. A large number of the historic resources are located in the Ozona, Palm Harbor and Crystal Beach area. As they were surveyed by Janus Research back in 1991, some may no longer be there. Brian Smith then reviewed the properties in the Ozona area; there are 56, and most of the structures are still there. He related that Ozona could be a potential historic district. Discussion followed on how the community would feel about this, and how this would benefit the community. John Barie related how the Kenwood district had benefited from a boundary definition, and neighborhood streetscaping. Brian stated that the Ozona Hall is interested in working with the Board for designation. Marcel stated that home owners are not aware of the tax exemptions, and that education of owners would be a benefit. John requested a copy of the local ordinance that affects a homeowners exemption for taxes. Gina stated that they will have some of this information on the HP website. Gordon said one of the considerations for historic properties is the cost of flood insurance, as they may be paying considerably more. Discussion followed regarding how an exemption for historic properties would be a benefit. Rae Claire will check with the National Trust. Brian Smith will speak to OVIS about designation for the Hall, and also the potential of becoming an historic district.
- V. Proposed Amendment to Historic Preservation Code –Update Gordon reviewed the proposed amendment from last month's discussion. This deletes the reference to the National Register listing. Brian asked about having additional representation at the February LPA hearing, and the March 18 BCC hearing. It was agreed that this was a

good idea. A motion was made to move forward with the amendment to the Board, and it was unanimously passed.

- VI. CLG Application Update - Marcel reviewed the letter from the FL State Dept. of Historic Resources. It states that our application meets the guidelines. As this is a contract, once the BCC signs, a copy will be sent to the State and they will forward to the department of the interior, then a final decision will be made.
- VII. Summit Planning Update – Comm. Justice presented the proposed program and task list from Cyndi. Discussion followed on the purpose and focus of the Summit. John and Rae Claire recommended adding a presentation from the Convention & Visitors Bureau to the break-out sessions on the agenda. Discussion followed as to whether to add this to the agenda. John made a motion to add a 15 minute presentation by the CVB. The motion did not pass. Discussion resumed on formatting the agenda. It was decided to wait to finalize the agenda until Cyndi could meet with the Education Committee. John suggested having a needs assessment sheet available, with contact information. This could be a suggestion sheet that is made available to attendees at the beginning. For the agenda, Comm. Justice will do the welcome, the update on the HPB, and also the meeting moderation. Reviewing the task sheet-Ralph will do the phone and email reservations. Rae Claire will send a confirmation letter to Timothy McLendon. WiFi will be made available using a hotspot. Cyndi will moderate the 2 breakout sessions. Rae Clair will confirm with Altas Insurance on their presentation and donation (\$500) for refreshments. She will coordinate with Don Forehand on how the refreshments will be handled. John will contact Don Forehand for a site visit to the Feed Store, to coordinate the physical logistics. Rae Clair will contact Florida Trust and the National Trust to send membership info. Discussion followed on when to send out the survey. Comm. Justice will have a Save the Date email sent out today, and follow up with the agenda, and weekly emails, which would include RSVP and the survey.
- VIII. The Education Committee will meet after this meeting, so there was no discussion on this item.
- IX. Other Business– John Barie discussed his spreadsheet. He requested feedback, and Gina will work with him on the FAQ's. Gordon mentioned the section on protecting sites, most of this is in the unincorporated area. John's next step is to work with the IT folks. Rae Claire asked about making the public aware of the website. Brian suggested asking Bob Jefferies to become a member, as there is now an opening. Gordon stated that the ordinance calls for 2 members without an historical preservation background, so he would not qualify. Cyndi's term will be expiring this year. Gordon has contacted her to see if she wishes to be re-appointed.
- X. The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.