

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD (HPB) MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** October 15, 2014

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Pinellas County Planning & Development Services  
310 Court Street, Clearwater

**Attendees:** Commissioner Charlie Justice; John Barie; Rae Claire Johnson; Brian Smith; David MacNamee; Ralph Reid; Gordon Beardslee; Rodney Chatman; Marcel Mohseni; Liz Freeman; Vinnie Luisi; David Sadowsky; Elaine Mann; Gina Clayton

- I. Call to Order – Commissioner Charlie Justice called the meeting to order at 9:00 am
- II. The Minutes of August 20th –were approved unanimously.
- III. Recap and Discussion of Survey Results from Sept HPB Summit:  
The results of the Summit were discussed. Brian Smith noted that the presenters were impressed with the database presentation and its capabilities. John Barie added to this by agreeing, and asking the Board for permission to share this info with the Pinellas Realtor's Assoc. community. He thanked several County staff for help with the database. He added that the Summit Sub-Committee did meet, but they are not ready to make any recommendations. One possible topic discussed would be for training on Social Media. Rae Claire introduced Elaine Mann from NDmand Media Solutions. Elaine gave a brief presentation on her company which is focused on mobile historic walking tours using a mobile device. Rae Claire suggested January as the next Summit, and holding it at the Realtor's Assoc. office, and featuring a Social Media presentation. Discussion followed on how often to hold the Summits. John will check to see if the Board can use the Realtor's Association site in January, and if they are agreeable to the historic theme. A suggestion was made that in the future, having the Summit survey include a comment asking what topic people would be interested in for future summits. Marcel mentioned the large number of people who attended the evening St. Pete Preservation presentation.
- IV. Status of the Certified Local Government (CLG) Agreement: Commissioner Justice related that the County was approved as a CLG. Liz Freeman gave an update on the CLG training. Right now they are looking at January for the scheduled training, which would entail about 3 hours. Discussion followed on offering it to other interested people, perhaps at the next Summit. Liz will check with the CLG office. Commissioner Justice introduced Rodney Chatman, from the Planning Division, as new staff. Marcel will no longer be staff, and this is his last meeting.
- V. Discussion of Draft HPB Annual Work Program: Commissioner Justice asked for the Board's input on the attached work program. John gave a brief update on the website enhancement and historic database tool. It was agreed the Work Program looks good.
- VI. Discussion of 2015-16 Grant Cycles-Potential Opportunities – The attached list of projects and time tables for awarded grants was discussed. John Barie distributed a sample pamphlet and brochure for a possible idea on a grant project. Discussion

followed on a brochure being countywide, or just unincorporated, and also including an app, which would be able to provide more information than a printed brochure. Commissioner Justice asked the Board about forming a Grant Committee. A motion was made, and approved to form a Grant Committee. John Barie, Rae Claire, Vinnie Luisi, Gina Clayton, and David MacNamee volunteered to serve on the committee, and Brian Smith will be the Chair. County staff will be involved with the committee, as it would need to follow protocols and procedures for County Grant applications. A list of the historical properties inventory was requested. Discussion followed on the Annual Grant Cycle, and the dates for applying for the Small Matching Grants.

- VII. Review and Comment on Draft Programmatic Agreement: Liz Freeman gave an update on the attached Draft Agreement, which includes the Bay Pines VA hospital, and asked for the Board's input. Instead of the HPB entering into the agreement, it will be Pinellas County. Several discrepancies were mentioned, and Liz will be reviewing the agreement with the VA representatives to make it consistent. An action plan for the VA was requested, in order to review any changes to the structure.
- VIII. Letter from FL Dept. of State-Sunset Hotel. The attached letter of recommendation was reviewed. Still awaiting notification of actual approval.
- IX. Update on Old PC Court House designation by the City of Clearwater: Commissioner Justice related that the County Commission approved the request to submit an application to the City of Clearwater to request them to designate the Old County Court House as a historic resource. The application is currently being finalized, and will be sent to the City of Clearwater for review. The process should be completed by January.
- X. Other Business: Commissioner Justice asked for thoughts about having a December meeting. He then discussed the attached appointments list, and the term dates. The list will be on the website, and the members can re-apply. Ralph will send the members an email with the details. John Barie stated that they have made significant progress with Visit St. Pete/Clearwater. The Convention & Visitors Bureau has agreed to develop a page featuring historic preservation that is Countywide, not just St. Pete. Rae Claire gave an update on the Belleair Biltmore Hotel, and invited the Board to the next Biltmore meeting. At the next HPB meeting she requested discussing amending the Historic Preservation Ordinance with an option where the County could step in when a significant structure is threatened. She also stated she felt there was a conflict of interest for a HP Board member, who is working for a company involved in the Biltmore demolition, and would also like to see a conflict of interest clause added to the Ordinance. This will be further discussed. Vinnie mentioned that the Clearwater Historic Society has been given the South Ward School for their future museum. They are looking for help with future projects. John mentioned the upcoming events at St. Pete Preservation.
- XI. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00