

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD (HPB) MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** December 17, 2014

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

**Location:** Pinellas County Planning Department  
310 Court Street, Clearwater

**Attendees:**

Board Members: Comm. Justice; Brian Smith; Wally Clark; John Barie; David MacNamee; Cyndi Tarapani; Gina Clayton (*Absent: Charlie Justice/Chair, Emily Elwyn, Rae Claire Johnson, Loretta Wyandt, Dwight Holmes*)

County Staff: Ralph Reid; Marcella Faucette; Rodney Chatman; Liz Freeman; David Sadowsky

- I. Call to Order – Commissioner Justice called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, and reviewed the re-appointments to the Board. Brian Smith, Vinnie Luisi, Rae Clair Johnson and David MacNamee were all re-appointed. There are two new alternates -Mathew Eberius and Susan Elftman.
- II. The Minutes of November 19, 2014 – Cyndi Tarapani asked that the minutes be revised on item XIII, Other Business to say “ She stated a conflict of interest clause is required through the Florida Statutes, but a review of the Code of Conduct be evaluated.” The minutes were approved as amended.
- III. Historic Preservation Summit Subcommittee Report:  
John Barie reported that the committee did not meet. Liz stated that the schedule for the CLG training will be in January, and the Summit will be in February/March. Discussion followed on the advantage of having the Preservation Network, or other organizations, handle the hosting of future summits, to enable the Board to take on other tasks. John will have the Subcommittee contact two or three organizations to encourage them to sponsor a summit. Comm. Justice suggested moving forward with the February-March Summit date, and exploring possibilities with the attendees for future hosting. Cyndi requested the status of the HP Interactive Map, to see if scheduling the Summit would be feasible.
- IV. Update on the Historic Preservation Interactive Map. Rodney reported the data has been sorted and distributed to the local governments. Several cities were very appreciative of the data. A response time from the cities of January 16<sup>th</sup> was requested for changes. Several questions were distributed –First question was how to deal with demolished structures. Second was how to deal with structures that have been altered to the point of losing their historic character. Last question asked was differentiating between structures having local ordinance protection vs those that do not. Discussion followed on keeping structures that had been demolished in the database. It was suggested using different icons on the map to differentiate demolished structures. There are 10,000 sites, and this would entail a lot of work for the cities staff. If the demolished properties are identified, it was agreed that would be a good start for January. As the cities give more information, the database will be updated. John Barie stated that the final date for the Summit will be determined by the Real Estate Association, and he will inform staff; it will be either February 18<sup>th</sup> or March 18<sup>th</sup>.

- V. Grants Subcommittee Report: Brian reported that they met on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and they recommend setting up a small grant program for the Markers designations. They will have another subcommittee meeting in January, to start the proposal, as the grant application is due in April. As Rodney will be leaving, he asked if anyone else would be interested in helping. Cyndi volunteered. This is a 50% matching grant, where the County would need to front the money, and then be reimbursed at 50%. The cost of the marker is \$ 2,230.
- VI. Certified Local Government (CLG) Update: – Liz stated that they are still looking at January 21<sup>st</sup>, for the training and a “Save the Date” has been sent out to the cities who have HP programs. The training will be held during the normal HPB meeting at 9:00 a.m. and it will be a 2-3 hour session. Cyndi suggested inviting someone from the City of Tampa to do a presentation regarding their experience, or lessons learned, as a compliment to the training.
- VII. Historic Preservation Board Rules of Procedure - Decorum: Commissioner Justice reviewed the rules on page 13, section C and asked for comments. A motion was made, and approved to accept the Rules of Procedure.
- VIII. Other Business: Vinnie Luisi related that an organization, the Tai Chi Society, has purchased the Fenway Hotel. Gina requested being notified about parking for the next meeting. Brian mentioned that the Bellair Hotel future has been decided, and Commissioner Justice related that this was a City decision, and the County had not been involved. John Barie raised an issue stating he felt that it was inappropriate for a member of the Historic Preservation Board to be a paid consultant participating in the demolition of a structure on the National Register of Historic places. Cyndi responded to the statement, as she felt she was the person referred to by John, and explained that she was a volunteer on the Board, and her professional life did not interfere with her personal life. Commissioner Justice reminded the group that membership to the HP Board is made by appointments by the County Commissioners, and that is the sole determination for appointments. David Sadowsky reminded the Board that there are a range of opinions, and a range of considerations involved in decision-making. Discussion followed, and Commissioner Justice ended the discussion stating that the sole decision of who sits on the Board is determined by the County Commission appointments.
- IX. Meeting was adjourned