

REGULAR MEETING

SUMMARY MINUTES



Historic Preservation Board (HPB)
Webex Call-in Meeting
Thursday, July 15th, 2021 6:00 pm

Board Members Present

Sheldon McCartney, Chair
Damian Brink
Cynthia Strachan-Saunders

Derek Davis, Vice Chair
Jeff Schwartz

Anthony Abbate
Daniel Stallone

County Staff Present

Rick Ferrer, Historic Preservation Officer

Monique Davis, Administrative Coordinator,
Planning & Development Management Division

Kevin Gidusko, County Archaeological Consultant

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Chair McCartney at 6:12 p.m.; roll call taken by Mr. Ferrer with quorum established. Staff members present are noted as well as guest speaker, Clare Vickery.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of allegiance lead by the Chair.

III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

MOTION – Member Stallone moves to approve, seconded by Member Schwartz. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments.

V. New Business

A. Presentation on Mobile Video Exhibit (“Saltwater Railroad”)

Ms. Clare Vickery who is involved with a State funded historical video project is introduced by Mr. Ferrer. Ms. Vickery explains that she was approved for a small matching grant involving a mobile video exhibit documenting 300 years of Florida history, culture and innovations of people of Color and women from 1645 to 1945. There will be 20 videos about 5 minutes in length. The videos will document history and culture across the State. Member Stallone asked how long project will take. Ms. Vickery responded that she would like 15 episodes taped by the end of 2021 and 5 probably ready by February, 2022. Ms. Vickery also stated that the videos will tell viewers how to get to various sites for visiting as well. Member Strachan Saunders asked what role would like HPB to have? Ms. Vickery stated that there’s plenty of time to consider how this project can support the mission of the

board. Member Abbate asks if the project is based on interviews with actual folks connected with cultures or assembly of academic historians. Ms. Vickery explained that the project is to be an immersive experience of already existing but misunderstood (or never been exposed) content by academics such as the “Salt Water Railroad.”

B. Revised Schedule of the HPB for 2021

The Chair reviews revised meeting dates for the remainder of the year with the board.

VI. Old Business

A. Pioneer Day Discussion

The board discusses the reality of the ongoing pandemic and the impacts of the present variant as lead by the Chair. The Chair notes that there is an interested party to support the event in 2022 and he recommends moving the event to May 8th 2022 and not having an event this year.

MOTION - Member Schwartz makes a motion to move Pioneer Day to the Spring of 2022, seconded by Member Davis. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

B. Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

Mr. Ferrer recalls that the ordinance was amended two years ago to have municipalities to either join the State’s CLG program or opt to join the County’s preservation program. Since adoption of the ordinance amendment, three Broward municipalities have applied as CLGs. After the deadline date of November 15th, non CLG municipalities will be looking to the County’s HPB, ordinance and program for preservation service. Mr. Ferrer goes over a projected list of municipalities that would join the County’s program and list of outreach activities. Member Schwartz asked if municipalities that do not become CLGs will be covered by the County for archaeology. Mr. Ferrer stated that yes, municipalities which do not achieve certification will be covered for both archaeology and historic structures. Member Abbate asked if there will be web or digital access to information for the municipalities joining the County. Mr. Ferrer stated that there will be a specific area in the present County HPB website where a municipality will have access to information. He mentioned also one-on-one meetings with the municipalities and a webinar.

C. Rubin Stacy Memorial Project Update

Member Schwartz updates the board including a co-naming a section of Davie Road as “Rubin Stacy Memorial Highway” from I-95 west to US441/S.R. 7. Most of Broward’s municipalities have passed resolutions in support. There is no approval yet for bringing the EJI memorial monument to the County but this should happen in the near future.

VII. Comments by the Chair

The Chair expresses satisfaction that staff and the cities are getting on board.

VIII. Announcements by Board Members

Vice Chair Davis notes that in September or October there may be an official naming event related to the Rubin Stacy project that will bring the family in. The process of getting the EJI monument in Alabama to Broward is underway. There is a Remembrance Committee that meets in support of the Rubin Stacy Project. There may be something more formal requested of the board for the monument relocation. Member Abbate asked if there are conversations about the future location of the monument and that this should be in a very public place. The Vice Chair stated that there are two items available from EJI: the monument and a small marker. He believes the process for the monument is not there yet. The process for the marker is what’s moving forward. The Vice Chair

added that the municipalities are adopting Ft Lauderdale’s resolution language which he thought encouraging for the facts of the incident. Member Stallone asked if there was a religious or church-related component. Members Abbate and Schwartz thought the marker and memorial are involved with the education of the public and community. The Vice Chair said that Stacy is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery but that his grave site is unknown. The black chapter of the American Legion is working on events honoring soldiers buried there so there’s possibility of honors held there in the future. The cemetery also opens up the conversation of locating the monument and where it should be. Member Stallone recognized the collapse of the Surfside condominium recently and correlates it to the 1981 collapse of a Cocoa Beach condominium under construction. He asked the Chair if there’s a specific inspection for historical buildings. The Chair stated that there’s nothing specific, buildings do go through a 40-year inspection. Member Abbate notes that there is Historic Buildings Code component of the Florida Code. Member Abbate mentioned FAU School of Architecture along with Ft Lauderdale Historical Society applied for a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities on project titled “Buried Treasures – Unlocking the Mid Twentieth Century Architectural Legacy of Florida’s Gold Coast” with the aim of cataloging and digitizing the collections held at FAU and Historical Society. Member Schwartz notes that September’s meeting date conflicts with Yom Kippur observance. MOTION: Member Abbate moved to move September’s meeting date to week prior, seconded by Member Schwartz. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

IX. Election of Officers

Chair takes nominations for president. Member Schwartz nominates Sheldon McCartney for president for the coming year, seconded by Member Brink. Member Stallone nominates Derek Davis for Vice Chair for the coming year, seconded by Member Schwartz. All in favor, Sheldon McCartney as Chair and Derek Davis as Vice Chair are elected by unanimous vote.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 7:18 PM.

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