VOLUSIA COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING
March 26, 2021

The Public Hearing of the Volusia County Historic Preservation Board was called to order by James “Zach” Zacharias, at 2:00 p.m., in the Frank T. Bruno, Jr. County Council Chambers of the Thomas C. Kelly Administration Center, 123 West Indiana Avenue, Room 204, DeLand, Florida. On roll call, the following members answered present, to wit:

COMMISSION PRESENT:
TOM ROBERTS, CHAIR – Virtually Present
JAMES “ZACH” ZACHARIAS, VICE CHAIR – Physically Present
RONALD HOWELL, SECRETARY – Physically Present
BONDA GARRISON – Physically Present
GREGORY HOLBROOK – Physically Present
DR. ANDREI LUDU - Absent
AERIEL MCCANN – Absent
SHAINA MOORE – Physically Present
BRIAN POLK - Physically Present

STAFF PRESENT:
SUSAN JACKSON, AICP, Senior Planning Manager – Physically Present
TREVOR BEDFORD, Planner II, Historic Preservation Officer – Physically Present
SEBRINA SLACK, Assistant County Attorney - Physically Present
YOLANDA SOMERS, Staff Assistant II – Physically Present

WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

Vice Chair James “Zach” Zacharias welcomed everyone in the chambers and those attending virtually.

The Board recognized the virtual participation of Member Roberts due to special circumstances.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 26, 2021 Regular Meeting

Member Polk MOVED to APPROVE the January 26, 2021 minutes. Member Garrison SECONDED the motion. Motion CARRIED unanimously (7:0).
NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Plantation Oaks Property Historic Significance

Tim Baylie, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, presented a power point presentation regarding the historic significance of Plantation Oaks property located at the entrance of Plantation Oaks subdivision. He explained that there are several scattered artifacts on the property and there are parts of the Old Kings Road. Governor Grant, first governor of east Florida, had returned to England and obtained some funds to help build that roadway, and then by 1774 it was reported that that roadway or Old Kings Road reached from Georgia, all the way through to New Smyrna, Old Kings Highway Road is north Florida’s first highway, and it was called an engineering treasure, being one of the most important roadways in the growth of Florida. County staff is going to be submitting an application for a critical historic acquisition ECHO grant, and part of those elements or one portion of that application process is that the Historic Preservation Board to determine the significance of the property and to provide a letter of support for the acquisition.

Member Garrison asked about the condition of the historic road.

Mr. Baylie explained that it was overgrown.

Member Zacharias asked if there was any public access planned for this site.

Mr. Baylie responded that the plan should the property be acquired would have a natural trail from this property to Ormond Tune Park crossing Old Dixie Highway to Bulow State Park. He explained that there would interpretive panels throughout, protect the particular pieces and add some picnic tables for passive recreation.

Member Garrison asked about the January information stating that this site was not eligible for Volusia Florida or ECHO.

Mr. Baylie responded that the Old Kings Road remnant was not known at that time and although some of the other artifacts were historic it was not significant.

Public Participation

Suzanne Schreiber, Founder of Dream Green Volusia, explained the developer came forward to the City of Ormond Beach for amendments on the property. There was a 17 year old, her name is Natalie Poetizach saw a public hearing poster and started a petition, and she gathered, somewhere around 12 or 13,000 signatures in less than 48 hours. When I first saw the petition myself. It was only a few hours in and she already had 1000 signatures. And so I very quickly, contacted her because I work in the across Volusia County to save environmental property, and the two of us work together and we garnered as many signatures as we could and we are the ones who approached the developer on October 22nd It was only the two of us that went in, and we asked him about selling the lots. He had no idea what we’re going to say, I’m sure he was caught by surprise. It was an interesting conversation but fortunately for us, he was a willing seller, and that's how this evolved to get where it is, it has taken a lot of work. We filed to be a nonprofit on in February, and launched an all-out marketing campaign to alert the public to what was,
what's going on and what's been happening. And so, to date we've handed out 400
Defend the loop signs guard signs, which people have and I picked up another 100 My
inbox is full of emails, because the public really cares about the Ormond Scenic Loop and
trail, and I just picked up 300 Defend the loot stickers on our way here. So I just wanted
to let you know kind of like how this came about, and the public is for this, and we've
raised $15,000 since about the February 21 I believe it is to put towards land acquisition
between us and we partnered with North Florida Land Trust. So I want to thank you all
for taking the time. Thank you.

Jeff Brower, DeLeon Springs. I just wanted to say thank you, the comments that I heard
were couldn't have been any better if I wrote them myself on for this purchase but I also
wanted to thank Tim and Clay I've watched how hard they work. To do this, and they
didn't know what they were going to find. So what you had today from them is just an
honest assessment of what they learned along the way. And I just want to thank each
one of you for your consideration of this project,

Member Holbrook MOVED to FIND this property is historic significance resource
property and provide a letter of support. Member Garrison SECONDED the motion.
Motion CARRIED unanimously (7:0).

2. Status Update – Ordinance Revisions

Trevor Bedford, Planner I, provided a power point discussing the current ordinance
requirements are that we must notify a property owner 30 days prior to public hearing. It
also requires that we have to hold a public hearing within 60 days of receipt of a complete
application that makes it very frequently impossible to meet both requirements. An
example that we have, let's say an application comes in on May 3 We would be unable
to hear that, until July 27 That doesn't meet the 60 day requirement of holding the public
hearing, but it is too late for us to meet 30 day notice. So our proposed solution is to, to
change the guidelines. So instead of saying 60 days, we would say at the next available
meeting. And then we would change the 30 day notice to a 10 day notice that is consistent
with our public notice for pretty much every other board that we have. And it would allow
us to bring something in if somebody submitted something 29 days before meeting,
there's really no reason I shouldn't be able to have it to you for that meeting. I have again
discuss these with the state historic preservation office and they don't see any conflicts
with these. They don't see any conflicts with this certified local government guidelines.

The board was in agreement.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

BOARD COMMENTS

Member Moore thanked everyone for the opportunity to be on this board and she would
not be reapplying due to work schedule.
PRESS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further comments from the public, staff, or members, Vice Chair Zacharias thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

APPROVED

James “Zach” Zacharias, Chair

09/28/2021
Date

Larry French, Secretary

09/28/2021
Date