

**VOLUSIA COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**



January 23, 2018

LOCATION:

Dickinson Memorial Library, Orange City

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Polk called the meeting of the Volusia County Historic Preservation Board to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call the following members answered present:

Oscar Brock

Nancy Epps

Bonda Garrison

Brian Polk, Chair

Kimberly Reading

Robert Redd

Tom Roberts, Vice Chair

Gina Steger

STAFF PRESENT:

Rebecca Rau, Administrative Coordinator II

Julie Adams Scofield, Historic Preservation Officer

Dawn Thomas, Activity Project Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jared Mitchell

GUEST(S) PRESENT:

Barry Myer, Linda Kownacki (both Dickinson Memorial Library), Harley Strickland (Hollywood Cemetery), Kerry Donaway, Ted Marsolek (both Orange City Historic Preservation Board), Christopher Jacobs, Jim Yates, Kathy Yates

WELCOME:

Mr. Polk welcomed members and guests, and thanked the library for hosting the meeting. Mr. Polk introduced Harley Strickland who shared the history and architecture of the building, including restoration work, with members of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **MOTION** by Ms. Steger, 2nd by Ms. Garrison ***“To approve the minutes of the November 28, 2017 regular meeting as presented.” Motion passed unanimously.***

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Space Port Florida Environmental Impact Study-Ms. Scofield provided information to the Board about prior communications regarding the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the potential impact for Shiloh and the Elliot Plantation site and discussed what these materials are and mean. Materials distributed included: A Citizen’s Guide to Section 106 Review from the National Park Service, a 2014 letter to the FAA from the Board, a 2013 FL Master Site File submission letter submitted by SEAC, and a letter to the FAA from the Florida State Historic Preservation Office. These all attest to the historic importance of the site and the potential for damage. Ms. Scofield reiterated that the request for archaeological surveys is not out of line with what is required of other developers. The EIS is currently on hold.

Historic Properties Workshop—The workshop is to be held January 31 at the Pioneer Settlement in Barberville. Ms. Scofield discussed the speakers and the topics to be presented. Mr. Polk will be one of the presenters.

Burwyn Park Subdivision Gates—Mr. Brock noted that he is awaiting property owner permission so that he can better document/map the gates. Ms. Scofield noted that a letter to the property owner has not been acknowledged. She suggested working with the DeLeon Springs Community Association to arrange an introduction.

NEW BUSINESS:

2018 Goals—Ms. Scofield commented that she feels the Board is at a turning point; the majority of significant properties have been nominated for National Register status or designated as being a local landmark. 2017 was the Board's 25th year and Ms. Scofield suggested putting together a report on what the Board has been involved in and accomplished as a baseline for moving forward.

Ms. Scofield suggested that Board members come back in March with new ideas for the goals list and finalize goals in May. She noted the shift in preservation efforts with a new view of architecture and emphasis on minority sites, folklore, and storytelling; areas that in the past have been under appreciated. Mr. Polk asked about the shift in preservation. Ms. Scofield explained how the view is now toward properties that can be considered important locally and may not qualify for national recognition but are viable. What is important to local residents and what is worth saving? The definition is becoming broader.

Mr. Polk suggested taking Ms. Scofield's comments, give them strong consideration, and come back in March to discuss a new set of goals. Members were in agreement.

MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:

- Ms. Scofield will be working with an intern from Stetson University. His semester project will be an inventory and creation of site files on school buildings built between 1945 and 1968. Ms. Scofield has invited him to attend the March meeting. Ms. Scofield noted the March meeting will be held at the Atlantic Center for the Arts in New Smyrna Beach. Before the meeting she will be offering a tour on the Blanchette property. She reminded the Board that appropriate clothing and footwear is needed as this is a wooded area. The tour will begin at approximately 2:30pm. Board members were reminded that a location has not been determined for the July meeting on the east side of the county. Two locations have been considered but neither has worked out. Suggestions for a meeting location were solicited.
- Mr. Polk asked the status of the Cultural Coordinator position. Ms. Scofield announced that Mr. Redd will be starting in the role the following Monday.
- Ms. Reading gave a bit of background about her history with the Dickinson Library, starting as a grade school student. She then mentioned upcoming events in Orange City including the Manatee Festival, on February 2, the grand opening of the Mill Creek Park, and the February 24 Orange City African American Heritage Festival. Members of the Orange City Historic Preservation Board were thanked for attending this meeting.
- Ms. Garrison provided an update on the McDonald House, a city owned property that the Ormond Beach Historical Society uses for office space. The city is allocating \$225,000 in 2018 for repairs including lead paint abatement and siding. These projects will be going out for bid.
- Mr. Roberts shared images from an archive of real photo postcards that had recently been on eBay. Many of these images were from the Volusia County area. The cards dated to 1915 and included information on the location shown.
- Mr. Brock is continuing work on the Burwyn Park gates.
- Ms. Epps had positive words for Zach Zacharias and the Museum of Arts & Sciences for their recent HistoryCon.

- Mr. Redd commented that this is his last meeting as a Board member but that he will still be involved as a county staff member. He announced that Mr. Roberts will be speaking at the New Smyrna Museum of History on March 10th. Work is continuing on the June 16, 2018 event to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Smyrnea Settlement.
- Mr. Polk announced the Volusia County Social Studies Fair for February 23 and 24. Judges are needed. Renovation work is almost complete on the DeLeon Springs State Park visitor center. On display will be two pieces of the oldest canoes found in the western hemisphere. These canoes were found in 1985 and 1990 and are estimated to be 5,000 and 6,000 years old.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Mr. Jacobs provided the Board with an update on his research that he believes has led to the discovery of origins of the name Volusia. His research shows that the name Volusia dates to January 1, 1820. His goal will be to publish his findings in the Florida Historical Quarterly and to ask the County Council to recognize the bicentennial date in 2020.
- Ms. Thomas thanked Ms. Rau for filling in while the Cultural Coordinator position was open.
- Mr. Roberts asked about the replacement process for Mr. Redd.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Polk asked for a call to adjourn the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

- **MOTION** by Mr. Roberts, 2nd by Ms. Epps ***"To adjourn the meeting."*** **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator/Recording Secretary, on March 27, 2018.

Date _____ Chair _____ Secretary _____