

**VOLUSIA COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**  
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**November 28, 2017**

**LOCATION:**

Instone House at Seminole Rest, Canaveral National Seashore

**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

Jared Mitchell

Brian Polk

Kimberly Reading

Robert Redd

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Julie Adams Scofield, Historic Preservation Officer

Jessi Jackson Smith, Cultural Coordinator/Recording Secretary

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tom Roberts, Gina Steger

**GUEST(S) PRESENT:**

Dale Ketcham, Space Florida; Dot Moore, Southeast Volusia Historical Society; Dan Snyder; Euda Alderman

**WELCOME:**

Mr. Polk welcomed members and guests, and thanked the park service staff for hosting the board and providing a tour of the site before the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **MOTION** by Ms. Reading, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell ***“To approve the minutes of the September 26, 2017 regular meeting as presented.”*** **Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Most Endangered Historic Properties Update** – Ms. Scofield provided the historic properties list and asked whether the board wished to remove or add sites this year. She reviewed the list noting that there was no significant change in status for several of the properties. Dutton House has new board members that are experienced in preservation and fundraising and hope to get back to work on the building, with some modifications to the use of the site. The Putnam Hotel purchase has fallen through, however the city economic development office reports frequent inquiries about the property. Orange City continues work to define and review the vision and future land uses for its historic district with some planned improvements to the historic core area. The Samsula Elementary School remains eligible for a local designation. The City of Port Orange is now thinking about retaining the FEC depot in its current location and is seeking funds to stabilize the building. Ms. Scofield noted that the Pierson Elementary School, a Mediterranean Revival building from the 1920s, would become vacant once the new school is completed.

*[Note: Ms. Epps arrived to the meeting.]*

**Shiloh Launch Facility Environmental Impact Study Status** – Dale Ketcham, Chief of Strategic Alliances with Space Florida, gave some updates about the EIS, noting little is currently happening. He gave some background

regarding market demand driven by commercial space financiers Elon Musk of SpaceX and Jeff Bezos of Blue Origin. He reaffirmed that Space Florida wishes to retain commercial launch activity in the region rather than losing projects to other states. The Shiloh site, located within the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, is the preferred location for current expansion. Although market pressure has lessened and the EIS is currently on the shelf without a deal in place, Space Florida's goal is to reengage and move toward the next EIS step, being the archaeological survey beginning perhaps next year. He noted Space Florida's desire to survey a 200-acre core area, and expanding the survey boundary in phases as evidence dictates, in order to save tax dollars. Space Florida's desire is to work with all stakeholders to learn how each can thrive while meeting varied interests.

Ms. Scofield gave an overview of the project for newer board members. She noted the Historic Preservation Board's role as a consulting party, per Section 106 of the Preservation Act of 1966. This requires evaluation of adverse impacts to National Register and NR eligible properties impacted by federal dollars. The National Park Service has determined that the Elliott Plantation site in the Shiloh area is National Register eligible. The Southeastern Archaeological Center (SEAC) of the National Park Service is finishing its report based on several years of investigation to establish the boundaries for the National Register district, especially the sugar mill and slave quarters. Early next year they intend to prepare the National Register and/or National Historic Landmark nominations. The Preservation Board has expressed in writing its agreement with federal agencies' requirements for a fair and professional assessment. She noted the potential for negative impacts of space launch activity to the Elliott plantation site, including vibration and possible other irreparable damage.

Florida amateur archaeologist Dot Moore noted that the Elliott Plantation sugar factory is the oldest in Florida and was a slave-generated plantation. It is unique and very well preserved and one of only a few sites that can provide information from that time. Others added that fumes, trespassing, theft and vandalism could also cause harm to the site.

**Historic Preservation Workshop** – Ms. Scofield distributed a save-the-date flyer for the workshop which will take place at the Pioneer Settlement in Barberville on January 31st. She is developing an invitation list, including all cities and non-profits in the county that manage historic properties.

**Burwyn Park Gates** – Mr. Brock noted that there are two sets of wrought iron gates from the Burwyn Park development still in their original location, and that the west gates are in good condition despite some vegetation growing up. Ms. Scofield wrote to the property owners about an interest to document the gates. She has not yet heard back from them but will follow up about making a visit. Additionally, all of the remaining Burwyn Park columns are believed to be on private properties, except one that might still be on county right-of-way close to the trail. They have retained their historic integrity and could be designated as a grouping by the home owners. The DeLeon Spring Civic Association could be a helpful partner for the project.

**2018 Meeting Locations** – Ms. Smith presented an updated list of meeting dates and locations for 2018. It was suggested that a meeting planned at the Ormond Yacht Club be considered for November rather than July due to possible air conditioning issues, and also could be aligned with either the new Ormond Beach walking tour app or a bus tour of local historical sites. Ms. Smith will seek to reschedule the Yacht Club for November and finalize the remaining dates.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:**

- Ms. Scofield will be working with an intern from Stetson next semester to organize a collection of manuscripts, documents and photos of the William C. Carpenter buildings in Volusia County. He was one of only a few AIA accredited architects in early Volusia County starting in 1914 whose designs included the Putnam Hotel, the Seville School, the Port Orange School, the school board building and several commercial structures in downtown DeLand. His grandson who lives in St. Augustine has done some research that our intern will be pulling together. Ms. Scofield also mentioned the upcoming Lake Helen tour of homes and the

Northwest Neighborhood tour as well as Shoestring Theater/Lake Helen African American school's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

- Mr. Redd continues planning for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration in New Smyrna Beach. He also noted a recent *News Journal* article about the Smyrna Archaeological Research Institute, however he is unclear about the organization's goals or funding.
- Mr. Polk noted some recent archaeological research taking place at Bulow Plantation, and Ms. Scofield suggested that they could make a presentation at a future meeting.
- Ms. Scofield mentioned that she'll distribute the annual goals to consider for next year.
- Ms. Epps noted that the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse recently celebrated its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She also inquired about opportunities to inform the County Council about their work. Ms. Scofield noted that annual board reports were not requested last year by county staff, although members are welcome to speak to Council members individually about important matters and activities. We did have good Council interaction this year through the Rosenwald schools historic marker ceremonies.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Dot Moore noted that Mr. Ketcham's Space Florida report is an alert to the board of the important work to be done in completing the National Register assessment for the site.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Mr. Polk asked for a call to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by Jessi Jackson Smith, Cultural Coordinator/Recording Secretary, on January 23, 2018.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_