

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

❖❖❖
September 27, 2016

LOCATION:

Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts, 1776 Lightfoot Lane, Barberville

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Epps called the meeting of the Volusia County Historic Preservation Board to order at 3:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call the following members answered present:

Bill Chapin

Robert Clinton

Nancy Epps

L. Tom Roberts

Zach Zacharias

STAFF PRESENT:

Julie Adams Scofield, Historic Preservation Officer

Jessi Jackson Smith, Cultural Coordinator/Recording Secretary

Dawn Thomas, Activity Project Manger

MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Oscar Brock, Brian Polk, Kimberly Reading, John Wagner

GUEST(S) PRESENT:

Debra West and Gudrun Benson of the Pioneer Settlement

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **MOTION** by Mr. Zacharias, 2nd by Mr. Chapin *“To approve the minutes of the July 26, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.”*

OLD BUSINESS:

Spaceport Florida Environmental Impact Study Status — Ms. Scofield reported that the National Park Service has money in the coming year to prepare the National Register nominations. Additionally, according to Clay Henderson, the Refuge Manager would like to do a basic archaeological study, however the Fish and Wildlife Commission has refused to approve a permit. The agencies have asked for a more comprehensive study. The consultants’ recommendation of a Level 1 shovel test seems to be a delay tactic since several unit excavations have already been completed by the NPS.

Historic Property Maintenance Workshop—Ms. Scofield stated that the Pioneer Settlement has agreed to partner in hosting the workshop, with probable dates being either January 18th or 25th, depending on speaker availability. The Settlement has also agreed to help with refreshments and lunch.

State Historic Marker Program – Ms. Scofield has submitted the applications for the two Rosenwald school markers. These will be reviewed by the Historical Marker Committee in Tallahassee on October 12th. Pending approvals, we can move into a production phase. The Orange City Village Improvement Association is contributing to the Coleman School sign, and the West Volusia Historical Society and the DeLeon Springs Civic Association are contributing to the DeLeon Springs sign. Both sites are a bit neglected, and she would like to do a small landscaping project in conjunction with an alumni gathering for the sign unveiling event.

A list of possible sites for additional future markers was presented for board consideration, with focus given to places not already well-interpreted as well as preference for unincorporated and minority sites. The board discussed and developed a short-list of four sites, including Cassadaga, the Volusia County Historic Courthouse, the DeLand Train Station and the Streamline Hotel.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sea Level Rise/Monitoring Volunteers – Ms. Scofield and Ms. Smith attended the Tidally United Conference, which focused on climate change, sea level rise, and how these are affecting cultural resources. Annapolis, MD was presented as a model city of planning and protection against sea level rise impacts. The Florida Public Archaeology Network has developed a new initiative to recruit a volunteer corps to help monitor at-risk coastal sites and will offer a series of volunteer training events around the state.

Most Endangered List Update – Ms. Scofield reminded the board that it reviews and updates the list in November. Also in November, the board will consider meeting locations for the year.

Mid-Century Inventory – The board discussed its prior recommendation to restore the County ordinance language back to the ‘fifty years and older’ threshold for the review of demolition and designation of historic properties. This is standard for the National Register program as well as other local ordinances around the state. Leadership’s direction had been to do a countywide inventory, however staff does not have the resources to accomplish this broad scope of work. Ms. Scofield noted that she recently attended the National Alliance of Historic Commissions. There has been a growing appreciation for architecture of this period as well as efforts to advocate, protect and maintain buildings. It was recommended to begin with recording school buildings given the nostalgia and pride they engender in communities as well as their potential for adaptive reuse and tax credit benefits. She mentioned staff could begin to take this on, possibly with the help of an intern in January. Additional buildings could include churches and banks.

MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:

Pioneer Settlement – Debra West thanked the board for meeting onsite today and noted that the Settlement’s 45th anniversary would be celebrated yearlong through several events; in addition, the meeting will be followed by a tour of the Underhill House.

Sharing Information – Mr. Zacharias invited the board to meet at MOAS soon and tour the new West Wing and Florida Prehistory Gallery. Mr. Roberts noted that the West Volusia Historical Society would be offering a program at the Oakdale Cemetery on October 21st and 22nd. Ms. Scofield added that she would be giving a presentation about Volusia cemeteries at WVHS on October 18th.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chair Epps entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m. and invited members to stay for a tour of the Underhill House.

- **MOTION** by Mr. Chapin, 2nd by Mr. Zacharias *“To adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.”*

Respectfully submitted by Jessi Jackson Smith
Cultural Coordinator/Recording Secretary

Date _____ Chair _____ Secretary _____