

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



September 25, 2007

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wagner called the meeting of the Volusia County Historic Preservation Board to order at 3:30 P.M. on September 25, 2007 at Conrad Center of the West Volusia Historical Society, Conrad Center in DeLand.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call the following Members answered present to wit:

John Wagner, Chair
Riley Nutt, Vice-Chair
Priscilla Cardwell, Secretary
Sid Corhern
Jon Benn
Bill Fraser
Dot Moore
Riley Nutt
Warren VanHoose
Sandra Walters

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: - None

Chair Wagner declared a quorum was present.

STAFF PRESENT:

Nancy Maddox, Cultural & Heritage Activity Director
Julie Adams Scofield, Historic Preservation Officer
Mike Fincher, Cultural Coordinator
Tom Baskett, Public Historian

GUEST(S) PRESENT:

Harold Cardwell, Sr., Bill Dreggors, Judith Davis, Tara Lamb

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: - July 24, 2007 Regular Meeting

Member Cardwell requested a change be made under Press and Citizen Comments to reflect the name of Harold Cardwell's new book as *Historic Photos of Daytona Beach*.

Member Cardwell made a **MOTION** "*To approve the minutes of July 24, 2007 as amended.*" Member Corhern seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: - None. Ms. Scofield advised that the Strawn Bob White Packing House property may be on the agenda once again in November.

OLD BUSINESS:

Certified Local Government Application – Ms. Scofield advised that biographical information is still needed from Members Nutt and VanHoose before the application can be submitted to the state.

NEW BUSINESS:

Additions to the Most Endangered Properties List (MEHPL)

Ms. Scofield provided an overview of the application process for a property to be added to the list. She also asked that the HPB initiate a request to the ECHO Board that they require all applications for ECHO rehab grants for properties on the MEHPL to meet the U.S. Secretary of the Interior’s minimum standard for rehabilitation in order to be considered for funding.

Member Corhern made a **MOTION** “*To recommend to the ECHO board that they implement U.S. Secretary of the Interior minimum rehabilitation standards for MEHPL properties applying for ECHO rehabilitation grants*” Member Cardwell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A presentation was made by Ms. Judith Davis of the Davis House Preservation Association, a newly formed 501(c)3 organization established to preserve the historic Davis House and Hasty Cottage in Ponce Inlet. They would like these properties added to the MEHPL in order to help strengthen their fund raising and grant opportunities.

Member Nutt made a **MOTION** “*To add the historic Davis House and Hasty Cottage in Ponce Inlet to the MEHPL*” Member Cardwell seconded the motion. Member Corhern recused himself from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Corhern made a presentation on behalf of the City of Oak Hill requesting that the HPB add the historic Village Improvement Association Building in Oak Hill to the MEHPL. It is the only public historical building in the community and once restored can be used as a community meeting place.

Member Moore made a **MOTION** “*To add the historic Village Improvement Association Building in Oak Hill to the MEHPL*” Member Walters seconded the motion. Member Corhern recused himself from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:

Mr. Fincher reminded the members that the next meeting would be held at 3:30 p.m. on November 27, 2007 in the 2nd floor training room of the Volusia County Historic Courthouse in DeLand. He also requested input on potential meeting locations for 2008. DeBary Hall and Ponce Inlet lighthouse were suggested.

Chair Wagner asked about the status of the Underhill House in Barberville. Ms. Maddox advised that they had originally been approved for a State Historical Resources Grant but that due to State budget cuts, they will not meet the cutoff for this year. This was money that was scheduled to be used for an ECHO grant match so the loss is going to have a significant impact to their project. It is hoped that they will make the list next year if the budget is increased any.

Ms. Scofield provided a brief overview on Volusia County's Historic Property Tax Abatement ordinance. U.S. Secretary of the Interior Guidelines must be met. Exemption can be as much as 100% for up to 10 years. This applies to private residences as well as income producing commercial properties. Approval must be granted by the County Council. To date, no application for this exemption has been processed by the Property Appraiser's office.

Member VanHoose advised that he had met several members of the Strawn family in Citizens' Academy that expressed an interest on preserving the Bob White Packing House and that they might be helpful if the demolition request is again brought back to the HPB for consideration as is expected. There was much discussion among the members as to what can be done to help facilitate preservation of this site. It was the consensus that until an organization or individual steps forward with a cash offer, there is really not much that can be done other than to keep the awareness up as to the site's historic significance.

Member Cardwell announced that the Post Orange School reunion would be held on October 6. Also she and Harold would be attending the Downtown & Small Towns Conference in St. Augustine on October 16-19 at Casa Monica. Ms. Maddox advised that she would be speaking at the Conference. Member Cardwell also announced that her husband Harold has a new book at the printers about ghosts in Volusia County.

Member Nutt advised that the Enterprise Preservation Society had held a very successful fundraiser at Sandy Walter's house and that the old Enterprise School Building is scheduled to be removed from the trailer and placed on its permanent foundation next week. He also advised that he would be processing three sites in the Enterprise area for inclusion on the MEHPL in the near future.

Member Moore asked several questions about the budget for the year. Ms. Maddox advised that the County Council had not yet officially approved the budget and that she would provide an update at the next meeting once the budget had been finalized. She also suggested that the Florida Public Archeology Network (FPAN) staff make an informational presentation to the HPB. Ms. Scofield advised that she has already been in contact with the regional director about this and was working on scheduling something for the November or January meeting.

Member Benn spoke of efforts by the West Volusia Historical Society to expand the Conrad Center. At the present time, they do not have sufficient property to expand. They are pursuing acquiring the property adjacent which is owned by Stetson University. Thus far Stetson has not been eager to sell but it is still being pursued.

Ms. Walters spoke about the potential impact of the proposed marina in DeBary on possible burial mound sites on the Goat Island property included within the proposed development. Ms. Maddox said that while this is out of the HPB's jurisdiction, she would speak to DeBary city officials to inquire whether

archeological concerns were factored into the decision process and offer assistance in obtaining a review.

Minutes of HPB Meeting of September 25, 2007 – Continued

Chair Wagner spoke about preservation efforts in Daytona Beach. He advised that the City of Daytona Beach includes five nationally recognized historic districts but that the City only recognizes one for purposes of preservation consideration. The Heritage Preservation Trust is working through Daytona’s Historic Preservation Board to get this changed but thus far have been unsuccessful. Gary Libby is still actively working to get this position reconsidered.

Ms. Maddox gave an update on the historic Hays-Hood House in Tallahassee. The renovation work has been completed and the building will now be used as the headquarters of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. She encouraged everyone to visit it if they are in Tallahassee.

PRESENTATIONS:

Nancy Maddox presented a framed photograph to Bill Dreggors of him receiving the Evelyn Fortune Bartlett Award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. Dreggors received the award at the Trust’s annual meeting in May in Sarasota. Tom Baskett made a few brief remarks recognizing Dreggors for his contribution to preserving the heritage of Volusia County.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chair Wagner adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Fincher, Cultural Coordinator & Recording Secretary

Date _____ Chair _____ Secretary _____