Florida Historical Commission
Business & Grant Review Panel Meetings
R.A. Gray Building, Heritage Hall Auditorium
Tallahassee, Florida
March 21, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present in Meeting: Ms. Marion Almy, Presiding Officer; Mr. Rick Gonzalez, Assistant Presiding Officer; Dr. William Lees; Major Graham Fountain; Ms. Kathy Fleming; Mr. Del Acosta; Ms. Melissa Schechter

Commission Members Unable to Attend: Ms. Mimi Hardman; Dr. Adam Hirsch; Ms. Ellen Ugucioni; Mrs. Judy Kane

Division of Historical Resources Staff Present: Mr. Ken Detzner, Secretary of State; Ms. Kerri Post, Deputy Secretary of State; Ms. Rachel Porter, Special Programs Coordinator; Mr. Robert F. Bendas, State Historic Preservation Officer and Division Director; Ms. Celeste Ivory, Division Operations Administrator; Ms. Angela Tomlinson, Program Administrator; Dr. Barbara Mattick, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Survey and Registration; Mrs. Alissa Slade Lotane, Chief of the Bureau of Historic Preservation; Ms. Eva Osborne, Architect; Ms. Julie Byrd, Senior Archaeologist; Dr. Roger Smith, State Underwater Archaeologist; Mr. Michael Zimny, Historical Markers and Certified Local Governments Programs Head; Mr. Andrew Waber, Historic Sites Specialist; Ms. Stacey Cahan, Historic Preservation Grants Specialist; Ms. Kechia Herring, Grants Program Assistant; Mr. Blair Limcangco, Web Developer

Guests Present in Meeting: Nancy Sikes-Kline, and Tim Fleming, City of St. Augustine; Bob Harper, and Barry Myers, Lightner Museum; Julia Vaill Gatlin, Ximenez-Fatio House Museum; Wade Bailey, and Chuck Meide, Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP); Kirk Reams, Jefferson County; Cynthia Shingles, Theresa Moore, Bessie Evans, Regina Davis, Dr. Bernard Piawah, Walt McNeil, and Ann Sherman, City of Quincy; Hilary Swain, Archbold Biological Station; Mollie Malloy, St. Augustine Lighthouse; Dana Ste. Claire, City of St. Augustine, 450th Commemoration; Linda Smith, and Sarah Sapp, Panhandle Pioneer Settlement; David Spencer, Gilchrist County School District; John Bratten, and Greg Cook, University of West Florida; Randy Lewis, MLD Architects, Inc.; Gary E. Palmer, City of Cocoa

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Almy at 9:01 a.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff & Guests

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Almy requested that the Director’s Comments be moved to Item #5, the Viva Florida 500 Update be moved to Item #6, and then called for a motion to adopt the
modified agenda. Commissioner Fountain so moved. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes from December 7, 2012 Meeting

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adopt the minutes as emailed. Commissioner Lees so moved. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

V. Director’s Comments

Director Bendus discussed sequestration as it relates to the division’s federal funding from the National Park Service (NPS), the anticipated 5% reduction in Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) monies which translates to a $51,000 reduction to the operating budget; state funding, and budgetary issues; legislative bills involving water authority lands, and a proposed Citizen Archaeology Permit (CAP) program; and multiple recent arrests resulting from a crime ring bust involving the sale of illegally obtained historic Florida artifacts looted from state lands.

Secretary Detzner was recognized by Chairman Almy. Secretary Detzner thanked all for making the previous night’s Florida Heritage Awards a great success, and thanked the Commission for their service.

Director Bendus continued discussion on: bills involving the division’s mandated Chapter 267 responsibilities, relating to state-owned lands, state-leased spaces, and contracts for construction on public properties; the legislature’s bill to honor the service of Colonel Graham Fountain on his retirement; the Secretary’s request for consolidation of the division’s citizen support organizations (CSOs), and progress on the development of a single statewide 501(c)(3) CSO for the division; and plans for an expanding a historic preservation presence at a local level by doing more with the Certified Local Governments (CLGs) and Main Street Programs and communities.

VI. Viva Florida 500 Update

Ms. Rachel Porter updated the Commission on Viva Florida 500 activities. Ms. Porter reported on 2013 New Year launch in Miami; Expedition Florida 500 and their 6-month stand-up paddle; the launch of VivaFlorida.org, the official website for Viva Florida 500 information, social media efforts and the statewide calendar of events; media outreach; and thanked Commissioner Schechter for her outreach, work with communities and municipalities creating proclamations; the hire of Ms. Katie Kole as the department’s Marketing Director; branding and the Viva Florida 500 logo; production of two boutique fragrances designed for the commemoration by Christian Louis, a French master perfumer; production of Ponce Premium Spring Water, by Orange Springs Specialty Water and Beverage Company; upcoming public services announcements (PSAs) and documentaries; popularity of the Viva-themed Florida Lottery $3 ticket which generated $18 million of revenue within 9 weeks, with $3.3 million going directly to education; Florida Department of Transportation signage across the state; outreach at the Red Hills International Horse Trials; the Viva Florida 500 Galeon Voyage tour across the state; launch of and events during Viva Florida 500 Week during the first week of April; issue of the La Florida Commemorative Stamp; and other special programs for awareness.
VII. Business Items
   A. Citizen Archaeology Permit (CAP) Program

Chairman Almy stated that Director Bendus reported on the subject, and Ms. Julie Byrd would also report on the ongoing issue and challenge to state-owned lands and state parks, and the responsibility and duty to protect cultural heritage.

VIII. Committee Reports
   A. Bureau of Historic Preservation Update

Mrs. Lotane provided the Bureau of Historic Preservation update. Mrs. Lotane advised the Commission on staff changes including the retirement of Mr. Phillip Wisley as the Architectural Preservation Services Supervisor, the retirement of Ms. Joan Jefferson as the Florida Main Street Program Head, the hire of Mr. Alex Carlson as the Florida Main Street Program Assistant, and the hire of Dr. Timothy Parsons as the Compliance Review Section Head; the Programmatic Agreement with the University of Florida for state properties in St. Augustine; the upcoming Small-Matching Grants cycle; development of the Florida Historic Golf Trail and Seminole War Heritage Trail guides; upcoming Main Street meeting, trainings, and conference; an upcoming meeting with the Seminole Tribe; a potential review project located in close proximity to Elliott Plantation in Volusia County; an upcoming Google map of the state’s historical markers; applications reviewed and approved the previous day by the Historical Marker Council; creation of an electronic marker application; Certified Local Governments (CLGs) Program workshops and training sessions; creation of an on-line reporting form to assist CLGs with annual reports; the Florida Folklife Program’s work on the annual folklife survey and Florida Folk Festival; and the upcoming rollout of the statewide Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan at the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation’s Annual Conference in May.

   i. National Register Review Board Meeting Update
Commissioner Gonzalez thanked Division staff for an excellent job on the statewide Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan, and Dr. Mattick for leading the effort.

Dr. Mattick updated the Commission on the nominations reviewed the prior day; including Dean Park Historic District, Nokomis Beach Pavilion, Strickland Cemetery, Bay City Walking Dredge, and Durkee Field.

B. Bureau of Archaeological Research Update

Ms. Julie Byrd, Senior Archaeologist, provided the Bureau of Archaeological Research update. Ms. Byrd thanked the Commission for nominating, and the Secretary for designating Dr. Roger Smith as the 2013 Senator Bob Williams Public Employee awardee. Ms. Byrd advised the Commission on the upcoming Cape Canaveral underwater survey; installation of an underwater plaque and monument for the USS Narcissus; activities at Mission San Luis; upcoming fieldwork and mapping at Mission San Damian, Letchworth Mounds, Lake Jackson Mounds, and Velda Mounds; installation of collapsible shelving at the Collections facility; improvements
to the Collections database; Tomoko State Park human remains analysis; Conservation Lab tours and space improvement; conservation work on the Natural Bridge Battlefield copper eagle, and tombstone at The Grove; investigation and archaeological looting ring bust, following collaboration with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC); discovery during construction monitoring of a newly identified historic brick feature at The Grove; ongoing work on the prehistoric canoe database; excavation consultation on human remains recently exposed in a tidal zone at McClamory Key; investigation of looting at Silver Glen Springs; management issues at the Miami Circle; monitoring of action on the Citizen Archaeology Permit (CAP) Program bill; upcoming interpretation plans at the Hernando de Soto 1539-1540 Winter Encampment site/Governor Martin House; and necessary roof repair at the Gov. Martin House.

Chairman Almy recognized Dr. Roger Smith, for his designation as the 2013 Senator Bob Williams Public Employee, and thanked him for his service to the State of Florida.

IX. Other Business

Commissioner Fountain presented information on a proposed outline for review by the Commission for a Legislative Leadership Award, and a Patron of Historical Preservation and Education/Awareness Award to be presented on behalf of the Commission, the awards would assist with preservation recognition and funding of the division’s Citizen Support Organization (CSO).

Commissioner Lees made a motion to approve the proposal in concept, and start the Director’s review of the details. Commissioner Gonzalez so moved. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

X. Public Comment: None

The Business Meeting concluded at 10:43 a.m. The Commission took a brief recess before resuming for the 2015 Special Category Grant Panel Meeting. The Historic Preservation Grants Program may be contacted for information on the review panel’s rankings, and recommendations for grant awards.

[Signatures]

Presiding Officer

Director, Division of Historical Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

Approved: 7.31.2013