Florida Historical Commission
Tallahassee, Florida
July 24, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Members Present in Meeting: Dr. William Lees

Commissioner Members Present via Telephone: Ms. Marion Almy, Presiding Officer; Ms. Kathy Fleming, Mr. Rick Gonzalez, Ms. Mimi Hardman, Dr. Adam Hirsch, Ms. Lucille Rights, Ms. Melissa Schechter, Ms. Ellen Uguccioni, Major Graham Fountain

Division of Historical Staff Present: Mr. Robert F. Bendus, State Historic Preservation Officer; Ms. Celeste Ivory, Division Operations Administrator; Ms. Susanne Hunt, Outreach Programs Supervisor; Ms. Angie Tomlinson, Program Administrator; Ms. Alissa Slade, Chief of the Bureau of Historic Preservation; Mr. Phillip Wisley, Supervisor of Architectural Preservation Services; Dr. Barbara Pattick, Head of Survey and Registration Section; Mr. Michael Zimny, Historical Markers and Certified Local Governments Programs Coordinator; Dr. Mary Glowacki, Chief of the Bureau of Archaeological Research

Guests Present via Telephone: Ms. Kerri Post, Department of State Director of Marketing

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Almy at 9:07 a.m.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff and Guests

III. Adoption of Agenda

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

IV. Approval of Minutes from March 22, 2012

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adopt the minutes as emailed. Commissioner Uguccioni requested the minutes be edited to reflect her status at the prior meeting to indicate not able to attend, due to travel. Following this edit, Commissioner Rights so moved. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

V. Chairman’s Comments

Chairman Almy thanked the Division for providing the Commission with necessary information and assisting with questions.

VI. Viva Florida 500 Update

Ms. Kerri Post updated the Commission on Viva Florida 500 activities. Ms. Post reported on a recent meeting with northwest Viva Florida 500 partners in Historic Pensacola Village
hosted by the University of West Florida and broadcast on the Florida Channel, with roughly 120 people in attendance; a Florida Lottery partnership involving a Viva Florida 500 scratch-off game which will launch in January; upcoming FDOT production of Viva Florida 500 signage as visitors enter the state, and posters at rest areas highlighting historic sites statewide; upcoming regional meetings; a new Viva Florida 500 monthly newsletter; creation of a single official Viva Florida 500 website: VivaFlorida.org; a partnership with Daytona 500 for exposure at races in 2013; an upcoming meeting scheduled with the History Channel; and reaching 500 Facebook “likes” and 500 Twitter “followers” recently, with a goal of achieving 1,513 likes and followers by January 1, 2013.

VII. Director’s Division Update

Director Bendus thanked the Commissioners for their time, effort, assistance and advice. Mr. Bendus extended greetings and thanks from the Secretary to the Commission members for their help and assistance in statewide historic preservation. Director Bendus discussed Division participation in a number of councils around the state to provide interagency coordination and advice, including the Acquisition and Restoration Council, Myakka River Management Coordinating Council, Florida Greenways and Trails Council, Southeast Regional Landscape Conservation Cooperative; issues the Division continues to be involved in, including the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, and the Central Everglades Restoration Project; updates on budgetary planning; efforts to create a citizen support organization; historic property management involving the Division’s various leases, subleases and sub-subleases; appropriations and plans for The Grove project; raising awareness and promoting the work of the division, including filming in the Conservation Lab by the Florida Channel, reprinting Heritage Trail publications, and production of films to promote the Great Floridians program.

VIII. Business Items

A. Schedule Meetings

Chairman Almy announced that Florida Heritage Week 2013 will be from March 18-22, 2013, with the Heritage Awards Ceremony on the evening of March 20, 2013. Chairman Almy requested potential dates for the Fall quarterly meeting be provided via email, noting Commissioner Hirsch’s prior request for an afternoon meeting.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Bureau of Historic Preservation Update

Ms. Alissa Slade provided the Bureau of Historic Preservation update. Ms. Slade advised the Commission on the appointment of new members to the Florida Historical Marker Council; updates to the online Historical Marker Application & Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data layer by Florida State University (FSU) intern, Eric Case; internal efforts to promote National Historic Preservation Month annually in May; completion of the quarterly Site File GIS update; staff changes including the transfer of Zan Rothrock from the Site File to the Bureau of Archaeological Research and departure of Lindsey Morrison from the Site File for graduate school; NPS funded travel to Norfolk, Virginia for Michael Zimny to attend
the bi-annual forum of the National Alliance of Preservation Commission; travel for Blaine Waide to present Folklife Program information to conference attendees, and Michael Zimny & Joan Jefferson to present on how Certified Local Government (CLG) and Main Street organizations can work together at the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation annual conference; certification by the National Park Service of Boynton Beach as a CLG; reprinting of Economic Impacts report and Heritage Trail publications; progress on Facebook pages; National Park Service (NPS) funded travel to Baltimore, Maryland for Eva Osborne to attend historic preservation tax act training; determination of conditional approval by our staff for Tax Act credit for the Belleview Biltmore is now under review by the NPS; planning for the annual Main Street 2012 Conference on September 12-14, 2012 in Dade City; Grants Section hire of Stacey Cahan, from the Compliance Review Section, to replace Crista Hosmer, after her transfer to another agency; on-line posting, French translation, and grant solicitation for design and printing of a hard-copy of the French Heritage Trail; solicitation of a British Heritage Trail; NPS approval of the Comprehensive Plan, Preserving Florida’s Heritage: More than Orange Marmalade; events at the Florida Folk Festival; receipt of thirteen Folklife program apprenticeship applications, and four rolled over from last year; upcoming Folklife Forums with demonstrators, part of the Federal National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant for the Folklife Program; reissue of the Drop on Down recording is in production and will be complete in October; Deanna Woodward, Compliance Review Intern, is now reviewing Water Management District permits; Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) staff working with Compliance Review staff on Tropical Storm Debby aftermath.

National Register Review Board Update

Dr. Barbara Mattick updated the Commission on the National Register nominations that were reviewed the prior week, including: Solner-Wall, W. Henry Lewis House, West Side Grade School, Temple Terrace Golf Course, Rogers Park Golf Course, Rothman Residence, Mt. Beazer Church, and the Palmetto Armory. Dr. Mattick discussed recent National Register listings, including: Camp Helen Historic District, Hyer-Knowles Planing Mill Chimney, Veterans of Foreign Wars Mickens Post and William Weech American Legion Post, Father Francisco Lopez Statue, Orlando Utilities Commission, Paul Rudolph Sarasota High School Addition, Key West African Cemetery, and Bay Pines Veterans Administration Home and Hospital Historic District.

B. Bureau of Archaeological Research Update

Dr. Mary Glowacki provided the Bureau of Archaeological update. Dr. Glowacki advised the Commission on the Underwater Program’s completion of the Panhandle Shipwreck Trail grant project funded through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Coastal Zone Management (CZM) program including website with videos, passport for divers, Facebook page, awardable t-shirts; staff damage assessment of unrecorded archaeological site that was looted in the Suwannee River, and assistance provided to Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) in identification of confiscated artifacts; staff assistance to the NPS on an underwater survey of Gulf Islands National Seashore; outreach and education projects, including participation in the Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar and Blue Crab Festival; a new project identifying Ribault’s shipwreck leading towards commemoration of French
presence in Florida; progress on procedures and protocol for 1A-31 permits and salvor contracts, and establishing Reserves.

Commissioner Fleming requested that discussion on the establishment of underwater reserves continue. Director Bendus discussed the reserve system established by the Board of Antiquities, which dissolved and transferred powers and duties to the Division of Historical Resources; the division would like to expand and establish additional reserve areas.

Dr. Glowacki continued her report, including discussion on the Conservation lab, the hire of Catherine Sineich, and successful completion and return of conserved Ft. Taylor items Key West with assistance from the Florida National Guard; Conservation lab staff are also working on conservation projects for companies bringing in salvaged items by contract and other items significant to our program including the lantern of the USS Narcissus; Collections team working with Florida Channel documenting projects; Claire Tindal, Historical Conservator, and terrestrial team travelled to Everglades, and visited the Mulberry Locomotive which was unearthed and is associated with phosphate mining efforts; Public Lands Archaeology Program, Mike Wisenbaker is now Supervisor, and continues to sit on Acquisition and Restoration Council with Director Bendus; presentation on sea-level rise and effects on cultural resources; Mr. Wisenbaker continues to review land management plans, writes and contributes to Land Management Uniform Accounting Council (LMUAC) land reporting; Dan Seinfeld planned and hosted a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) training class, will be addressing concerns and new laws involving F.S. Chapter 872 cases with Zan Rothrock to be in compliance, Dr. Seinfeld headed the parcel survey of Everglades South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) compartment EAA-1; archaeological discovery at the Grove of a 1826 headstone of Wm. Alexander Campbell, asked by Territorial Governor Call to come from Pensacola to Tallahassee; De Soto First Christmas event in January at Mission San Luis; opening up lobby at the Governor Martin House for exhibit; hire of Ms. Julie Byrd, she is responsible for 1A-32 permits and is now the Division’s go-to canoe staff person, working on a prehistoric canoe database for Florida, which has more recorded prehistoric canoes than anywhere else in the world; a Mission San Luis (MSL) interpreters collier project making dugout canoes; MSL staff members move under Public Lands Archaeology Program, including Dr. Bonnie McEwan, Heidi Edgar, and Jerry Lee; MSL education and outreach; hire of Ms. Esa Frazier as rental manager for MSL; MSL property management staff now under Debbie Lollie, Division Operations Manager; Collections staff successfully moved and are now located in 3 buildings at MSL, are ready to start accepting new collections and putting together a new collections policy; and gave kudos to the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST), and MSL, for a fabulous job hosting the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) annual conference.

X. Grants Report

2014 Viva Florida 500 Small-Matching Historic Preservation Grant Applications Update

Mr. Phillip Wisley reported on the 2014 Viva Florida 500 Small-Matching Historic Preservation Grant Applications. Fifty-four projects were received, with grant requests
totaling $2,018,701. Panel reviews will be on August 15 & 16, 2012, special category grants will be solicited in the Fall and will be reviewed in Spring 2013 by the full Commission.

Certified Local Governments Training Applications Update

Dr. Lees provided results of the subcommittee (including Commissioners Lees, Almy, Fleming, Hardman, and Hirsch) conference call considering training grant applications for the Certified Local Government Program. Four grants were considered; all met qualifications and were funded. Caveats and recommendations included inclusion of sum, increased attention to archaeological conservation, and the Tallahassee proposal reassess the training venue.

Mr. Zimny addressed the Commission regarding the ongoing need for training projects of this type; encouraged Commission members to attend; advised travel stipends are available and reserved in the grant; and conferences are available to CLGs and any local governments interested in joining the program.

Commissioner Gonzalez praised the training programs as valuable at any level of preservation and participation.

Commissioner Uguccioni inquired on reviews and communication beyond the annual report of all Certified Local Governments.

Mr. Zimny indicated that it is a responsibility of the State Historic Preservation Office to regularly evaluate all CLGs within the program. Mr. Zimny plans to address the need for increased monitoring of CLGs, develop a pool of volunteers that can provide assistance and on-site training to new CLGs and those in need of aid, and indicated the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) will be used for promotion in the four upcoming training programs and in future partnerships with the CLG program.

XI. Other Business

Director Bendus reiterated the extraordinary amount of teamwork that went into the Collection move, and the incredible interagency partnership that went into relocating the Ft. Taylor artifacts; and thanked Chairman Almy for leadership and advocacy for historic resources regarding the potential changes to the Federal Transportation Bill.

XII. Public Comment

Commissioner Uguccioni inquired on the status of Commission reappointments. Director Bendus indicated he and the department will continue efforts, and are seeking feedback.

Commissioner Fountain discussed development of a historic preservation awards program policy, and stated drafts of the policy will soon be shared; and inquired on nominations for Great Floridian awards.

Commissioner Uguccioni inquired about the Florida Book Awards concerning architecture, and history. Commissioner Fountain agreed on the suggestion of promotion of awards for these subjects.
Mr. Zimny stated the historical marker application submitted for the Cosen Family Tragedy was approved by the Historical Marker Council. The marker was ordered, fabricated, and is in possession of Walton County, with a dedication ceremony planned.

Ms. Slade provided further detail on the solicitation of special category grants scheduled for the Fall, which are for the 2014/15 year. The division is currently in the process of rolling over last year’s special category grants to be reflected in the next legislative session.

XIII. Adjourn

Chairman Almy called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fountain so moved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hardman and it was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Presiding Officer

Director, Division of Historical Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

Approved: 10.05.2012