

Historical Advisory Committee (HAC)

Minutes June 9, 2021

Meeting held at the Mid County Regional Library.

Committee Members

Dianne Munson (2/25/2020)
Theresa Murtha (5/11/2021)
Pat Spence (2018)
Valerie Colbert (2/25/2020)
Clare Riggs (5/11/2021)
Deborah Blair-Koontz
(6/23/2020)
Stephen Valdes (5/11/2021)

Present

Dianne Munson
Theresa Murtha
Pat Spence
Valerie Colbert
Clare Riggs
Deborah Blair-
Koontz
Stephen Valdes

Not Present

BOCC Liaison:

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch

Guests

Janette S. Knowlton

Libraries & History Staff

Lanette Hart Jennifer Zoebelin
Tina Ranney

9:00 a.m. Call to Order, Roll Call

New Business:

Review of Sunshine Law with Janette Knowlton (County Attorney): Presentation of slide show with key points focusing on the discussion of committee business outside of committee meetings, Requirements for meetings (open, notices, public input, minutes, agenda, etc.), recording of meetings, violations of sunshine law.

Ordinance, Rules and Responsibilities: Evaluating and making recommendations to the BCC for historical markers, reviewing development construction projects of historical significance, providing input to the commissioners on historical districts programs and outreach efforts, making recommendations on establishing archives or collection programs, raising funds for historic preservation and providing input to the board on the capital improvement project for historical related facilities and anything else that the board asked you to do. Chair is the one who runs the meeting to make sure that it's orderly and conducted in an orderly fashion also make sure that the motions are appropriate and that you have an agenda. Jennifer will assist in crafting the agenda and will make sure it's distributed. Do not reach out to the Chair or Vice Chair for information, reach out to Jennifer or Lanette. Staff provides administrative support, keeping public records, keeping you on task, providing the minutes, and ensuring no one violates sunshine law. The Commissioners role is to be the eyes and ears of the BOCC and report back to them, and field questions, he is not here to participate in the discussions. Historical Advisory Committee is advisory only. Absentee policy is already established in your ordinance it is if you miss more than 1/3 of your meetings in a given fiscal year it's deemed that you've resigned. Suggestion to use Robert's rules, but up to the committee.

Election of Officers: Nominations for Chair: Dianne Munson no other nominees. Motion to elect Dianne as Chair. All agreed. Dianne has accepted the Chair position. Nominations for Vice Chair: Theresa Murtha has volunteered. No other nominations. Motion to elect Theresa Murtha for Vice Chair. All agreed. Theresa has accepted the Vice Chair Position.

Schedule/Calendar: Motion to leave meeting the 2nd Wednesday of every month. @ 9:00am at Mid-County Regional Library. All agreed.

Citizen Input: none

Member Input:

Theresa Murtha: Requested status and update on historical markers. Jennifer replied that the only outstanding marker is Gilchrest. There is still extensive water damage at the cemetery from Hurricane Irma and she is waiting on the go ahead from public works to place the marker.

Jennifer Zobelein: Added that she will be placing information on the Libraries and History website for Juneteenth. Added that there is an Arts in the Park event this Saturday at McGuire Park from 10-2. It's a collaborative event amongst the different divisions of Community Services.

Stephen R. Deutsch: Mentioned that a mobile meeting to visit some of the historical markers would be a good idea and that it had been done in the past. He also mentioned that there will be a dedication of a Liberty Tree @ William R Gaines Jr Veteran's Memorial Park on Sat. Oct. 9th @ 10:00am. Valarie added that it is a collaboration of the DAR, SAR and CAR.

Valerie Colbert: Nothing more to add

Diane Munson: Motion to vote on having a "Field Trip" meeting to visit some markers in August. Deborah Blair-Koontz has a schedule conflict for August. A motion to change the Mobile meeting to September regular meeting day and time undetermined location was proposed. All agreed.

Stephen Valdes: Asked about the span of history involved. "When does history start here?" Reason for this being the 500th anniversary of Ponce DeLeon discovering this area, and the controversy surrounding whether he was here. How do we celebrate that sort of thing? Dianne replied that if there is anything, he would like to do for that, to just let her know and they can make it happen. Deborah mentioned that perhaps missionary diaries would be a good research starting point. Jennifer added that they have material on missions to the Calusa and she will check to see how many copies there are. She is not sure that any missions were conducted during this particular time frame in this area. The Military Museum had started a section of the role that the military played here in Florida. Starting with Ponce DeLeon. Also had a nice ceremony last week. Hoping to have kids signed up for summer program.

Clare Riggs: Very interesting and just taking it all in so far.

Pat Spence: Nothing currently happening in El Jobean. She would like to have El Jobean do a big Old-Fashioned picnic, but it has not happened yet due to covid. Lanette added that Englewood Library will be having a Centennial picnic in October. Jennifer mentioned that she would bring more info to the next meeting.

Deborah Blair-Koontz: Liked that the term primary sources and evidence was used today she appreciates evidence based historical references and is willing to help if she can.

Adjournment -10:00 A.M.

Next HAC Meeting: - Wednesday, July 14, 9a.m. at Mid County Regional Library, 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd.,
Port Charlotte, FL.

cc:
Commissioner Ken Doherty
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Commissioner Bill Truex
Commissioner Christopher Constance
Commissioner Joseph Tiseo
Hector Flores, County Administrator
Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator
Tommy Scott, Director, Community Svcs Dept.