

Historical Advisory Committee (HAC) Minutes
December 11, 2024
Meeting held at Centennial Park in Port Charlotte

Committee Members

Present

Pat Spence
Dianne Munson
Theresa Murtha
Clare Riggs
Stephen Valdes
Katherine Adamo
Deborah Fitch
Karen Hartman

Absent

Katherine Adamo

BOCC Liaison

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch

Libraries & History Staff

Jennifer Zoebelein, Cal Keene

Public Attendees

Gene Murtha

Roll call

- Dianne does the roll call; Katherine Adamo is absent

Approval of minutes

- Dianne calls for approval of November minutes

New Member: Karen Hartman

- Karen Hartman is retired but has worked in development, historic restoration, and procuring grants.

Hickory Bluff

- Jennifer spoke with Holly Bates in the UF Extension office regarding signage in Hickory Bluff cemetery. A Master Gardener previously volunteered to make signs with a laser engraver. We will put this on the January agenda to discuss with member Katherine Adamo.

New Point Marker Dedication

- Dedication will be on Thursday, February 20th, at 3pm. Formal invitations will be sent out.

Time Capsule

- Clare was approached and asked about the location of the time capsule. We know the original capsule was dug up and opened, new things were put in and then reburied. At this time, we don't know where it was reburied.
- Theresa will research news articles for more information

Gilchrist Cemetery

- No plan for ceremony due to damage. Jennifer will ask Public Works if a ceremony could be held away from fencing at the front.

Citizen Input

- Gene Murtha called attention to the new city council and the A.C. Freeman House

Member Input

Stephen R. Deutsch: Most of the parks are closed due to Hurricane Ian, there was \$140 million in damage. Early February may open some parts of William R Gaines Jr Veterans Memorial Park. Looking for possible museums that would accept items from the 1800's – 1900's.

Stephen Valdes: PG Historic District has 4 or 5 owners who are leaving the area form being tired of hurricanes.

Theresa Murtha: Southern Supper date has changed to March 8th. It will be held at the Church of the Good Shepard; tickets are currently on sale. Practicing mobility is very important as you age.

Karen Hartman: Recently donated antique book series to Boca Grande library.

Deborah Finch: Recent news article regarding the Bunk House that stated sales tax will be used to relocate BH – Jennifer confirmed no decisions have been made and it will be discussed further in a February workshop.

Meeting adjourns

- Next meeting is on January 8th, 2025, at 9am, in the Centennial Park large conference room in Port Charlotte. All HAC meetings throughout 2025 will be held here.