



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Final Historic and Cultural Advisory Board

Thursday, May 9, 2019

6:00 PM

CITY HALL ROOM 244

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE 06-13-2019 MEETING.

1. Call to Order

Chair Sterner called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present 5 - Chair Chris Sterner, Vice-Chair Bill Goetz, Board Member Joan Morgan, Board Member Michelle Calhoun, and Board Member Skip Felicita

Also Present:

City Planner and Staff Liaison Allison Christie, and Recording Secretary Susan Hale.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes

- A. [19-0456](#) Minutes for the April 11, 2019 Regular Meeting.

A motion was made by Board Member Morgan, seconded by Board Member Calhoun, to approve the April 11, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

6. Presentations

- A. [19-0479](#) Sarasota County Centennial Celebration Steering Committee Chair Frank Castle and Historical Resources Manager Robert Bendus: Sarasota County Centennial Celebration

Steering Committee Chair Frank Cassell of the Sarasota County Centennial Celebration, and Sarasota County Historical Commission Resources Manager Robert Bendus provided an overview of the Sarasota County Centennial in 2021 including the growth of the County, components of the year-long celebration including a recently published book, volunteering at events, neighborhood historical markers, creating community archives, community centennial committees, a Centennial Committee Fact Sheet, and noted an invitation was extended to send a representative from North Port to serve on the Centennial Committee.

Mr. Bendus spoke to the Sarasota County Historical and Preservation Coalition, the preservation of cultural resources, and noted he will email additional information to Board Liaison Christie who will forward it to Board Members.

Ms. Christie spoke to providing North Port homeowners association information to Mr. Bendus and Mr. Cassell.

Mr. Cassell stated that July 1, 1921 was the first day of incorporation of Sarasota County.

Discussion took place regarding the events planned by the City for its 60th Anniversary working up to Sarasota County's celebrations, ways to attract tourists to the County event, how the history of North Port is tied to Port Charlotte, the historical book "Out of the Wilderness" about North Port, and oral histories of North Port that are being recorded for a repository.

Mr. Bendus spoke to keeping things in a Sarasota County repository and the restoration of the fountain at "The Three Graces" on U.S. 41 near Warm Mineral Springs.

Discussion continued regarding combining the final ceremony for the restoration of the sculpture in conjunction with Sarasota County event and the City's 60th Anniversary event.

7. Unfinished Business

A. [19-0480](#) Vice Chair Goetz: Update and Possible Discussion on Draft Letter to Commission

Board Member Goetz spoke to the draft letter to the Commission and distributed it to Board Members for review.

Discussion ensued regarding clarifications of what the Board is requesting in the letter, discussing the document in detail next month, making direct statements with a concluding paragraph with bullet points, and including information regarding what constitutes a Certified Government.

8. New Business

A. [19-0481](#) Discussion of Future Development of Publicly-Owned Historic and Cultural Resources to Come Before the Board

Discussion ensued regarding a Board concern that the Members should be advised prior to any development in the City that may have a historical or archaeological effect and to include that concern in the letter to the Commission.

Board Member Goetz clarified that the section to be included in the letter to the Commission will read as follows: "Our board again applauds this Commission's continuing work to preserve our past for posterity and would like to also be conferred with by staff for our expert advice concerning our shared historical and cultural resources on any future city projects."

Ms. Christie confirmed that a text amendment to the Unified Land Development Code would be needed for the Board Members to be included in a development's process.

A motion was made by Board Member Felicita, seconded by Board Member Morgan, to include the Board's concern as stated in the letter to the Commission, that City staff confer with the Board for advice concerning our historical and cultural resources on any future City projects. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

B. [19-0483](#)

Discussion of Possible Mission Statement for the Board

Chair Sterner introduced the item.

Discussion ensued regarding elements for a Mission Statement, and the mission statement being included at the beginning of the letter to the Commission.

A motion was made by Board Member Morgan, seconded by Board Member Felicita, to approve the Board's Mission Statement as: Working to preserve North Port's history for future generations. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

9. Updates

A. [19-0482](#)

Update from Board Member Calhoun on Possible History Video

Board Member Calhoun stated she scheduled a meeting next week with Dr. Woodson, Director of Outreach for New College, to determine how the College and the City can work together to make a public service announcement (PSA) video to promote oral history submissions from citizens.

Discussion ensued regarding subjects/issues to discuss with Dr. Woodson to facilitate cooperation between the City and New College: a PSA on the local radio station WKDW requesting historical information from listeners, determining the progress and approval for the partnership of Time Sifters with the New College's public archaeology lab, designating a repository at City Hall where residents may contribute historical items, organizing the archaeological excavation project, presenting the proposal to the Commission for approval, possible grant funding, volunteer workers, looters of North Port historical sites, local undiscovered Indian sites and protection of them, hiding archaeological sites vs. public knowledge of them, and the preservation actions of sacred sites by some developers.

10. Future Agenda Items

Items for the next agenda include: a report by Board Member Calhoun regarding setting the groundwork for doing archaeological work, a Resolution regarding Sarasota County's Centennial Celebration, a review of the Boca Grand materials regarding oral histories, and identifying what the City is planning for its 60th Anniversary.

Discussion ensued regarding making interview videos with a green screen, locations to hold oral history events, advertising with posters, and historical items that were given for safe keeping to the City during the 50th Anniversary celebrations.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

12. Adjournment

Chair Sterner adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Chris Sterner,
Chair

Minutes were approved at the Historic and Cultural Advisory Board meeting this ____ day
of _____, 2019.