

**Historic Preservation Board
Pinellas County
January 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The Historic Preservation Board (HPB) met in regular session pursuant to Section 146, Pinellas County Code, at 1:02 PM on this date in the County Commission Assembly Room at the Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida.

Present

Brian Scott, Chair, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) (appeared virtually)
Allison Dolan, Vice-Chair, Clearwater Historic Society
James Bachteler, Community Advocate (alternate)
Jeffrey Brown, Real Estate Broker
Tina Bucuvalas, Folklorist
Joseph Oliveri, Architect
Ramona Pletcher, Real Estate Appraiser
Brian Smith, Planning

Not Present

Gregory Cahanin, Building and Fire Code
Michael Fridovich, Community Advocate
Vincent Luisi, Dunedin Historical Museum
Hillary Van Dyke, Green Book of Tampa Bay (alternate)

Others Present

Derrill McAteer, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Tom Scofield, Housing and Community Development Principal Planner/Staff Liaison to the Board
Franchesca DiNapoli, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk
Other interested individuals

All documents provided to the Clerk's Office have been made a part of the record.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Scott requested that the members introduce themselves and welcomed new Board members Joseph Oliveri and Hillary Van Dyke; whereupon, Mr. Oliveri provided brief

comments regarding his background. Mr. Scofield noted that Ms. Van Dyke was unable to attend today's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dolan and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Election of Vice-Chair

Chair Scott introduced the item and opened the floor for nominations; whereupon, following a query by Mr. Smith, Ms. Dolan indicated that she would be agreeable to continue serving as Vice-Chair.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith to re-appoint Allison Dolan as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bucuvalas and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Proposed Anclote Village Local Historic District – Dr. Linda Stevenson, University of Florida Historic Preservation Program

Mr. Scofield introduced Dr. Stevenson, noting that she has been contracted by the County to study the Anclote Village area and to complete a background assessment and analysis for a proposed historic district.

Dr. Stevenson related that she would be discussing initial findings from a historical resource survey in which the Anclote Village community was included and the significance of the Village; whereupon, referring to a presentation titled *Anclote Village Historic Designation Study 1*, she utilized maps, charts, and photographs and provided information regarding location, physical description, architectural significance of structures, Florida Master Site File recordings, criteria for site significance, and key features.

Dr. Stevenson indicated that the next step in the process will be to meet with residents to gauge interest in a historic district designation; and that community benefits related to a designation include eligibility for the County's ad valorem tax exemption, as well as a potential exemption regarding the Special Flood Hazard Area requirement to elevate properties.

Responding to a query by Mr. Smith, Dr. Stevenson indicated that of 39 structures studied during the survey, 33 could possibly be significant for contributing to a historic district designation.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the potential elevation exemption; whereupon, Mr. Scofield related that the City of St. Pete Beach has a historic district in a coastal storm area; that the exemption is offered to properties with a historic designation; and that the City may be able to provide input.

Mr. Scofield, in response to queries by Mr. Smith, indicated that the Anclote Village designation would be similar to the historic district in Palm Harbor and would be treated as a zoning overlay; that the next step in the process will be to schedule a meeting with the property owners, as required by ordinance; and that while no action is required at today's meeting, staff is attempting to locate a place near Anclote Village where a special Board meeting could be held to speak with the property owners.

Preservation Property Tax Exemption Application for 1123 Florida Avenue

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Scofield indicated that historic property tax applications are not normally brought to the Board's attention; that he is bringing this particular one forward for informational purposes only, due to it being the first application from an unincorporated area; and that the building is the former Masonic Lodge in the downtown Palm Harbor Historic District.

Mr. Scofield provided an overview of Chapter 118, Article V, in the Pinellas County Code, which addresses the Historic Property Tax Exemption and discussed details related to the approval process for the above-referenced application; whereupon, brief discussion ensued.

WORK PLAN UPDATES

Review of 2024 Work Plan

Noting that the Historic Preservation Summit is typically held in May, Mr. Scofield discussed an upcoming meeting to work out details of holding the event at the Innisbrook Resort, noted that Main Street Palm Harbor is a partner for this year's Summit, and requested input from the Board regarding interest in forming a subcommittee to assist with various aspects of preparation; whereupon, Messrs. Bachteler and Brown and Meses. Dolan and Bucuvalas indicated their willingness to serve on the subcommittee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

CHAIR/BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS

As a follow-up from a previous meeting, Mr. Smith requested a discussion related to updating the historical background of Pinellas County which appears in a document produced by the County's Planning Department; whereupon, Mr. Scofield indicated this will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Scofield indicated that Dr. Thomas Pluckhahn, with the University of South Florida, is available in February or March to provide a presentation regarding the Native American burial mound located at Philippe Park. After brief discussion, the members indicated that they would prefer to have the presentation at their March meeting.

In response to queries regarding Philippe Park, Mr. Scofield indicated that he is not aware of an official effort to change its name; that it would be difficult to display artifacts there due to the lack of a secure facility; that grant funding may be received for an interpretive sign program; and that there is a picnic pavilion which may be decommissioned if a burial ground is in its vicinity.

Chair Scott recognized Louise Goetz and her hard work for successfully obtaining a \$6,500 grant for the Palm Harbor Main Street Program.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 PM.