

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HISTORICAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING

August 20, 2009

Members Present: Don Epps, Eunice Mann, Robert Hughes, John Richardson, Ed L'Hereux, Ettie-Jane Keogh, Rosalie Cook, Cecil Tucker, Alex Dickison, Jon Batman, John Bistline, Beverly Mason

Members Absent: Jan Jernigan, Paul Zuromski, Lillian Griffin

Staff Present: Julia Thompson, Kim Nelson

Location: Museum of Seminole County History
300 Bush Blvd. Sanford Fl 32773

Don Epps called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. There is a **quorum** present.

Opening ceremonies: The Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation

Don asked if there were changes to the minutes from the June meeting. Beverly said to correct "really in" to "really is" on page 3 under the Sanford Herald digitization project. Also under members absent, John Batman's name should be spelled "Jon." Don then motioned that the minutes be accepted as amended and the motion was seconded by Jon Batman. It passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Historical Markers: Don recapped the Casselberry Historical Marker dedication. The Casselberry family was there in force and enjoyed the event. The mayor of Casselberry was enthusiastic also. There was discussion about another marker to be put on an old Casselberry home. Don invited everyone to the Wagner dedication ceremony this Saturday.

Karen brought up the location of the Wagner marker. Kim located the marker in Central Winds Park because it was as close as possible to the boundary line of the Wagner settlement. Discussion about the location of the Gabriella marker ensued. Kim suggested Karen recommend a location for the marker. Julia suggested the marker committee identify a location for the Gabriella marker.

Museum Annual Report: Julia stated that the Annual report which summarized the Museum's achievements in the past year was given to the elected officials and they were reassured the inventory was complete and delivered to Risk Management.

Committees: Volunteer assignments added were:

Exhibits Committee: Cecil Tucker, Robert Hughes

Education Committee: Rosalie Cook

Historical Marker Committee: Eunice Mann

Julia suggested when the committees meet, that their meeting needs to be announced as per the Sunshine Law. Posting on the Museum website is sufficient notice.

Jon Batman asked about the status of the Oral History Project's agreement with OCRHC. Julia stated that we can proceed with an agreement. Kim will handle the next step in that process.

Cattle Industry Marker text: Cecil handed out another version of copy for the Cattle Industry marker. Alex recommended a date be inserted in the second sentence for clarification. The previous text was passed out. Don asked members to evaluate the copy and bring suggestions to the next meeting.

Miniature Exhibit: The opening earlier this month had 45 people in attendance, including representatives from Altamonte Springs government and Joy Dickinson from the *Sentinel*.

Sanford Herald Digitization Project: Julia stated the project has been recommended for elimination due to budget restrictions and that it is on permanent hold. We are still trying to get ownership declaration from the former owner to satisfy the County attorney. Karen gave a history of the project. A meeting with Gene Kruckemyer, the Herald's publisher, is scheduled for September 9. Julia said her primary concern is to protect that asset, but that the County doesn't want to be responsible for storage if the project doesn't happen. Discussion followed.

New Business:

Absentee Policy: Julia recommended adopting an absentee policy similar to the Leisure Services Board. She will send out a sample of their policy with the minutes and would like to vote on it at the next meeting. It states that 3 unexcused absences would result in removal, but the Board has the power to excuse absences. Discussion ensued.

Programming: Museum Saturday on September 26 is on temporary hold. Kim said the date may be changed because of a conflict with the Smithsonian Institute's Museum Day on the same date. Discussion followed.

Cecil said some names on the Cattle Exhibit sign are incorrect and recommended they be corrected. He said that Ed L'Hereux would be speaking at the September 24 Society meeting. Kim listed the Celery City Cruisers Car Show on November 14 and the St. Lucia Festival on Dec. 12 as upcoming programs.

Museum Report:

Kim handed out the Museum Report and an attendance sheet listing a comparison of attendance figures from 2007-8 and 2008-9. She said that July was a record-breaking month for the Museum this year.

Don asked Julia about the County's progress on a budget and whether the Museum was in danger. Julia said she didn't think so.

Society Report: Karen Jacobs gave the Society report. She said she won't be able to attend meeting for the next couple of months. Julia asked her for a list of upcoming Society events.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.