



HISTORIC RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HRAC)

Anna Brady - Citizen-at-Large [Vacant] - Citizen-at-Large
Ruth Stanbridge - County Historian Gene Roddenberry - Attorney

Chris Crawford, Architect, Chairman
Wesley Davis, Non-voting Commissioner Liaison

The **HISTORIC RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will meet at **2:00 p.m.** **ON THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2007**, in **First Floor Conference Room A** of the County Administration Building, 1840 25th Street, Vero Beach.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Chris Crawford, Chairman
2. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Approval of Minutes of September 28, 2006 Meeting
4. Discussion on Recognition of Old Dixie Highway as an Historic Road
5. Other Business
 - a. Status Report on Countywide Archaeological Survey Update
 - b. Status Report on Application for Countywide Historic Structures Survey Update
 - c. Status Report on Historic/Cultural Heritage Projects Acquired under the County Environmental Lands Program
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

cc: Roland DeBlois Will Collins Beth Powell Robert Keating Scott Johnson
 Jim Davis Joe Baird Darcy Vasilas Andy Sobczak Press

Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the County's ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator at 226-1223, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Anyone who may wish to appeal any decision made at this meeting will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

HISTORIC RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC) on Thursday, September 28, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. in First Floor Conference Room "A" of the County Administration Building, 1840 25th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were Chairman Chris Crawford, Architect Appointee; Anna J. Brady, Citizen-at-Large Appointee; and Ruth Stanbridge, County Historian.

Absent were Kathleen Smith, Vice Chairman; Gene Roddenberry, Attorney Appointee, and Wesley Davis, Commissioner Liaison (all excused).

Also present were IRC Staff: William G. Collins II, County Attorney; Michael Zito, Assistant County Administrator; Roland DeBlois, Environmental & Code Enforcement Chief; Andy Sobczak, Environmental Planner; and Misty L. Pursel, Staff Assistant III. Others present: Reverend Gary Isner, Roseland Methodist Church; Pat Hedman, President of The Friends of Historic Roseland; Jackie James, Joan Reed, Tracy Sabol, Cy Carlson, and Emil Schwartz, Interested Citizens; Pam Cooper, IRC Main Library; and Henry Stephens, Press Journal.

Call to Order

Chairman Crawford called the meeting to order and read a statement from Commissioner Liaison Wesley Davis sending his regrets for nonattendance due to a prior commitment to attend the Florida Association of Counties Policy Committee meeting in Clearwater, Florida. A copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Approval of Minutes of the May 11, 2006 Meeting

Chairman Crawford asked for the following change to be made to the May 11, 2006 minutes:

1. On Page 1, the first portion of the second paragraph should read "Present were members: Chairman Chris Crawford, Architect Appointee."

ON MOTION BY Mrs. Stanbridge, SECONDED by Mrs. Brady, the members voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the May 11, 2006 minutes, as amended.

Consideration of Request from Friends of Historic Roseland that Roseland (or portion thereof) be Formally Designated a Historic District

Mr. Roland DeBlois, IRC Environmental & Code Enforcement Chief, introduced Andy Sobczak, IRC Environmental Planner, and referenced handout materials, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. DeBlois advised Roseland's level of historic designation was considered and it was concluded to establish a National Historic Registry designation. Mr. DeBlois referred to the handout page indicating 33 identified structures in the 1989 Historic Properties Survey with street addresses and the year built, ranging from 1900 until 1930. He noted the general definition for a historic structure must be at least 50 years old to qualify.

Mr. DeBlois further advised the County recently received approval for a state grant to conduct an updated archeological survey with visualization of the 1989 Historic Properties Survey. The updated survey would then be introduced as Phase II of the application for funding in the current cycle.

Mr. DeBlois stated the processes involved in determining how the properties were to be reviewed were outlined in the handout. He further stated once the determination of what properties were to be within a certain district, every property owner would be notified and given the opportunity to comment on the designation and whatever implications accompanied it.

Mr. DeBlois pointed out if the County went through the process, established a district, and obtained National Registry designation, it would continue to be the owner's option to do what they wanted with their property. Mr. DeBlois advised once the official designation or recognition was made, should the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) wish to regulate properties within that district to establish perimeters, regulations or restrictions they would be deemed separate issues.

Mr. DeBlois reported professionals would be systematically hired to update the survey, document and update all structures in Roseland, evaluate eligibility for listing, make recommendations on the district, submit documentation to the state and ultimately determine whether it qualified for a district. Mr. DeBlois continued once designated, depending upon the expectation, the next part of the process would be for the County to set up a master plan, ordinances on restrictions such as architectural recommendations and limits on what someone who owned a historic structure could or could not do with their property.

Mr. DeBlois related implications to be considered would include a property owner within that local district whose ability to put up hurricane/storm protection windows, put in a pool, or any modification not consistent with the historical district would be affected.

Mrs. Brady interjected there were incentives for anyone who owned commercial properties in a National Registered district; however there would be no local incentives. Mrs. Brady explained this was the reason municipalities would establish a local ordinance.

Mr. DeBlois recommended an evaluation of the Roseland area for historic properties and district eligibility for the National Register to include an update to the 1989 Historic Properties Survey with the assistance of the Division of Historic Preservation to update the grant. Mr. DeBlois explained the first part of the grant process would be to contract with a professional to update the survey, submit the information to the state, making recommendations on the district and track through the local ordinances for the specific designated districts.

Mr. DeBlois communicated the second part of the grant process would depend upon whether the district qualified for National Registry, and whether the County would proceed with establishing a local district with local ordinances, perimeters, and restrictions, which would then be subjected to discussion and the public hearing process.

Mrs. Stanbridge confirmed the grant cycle began October 1 through December 15, 2006.

Mrs. Pat Hedman, President of The Friends of Historic Roseland, distributed handout materials, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office. Mrs. Hedman advised the goal was to establish a committee within themselves and The Friends of Historic Roseland to discuss the issue of having Roseland declared a historic district.

Mrs. Hedman referred to the first page of the handout showing a map of 82nd and 83rd Avenues, south of the Sebastian River and west of the railroad tracks and then north of Roseland Road; two small streets consisting of two blocks. She then referred to the second page indicating what was already designated and recognized on the state historic registry.

Mrs. Hedman portrayed plans to achieve National Registry status along with historic site recognition. She further advised at this point in time, the homes were not going to be entered into it, other than what was needed for documentation. Mrs. Hedman asked the committee to set the guidelines for what needed to be done.

Mr. DeBlois questioned Mrs. Hedman regarding her vision of the outcome of the designation in having the County adopt regulations limiting conversion of historic properties to nonhistoric use. Mrs. Hedman answered negatively and stated should an individual wish to have their home placed on the National Registry as a historic site home, it would be accomplished on an individual basis.

Mrs. Brady summarized the interest was to establish a National Registry within a Historic District. She explained this would mean in the district all the buildings would be recorded with some contributing buildings and some noncontributing, with no local review process.

Mrs. Brady advised two separate mechanisms could be utilized for municipalities: the National Registry process and the local ordinance district. She further advised from a planning perspective, looking at different neighborhoods and commercial downtowns, utilizing both tools would provide maximum benefit with protection of historic resources, stabilizing property values and incentives for rehabilitation.

Mr. DeBlois interjected the summary handout outlined certain federal benefits of potential income tax credits pending upon renovations, as well as with the Federal Emergency Management Agency with rebuilding.

Mrs. Stanbridge added state amendments passed several years ago offered local governments the option of tax incentives for local designated properties.

Mr. DeBlois recapped the time frame for incorporating the designation on the National Registry and submitting the grant for updating the Historic Properties survey was by December 15, 2006.

Discussion ensued regarding the boundaries of what the district would include. Mrs. Brady advised the boundaries would be formed after the results of the survey were prepared.

ON MOTION BY Mrs. Stanbridge, SECONDED by Mrs. Brady, the members voted unanimously (3-0) to recommend the Board of County Commissioners make application to the state for a grant to financially support the update of the 1989 Historic Properties Survey; to include a comprehensive investigation, documentation, evaluation to include Roseland and submission for district registry.

Discussion on Replacement of Historic Marker and Conservation of Fort Vinton Site in Western Indian River County

Mr. DeBlois referenced handout materials he found on the internet, as well as handout information provided by Pam Cooper from the IRC Main Library; copies of which are on file in the Commission Office. Mr. DeBlois indicated the reference to location from the internet placed the Fort at 2.39 nautical miles south of State Road (S.R.) 60 and .4 miles west of the intersection of S.R. 60 and 122nd Avenue. He further stated with the use of Geographic Information Systems the Fort was located at a grove property privately owned by Dunn Groves & Ranch, LLC.

Chairman Crawford introduced Mrs. Pam Cooper, Supervisor, Archive Center & Genealogy Department of the IRC Main Library.

Mrs. Cooper referenced handout materials, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office. Mrs. Cooper discussed the many sources of the library having been from the National Archives which provided four different names for the Fort; one having been erroneously named Penton, in the 1800's. Mrs. Cooper further advised the Archives identified the Fort at the same spot as the actual Fort Vinton through the exact latitude and longitude, township, range and section.

Mrs. Cooper proposed the following suggestions:

1. A wayside be created for the marker around 122nd Avenue and S.R. 60;
2. A new marker be reworded (see Page 2 of the handout); and
3. Add a kiosk (see Page 1 of the handout) with key historical points.

Mrs. Cooper highlighted findings from some of the research conducted and included in the handout materials, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office.

Discussion ensued regarding financing waysides, markers and kiosks.

Discussion continued regarding trails documented with photos, ledgers, and correspondence now cataloged and available at the IRC local libraries.

Further discussion ensued regarding financing for the marker. Mrs. Stanbridge advised she would work with IRC Office of Management and Budget for available funds.

Chairman Crawford volunteered to coordinate possible location and development of the right-of-way with the Florida Department of Transportation through the IRC Metropolitan Planning Organization, and bring the information to the next meeting scheduled for December 14, 2006, for recommendation.

ON MOTION BY Mrs. Stanbridge, SECONDED by Mrs. Brady, the members voted unanimously (3-0) to recommend the Board of County Commissioners to review and support Mrs. Cooper's suggestions regarding the location and creation of a wayside, a marker and its wording outlined in the handout, along with a kiosk noting key historical points.

Old Business

a. Status Report on Countywide Archaeological Survey Update

Mr. DeBlois advised a grant award agreement had been submitted to the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, for Grant-In-Aid Assistance for an Indian River Countywide Archeological Survey Update Project. He explained the breakdown of costs to perform this survey was an award of \$9,464.00 from the state with matching funds of \$10,536.00 coming from Indian River County. Mr. DeBlois stated the next step was to develop a request for a proposal and through the scope of work for Mr. Andy Sobczak, IRC Environmental Planner, to provide progress updates

Mrs. Brady inquired about going forward with the current budget. Mr. DeBlois advised in the affirmative; stating once the proposals have been received, the matter would go back to the BCC and most likely increase commitment to more than 50%.

Mrs. Stanbridge inquired whether it was possible to supplement the budget with land acquisition property dollars. Mr. DeBlois stated there was a possibility.

Mr. DeBlois advised Mr. Sobczak had been working on digitizing Mrs. Stanbridge's maps of the trails and red flagging the address screens on the computer system to ensure any properties known to be where the trails were, would be reviewed.

Mrs. Brady offered to provide names of staff persons to assist with addresses.

Mrs. Stanbridge advised St. John's River Water Management District (SJRWD) had purchased properties in Indian River County scheduled to be flooded. She stated both properties needed to be reviewed by an archeologist and be made aware of the possible burial sites.

Mr. DeBlois referred to a presentation, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office. He stated SJRWMD was swapping approximately 6,300 acres with Fellsmere Joint Venture Property. He further advised the property was currently not designated on the Land Use Map as public conservation land and the designation would need to change. Mr. DeBlois mentioned through the designation change process, the archeological review may be addressed.

b. Status Report on Archie Smith Fish House Acquisition and Restoration

Mr. DeBlois referred to a presentation made to the Land Acquisition Advisory Committee at their June 28, 2006 meeting, copies of which are on file in the Commission Office. He advised the Archie Smith Fish House, also known as Johnny Mays Fish House, had been approved for acquisition and was on the National Historic Registry. He mentioned along with the fish house, there were also three related parcels approved for acquisition, all under the Judah Family control.

Mr. DeBlois discussed the concept of restoring the fish house and dock, demolition of western structure and converting the area into a parking lot/open space area to access the riverfront. He advised the Commission had directed staff to establish a steering committee to include commercial fishermen and historians, with the concept of adoptable fishing or research use to mimic or adopt the fishery's use of the dock at the fish house, as well as include a museum display.

Discussion returned to the SJRWMD land acquisition.

New Business

Mrs. Stanbridge mentioned calls she had received concerning County sidewalks placed over archeological sites; one specifically was on Indian River Drive at The Inlet at Sebastian.

Mr. DeBlois countered this site was being reviewed closely and he was not aware of any sidewalk placed over any midden area.

Mrs. Stanbridge inquired to whether there was a voice from the Historic Resources Advisory Committee involved with the Land Acquisition Advisory Board projects. Mr. DeBlois responded in the affirmative and provided an outline of the category criteria and offered to email same to committee members.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.