

Historical Advisory Committee (HAC)
Meeting Minutes April 13, 2016
Meeting held at the Mid County Regional Library.

Committee Members

Sue Blackwell (62/85)
Emma-Lou Craig (14/18)
Michael Haymans (35/68)
Carol Leonard (10/14)
Dianne Munson (17/27)
Gene Murtha (7/13)
Larry Peck (20/27)
Scot Shively (77/82)
Pat Spence (7/10)

Present

Emma-Lou Craig
Carol Leonard
Dianne Munson
Larry Peck
Scot Shively
Pat Spence

Not Present

Sue Blackwell
Michael Haymans
Gene Murtha

BOCC Liaison:

Stephen R. Deutsch

Guests

Valerie Colbert--DAR

Staff

Maryanne Sharkey, Community Services
Lanette Hart, Manager, Library & History

9:00 a.m. Call to Order, Roll Call – The March meeting minutes were read, motion to approve by Dianne Munson and second by Emma-Lou Craig. Motion carried to approve.

Old Business:

Lanette Hart is working with legal to get some of the siding for the Cigar House. There is approximately 10 boards are usable. Lanette will continue to work with legal on this.

The search for a Historian for the History Center continues.

New Business:

Scot Shively went over the past Historical Connections Conferences and explained it is a good opportunity to come together and discuss local history especially since a lot of the local non-profit organizations do it differently. Sarasota, Lee and DeSoto Counties were invited in the past conferences. March 29, 2012 was the first conference with 45 attendees. May 8, 2014 was the second conference with 27 attendees.

Discussion was made on a date for the next Historical Connections Conference, being sure it does not coincided with another big event going on at the same time. Date was suggested of March 8, 2017, which would be before the Florida Conference of Historians and would enable us to promote it. Suggestions for the locations were the Port Charlotte Beach Complex, Mid County Regional Library or Murdock Admin. Building B. Lanette will look for the availability of a room for this conference. Suggestions were made for the topics at the conference: Bucky McQueen offered to pay for a document conservationist to do a workshop; another is a County wide Oral History Program which would be a good way to record history from people who have been in Charlotte County for decades. Member will bring ideas of topic for the conference to the next several meetings.

This year the Florida Conference of Historians will be held in Charlotte County at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center on March 10 – 12, 2017 and the Historical Center will be presenting at this conference.

Railroad Trestle: Need to take more of it down and continue to utilize one or both ends for fishermen. Discussion was made if this would be an appropriate place to have a marker on railroad history, phosphate industry, steamboats.

Historical Development/Reviews:

30329 Cedar Rd. Punta Gorda (Shell Creek)—installation of accordion storm shutters.
2 new reviews came in for a trail park for upgrades to some tie downs.

Archives & Collections:

Object collections accession/reorganization is on-going at Grace St. and the Englewood Charlotte Archives. Englewood Archive Friends have purchased and donated a scanner and will have a photo opportunity on April 14 at 2:30pm.

Historical Markers:

PGAAF marker with PGAA signage—still waiting on PGAA.

McCall marker Lanette is working with Natural Resources to identify a specific spot to install the marker, with the dedication taking place in early summer.

Carol Leonard stated the \$185 raised by the Englewood Archive Friends would go toward another marker in the Englewood area since the McCall marker was already paid for.

Gilchrest mini marker will be placed on his plot.

Question was asked about renaming the Tom Adams Bridge to Chadwick Bridge. Research would need to take on what was the original reason the bridge was named. Whether the bridge is renamed or not the marker could talk about when it was Chadwick Beach and all of the names that it has been called. Need to make sure Englewood area is involved.

Scot the will bring a new list for markers to next meeting and will put the bridge on the list.

Scot spoke about the George Brown property in Cleveland. He attended a 100 year anniversary of him. The Blanchard House is working with the trailer park who now owns the land to nominate something to go to the Smithsonian Museum.

Citizen Input:

Valerie Colbert of DAR looking forward to continue working with the HAC and Charlotte County.

Have raised the funds for the Hickory Bluff Mound marker.

Finalizing adopting the Hickory Bluff Cemetery. Have a Master Gardner that will work on the native planting and DAR will start taking care of the cemetery.

Member Input:

Members discussed the need to think about a historical calendar. There is a need to create one as a clearing house for all of the historical items with all the different organizations.

Members shared information on the different organizations they are involved in.

Adjournment –10:05 AM

Next HAC Meeting:- 9 A.M., Wednesday, May 11, 2016 to be held at Mid-County Regional Library, 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd., Port Charlotte

cc:

Commissioner Ken Doherty
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Commissioner Bill Truex,
Commissioner Christopher Constance

Commissioner Tricia Duffy
Ray Sandroek, County Administrator
Kelly Shoemaker, Deputy County Administrator
Tommy Scott, Director, Community Svcs Dept.