



City of Sanibel

800 Dunlop Road
Sanibel, FL 33957

Meeting Minutes - Draft Historical Preservation Committee

Thursday, April 3, 2025

9:00 AM

MacKenzie Hall - 800 Dunlop Road

1. Call To Order

City Attorney John Agnew convened the meeting at 9:00 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

City Attorney John Agnew led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Present: 3 - Committee Member Deborah Gleason, Committee Member Emilie Alfino and Committee Member Mary Jurgens

Absent: 2 - Committee Member Patricia Norton and Committee Member Yvonne Hill

a. Motion to excuse absent member(s):

4. Consent Agenda

a. Adoption of the February 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Alfino, seconded by Committee Member Gleason to approve the adoption of the February 6, 2025, meeting minutes.

Absent: 2 - Committeemember Patricia Norton and Committeemember Yvonne Hill

5. Public Comment

No public in the audience.

6. New Business

a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

City Attorney Agnew provided an overview on the process of Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Committee Member Alfino nominated Committee Member Gleason for the position of Chair. The vote carried unanimously.

Committee Member Gleason nominated Committee Member Norton for the position

of Vice Chair. The vote carried unanimously.

7. Reports

a. Planning Department Liaison Report

Planner Kim Ruiz provided a brief background and update to rules and procedures of absenteeism.

Ms. Ruiz spoke to previous agenda business regarding preservation and/or demolition of the historical structures and if there are any agenda items for the next meeting. Ms. Ruiz suggested the possibility of the committee to meet quarterly instead of monthly.

Discussion ensued regarding the application of the Dairy Queen for the Historic Registry and information provided to the current owner of the dairy queen on how to obtain approval for being added to the registry.

Committee inquired about any updates on the School House for Colored Children. Ms. Ruiz responded that she did not and that it is for sale. Discussion continued about renovations that were done on the structure.

Committee inquired about an update with the Sanibel Shops also known as the Cooper Homestead and concerns that the committee has for the building.

Discussion ensued regarding the bell at the School House for Colored Children being maintained and the sales transactions of the building.

Discussion ensued regarding new plaque signage for the historic registry. Discussion continued regarding the Heritage Trail update.

b. Chairperson's Report

Due to the Executive Director, Pam Miner of the Historical Village and Museum not being able to be in attendance, Chair Gleason provided a brief report for the Historical Village and Museum. Chair Gleason spoke to the New Board Members of the museum and a shortage of volunteers.

February Attendance Report:

- 433 Adults
- 36 Youth
- 518 attendees in total

Upcoming events:

April 7th -Free event at Shore Haven, "Jensen Family Documentary."

Chair Gleason spoke to the landscape project at the Historical Village and Muesum. Chair Gleason thanked the city for constant programs for the 50th Anniversary and provided a short list of continued upcoming events. She continued to speak to the timeline of how far the city as a whole has come.

Discussion ensued regarding the book, "Sanibel Story" by Betty Anholt.

c. Committee Member Report

Committee Member Warner spoke to discussion he had with Planner Kim Ruiz regarding offering his services on helping inquire more information on the Dairy Queen. Mr. Warner spoke to a news article from WINK News regarding the Dairy Queen and conversation he had with the owner of the Dairy Queen.

Chair Gleason spoke to being in agreeance with Ms. Ruiz with meeting quarterly rather than monthly.

Discussion ensued regarding the packing house.

Committee Member Alfino spoke to locating the historical plaque signs. Chair Gleason spoke to Committee Member Alfino working at Santiva Chronicles and suggested Ms. Alfino can report back to the Committee on discussion held at city council relating to the Historic Preservation Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding researching a manufacturing company to create new Bronze Plaques for the buildings on the historical registry.

Discussion ensued regarding making a motion to accept the donations from Ty Symroski on the February 6, 2025 meeting. Discussion continued regarding the donations.

Committee Member Jurgens moved, seconded by Chair Gleason to accept the donations from Ty Symroski and the Meyer Family on February 6, 2025 to the Historical Museum and village. The motion carried.

Absent: 2 - Committeemember Patricia Norton and Committeemember Yvonne Hill

9. Public Comment

No public in the audience at this time.

8. Next Meeting Date

- a.** Thursday, May 1, 2025 at Mackenzie Hall

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 A.M.