

In Attendance:

Officers

Dr. Frank Cassell, Chair
Betty Nugent, Vice-Chair
Dorothy Korwek, Treasurer
Laura Dean, Secretary

Representatives

Judie Bauer, Margaret Bowers, Kate Cattran,
Jim Clubb, Becky Esmus, Bill Goetz,
Lorraine Hawkins, Cathy Hollar,
Betty Intagliata, Barbara Smith

Treasury Report:

Previous Balance 9/1/2015 \$956.47

Income

None \$0.00

Expenses

printing -\$11.97

Balance 10/6/2015 \$944.50

Outstanding Dues:

Notices for 2016 will be mailed and emailed this month, and are due by the end of the December. Remember, 2016 dues are \$20.00.

**Betty Intagliata motioned to accept the Treasury Report, 2nd by Jim Clubb. Vote approved report.*

Previous Meeting Minutes:

There were no proposed corrections to the September minutes, and they were approved as written.

MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 6, 2015

TOGETHER FOR OUR SHARED PAST

HPCsc

HISTORY & PRESERVATION COALITION OF SARASOTA COUNTY

LOCATION: CHIDSEY BUILDING

Chair's Report:

- Coalition Chair, Dr. Frank Cassell discussed recent public workshops on the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan. He attended both meetings where the subject was historic preservation. About 25-30 people attended, but most were members of preservation organizations, not from the general public. Chair Cassell reports there were good discussions and speeches which should give the county much to think about during the Comp Plan review process.
- An announcement was made about the manager position at the Sarasota County History Center. At the last meeting, Sarabeth Kalajian, Director of Libraries and Historical Resources for Sarasota County, reported that interviews had been completed, and an offer made to one of the applicants to fill the manager position. Unfortunately, the applicant turned down the job, and the county is going to start the whole application and interview process all over. This concerns many of the members of the Coalition, as it further delays a lot of projects which need interaction with the History Center and its manager. Hopefully, another long round of interviews will result in a new manager being named within the next few months. Stay tuned for more information as we get it from the county.
- As of this meeting, no plans have been made for the annual HPCsc social event. In the past, a member organization has hosted an event which benefitted their group, and acted as the annual HPC party. This year, no group has come forward with an event, so Chair Cassell suggests we shelve the annual event for January, and perhaps hold our own event at a later date. More discussion on this topic at future meetings.

Old Business:



Friends of the Sarasota County History Center President, Betty Intagliata, took meeting attendees on a tour of the Chidsey Building. She updated us on the progress of getting exhibits installed, and readying the facility to be open to the public. Volunteers are needed to greet visitors, sell items from the small Gift Shop, and give tours of our permanent and rotating exhibits. Starting on October 12, the Chidsey hours are; Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM and/or 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Saturdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Contact Betty Intagliata at ejane5761@aol.com or call 941-484-0769 to discuss how you can volunteer.

New Business:



In an effort to increase public awareness of the Coalition, its member organizations, and the needs of historic preservation in Sarasota County, HPCsc would like to begin focusing on threatened properties. Starting with naming the top three most endangered, or little known historic sites, we will then engage in research and public relations regarding the sites. After a brief discussion, Bill Goetz suggested the first on the list should be the collection of structures at

Warm Mineral Springs that were designed by architect Jack West. In a county that often promotes its famed “Sarasota School of Architecture” mid-century designs, these buildings should be embraced as members of that style, and thus preserved. With new discussions of the changes to Warm Mineral Springs have also come rumors about demolishing these structures that are a part of the historic nature of the property and the town of North Port.

HPCsc Vice-Chair, Betty Nugent, motioned that the Coalition take action to voice our concerns for these structures by initiating public relations to educate the residents of Sarasota County about the need to preserve them. Her motion was seconded by Judie Bauer, and passed. Bill Goetz and Coalition secretary, Laura Dean, will get together and begin the process.

If you know of another historic site or structure in need of public relations focus and preservation, email Laura at laura@runjikproductions.com

Featured Member News:

This month’s Featured Members were Historic Spanish Point, and Venice Heritage, Inc..

Becky Esmus talked about the recent restorative cleaning of **Historic Spanish Point’s** prestigious Window to the Past exhibition. This unique museum structure is built inside of a prehistoric shell midden, and features artifacts and educational displays, as well as a spectacular view of the stratigraphy of the mound. This exhibit was the only of its kind for more than 20 years, where visitors are surrounded on three sides by the past. (Note; Mound House on Ft. Myers Beach also has an exhibit built into a midden, via reclaiming a mid-20th century swimming pool, that surely took inspiration from Window to the Past.) Updates to the exhibit include audio visual, but the real star is always the glass wall exposing nearly 2,000 years of history.

Also new and improved at Historic Spanish Point is the Mrs. Palmer exhibit in White Cottage. This much needed redesign still tells the story of this extraordinary woman and the importance she plays in the history of Sarasota County. Learn more about her by visiting the exhibition’s grand-reopening on October 15 4:00PM-6:00PM, or anytime the museum is open.

Check out www.historicspanishpoint.org for more information about the 30-acre jewel on Little Sarasota Bay and upcoming events or membership rates.



Dorothy Korwek gave a presentation about **Venice Heritage, Inc.** and their restoration efforts in Venice. The main project of VHI is the 1896 Lord-Higel House, the second oldest residence in Sarasota County. The home of entrepreneur Joseph Lord and newsman George Higel occupied several locations during its lifetime, but is now located behind City Hall on Granada Avenue. The City of Venice’s Historic Preservation Board saved the house from demolition. Restoration is being completed by preservationists and VHI volunteers. Learn more at www.veniceheritage.org.

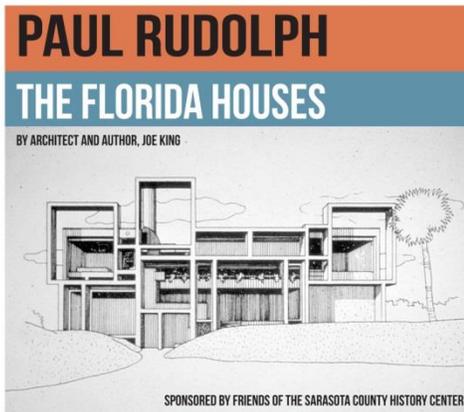
Recently, a bequest from the estate of Elaine Vassel through the Gulf Coast Community Foundation offers the chance to match dollar for dollar up to \$25,000 toward the restoration. During the past decade, individuals have donated more than \$300,000 toward the project, in addition to the countless hours of volunteer time and sweat. This chance at matching funds will help VHI to complete the final phase and create a community gathering place, an event venue, and an educational center at Lord-Higel House. A special website is set to take your donations at www.gulfcoastcf.org/lhh.php.

Let Secretary, Laura Dean know if you want to be a featured speaker at an upcoming meeting.

Upcoming Programs and Special Announcements:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015

EXHIBIT OPENING AT CHIDSEY | 701 N. TAMiami TRAIL, SARASOTA



5:30-6:30PM REFRESHMENTS/SOCIAL HOUR

6:30-7:30PM REMARKS BY JOE KING

RSVP BY OCTOBER 20TH

PHONE: (941) 484-0769

NOTE: THE FRIENDS GIFT SHOP WILL BE OPEN IF YOU WISH TO PURCHASE BOOKS OR OTHER ITEMS.

Exhibit Reception - Paul Rudolph: The Florida Houses October 23
5:30 – 7:30PM RSVP by October 20th to 941-484-0769

Victorian Funeral at Historic Spanish Point - Join fellow mourners and spectators as the grieving widow bids farewell to her beloved husband. A family-appropriate program will be held at 7:00PM and one for the general public at 9:00PM. Seating in the chapel is limited and reservations are required. \$15 non-member adult \$10 per non-member child \$8 per member adult \$4 per member child. For reservations and more information, call (941) 966-5214, ext. 2600.

Historical Society of Sarasota County Annual LeBarge Cruise - Learn local history on a cruise narrated by a noted Sarasota Historian. Enjoy the sunshine and refreshments as John McCarthy paints an enthralling portrait of the formative years in Sarasota's growth. Reservations a must! Linda's ready to take your reservations, so call her at 941-364-9076 between 10:00AM and 2:00PM Monday through Friday. \$40.00 per person \$50.00 VIP

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION TO SECRETARY, LAURA DEAN, FOR INCLUSION IN MINUTES AND ON THE COALITION FACEBOOK PAGE. laura@runjikproductions.com

Meeting Adjourned: 6:15 PM

Next Meeting: November 3, 2015 4:00 PM LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED