

In Attendance:

Officers

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

Representatives

Judie Bauer, Jim Clubb, Becky Esmus,
Larry Humes, Betty Intagliata,
Susan Ionescu, Steve Koski,
Howard Rosenthal, Gary Sanderson,
Barbara Smith, Dr. Clifford Smith

Guests

David Baber, Martha Horton,
Sarabeth Kalajian, Jennifer Perry

Treasury Report:

Previous Balance 4/7/2015 \$926.47

Income

Englewood Area Historical Museum \$10.00
Lemon Bay Historical Society \$10.00
Discover Greater Sarasota \$10.00
\$30.00

Expenses

None \$0.00

Balance 9/1/2015 \$956.47

Outstanding Dues:

Time Sifters Archaeology Society
Sarasota Alliance

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

Previous Meeting Minutes:

There was a correction to the June Minutes. Under the Special Announcements: **Venice Area Historical Society** is pleased to report the fundraising for the Circus Train Car is going so well. [**CORRECTION FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES -VAHS has raised, with a goal of \$225,000, nearly all of the funds for the circus train car. (The \$60,000 was the result of \$30,000 being raised as matches to challenge grants given by 3 Society members, one \$15,000, one \$10,000, and one \$5,000.)**] The board voted to begin the project by contacting the Florida Railroad Museum to initiate the legal agreements to transfer the car. VAHS hopes to accomplish the exterior restoration of the railcar over the summer 2015.

June Minutes were approved with this correction.

MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

TOGETHER FOR OUR SHARED PAST

HPCsc
HISTORY & PRESERVATION COALITION OF SARASOTA COUNTY

LOCATION: HISTORIC SPANISH POINT

Chair's Report:

Coalition Chair, Dr. Frank Cassell introduced Larry Humes, board president of **Venice Heritage, Inc.**, who talked about their ongoing projects and recent successes. Included, is collaboration with and support of **Venice Museum & Archives**. A new exhibit will open this fall celebrating John Nolan and his plan of Venice. If you haven't visited their website in a while, check it out www.veniceheritage.org

Venice Heritage
Florida



A second topic of the Chair's Report was a discussion about the creation of a county wide Historic Preservation Award. The **Sarasota Historical Commission** and the **Friends of the Sarasota County History Center** have already begun discussion of such an award, and Chair Cassell would like the Coalition to also be an active participant. In fact, he suggests that HPCsc take the lead in the process due to the county wide scope of

the membership. With the idea only in a very early stage of discussion, the possibilities are completely open, as to the details of the award requirements, eligibility, and type.

Coalition Vice Chair, Betty Nugent made a motion that HPCsc ask for volunteers to join a "think tank" or task force to work on the plans and timelines of the award. Gary Sanderson of **Friends of Little Salt Spring** seconded the motion, and it was approved. Chair Cassell asked that members consider volunteering for this activity, and more will be discussed at the October meeting.

Thirdly, the Chair reminds Coalition members that they may request agenda items to be discussed at monthly meetings simply by sending in writing (email fcassell@icloud.com) to Chair Cassell and Secretary Dean (email laura@runjikproductions.com). Such requests should be made at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting, unless there are special emergency circumstances.

Old Business:

On July 7, *Friends of the Sarasota County History Center's* sub-lease with Sarasota County of the Chidsey Building was unanimously approved by the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners. It became effective August 15, and FOSCHC have already begun preparations for the opening of the space and subsequent programs and exhibits. The permanent exhibits already in place will remain, but FOSCHC will focus on providing additional education and historical exhibitions in the remaining space. Also included at the Chidsey, will be a Florida Studies Research Library with books donated from Sarasota County Libraries and individuals. Stay tuned for opportunities to donate and a possible wish list of materials.



A major element of FOSCHC's stewardship of Chidsey will be public relations. Volunteers are needed to greet visitors, sell items from the small Gift Shop, and give tours of our permanent and rotating exhibits. History and Preservation Coalition members who promised to provide volunteers are asked to now begin the scheduling process. Beginning on October 1, 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 your hours.

REMEMBER, this will also be an important opportunity to promote your individual organizations with both your personal contact with visitors, and printed materials which will be on display. Together, we will make Chidsey a success and show we ALL support Sarasota County's Department of Historical Resources.

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 16 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM for the opening reception of the West Gallery exhibition, "Paul Rudolph: The Florida Houses" with remarks by architect and exhibit designer, Joe King. No reservations needed and light refreshments will be served.

Additional Old Business:

At the June meeting, a motion was passed to write a letter to the Sarasota County Administrator to express the Coalition's concerns about the many changes and empty positions at the Sarasota County History Center. Chair Cassell wrote the letter (was attached with meeting agenda) and received a response from *Thomas Harmer, the County Administrator*, (also attached with meeting agenda). In his response, Mr. Harmer encouraged the



Coalition to maintain communication with *Sarabeth Kalajian, Director of Libraries & Historical Resources*, therefore Chair Cassell invited her to the meeting to address various questions and provide updates on History Center staffing.

Ms. Kalajian also brought acting *History Center Manager, Jennifer Perry*, to the meeting. Regarding the search for a full time manager, Ms. Kalajian reports that the interview process has concluded and 40 applicants were narrowed down to six. Most or all applicants were from Florida, and many from immediate neighboring counties. She expects to have the new manager in place anywhere from three to six weeks from the date of the meeting.

The new History Center manager will be provided with administrative assistance, and will be able to focus on not only the management of the facility and staff, but also participate in public relations and educational outreach in Sarasota County. Future plans may include the process of relocation to a new Historical Resources building, and Mr. Harmer mentions collaboration with the historic preservation community vital to that process. Chair Cassell would like the Coalition to keep that in mind.

No news of filling a Historian position as of yet. Also, no announcement of a full-time Archaeologist. The new Manager likely will need to be involved with those decisions, and interview processes, so once they are settled in, those positions should be filled.

History and Preservation Coalition thanks Ms. Kalajian and Ms. Perry for taking time to attend the meeting and joining in the discussions.

New Business:

David Baber and Martha Horton from *Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation* were present to answer questions about the currently ongoing review and update of The **Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan)**. It is an official public document adopted by the Sarasota County Commission to guide decision-making related to the physical development of the county. The primary components of the Comprehensive Plan Update will include:

- Updating the appropriate baseline information of which the Comprehensive Plan is based;
- Improvement to the Plan's clarity, organization and synergies;
- Focus on lands within the Urban Service Boundary, and;
- Look for opportunities to improve the Plan's implementation.

Chapter 1 of the Comp Plan is Historic Preservation. (PDF file of Chapter 1 and Appendix A was emailed to Coalition member representatives on Wednesday, 9/2 for review.) In Cycle 6 of the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan Update, the Quality of Life section focuses on three main topics: Parks and Recreation, Historic Preservation, and Libraries. Casual public workshops will be held to allow citizen input. **IT IS VITAL THAT MEMBERS OF THE COALITION AND ITS ORGANIZATIONS BE REPRESENTED AND HEARD!**

Of particular note is the fact that the Appendix A, Section 3: Private Organizations, Local, was last updated in November 2006. It does not list History and Preservation Coalition, or many of its members. We should ALL call for another update with a complete and correct list, with ways to contact us.

Please try to attend one of the two sessions. Be sure to wear your new name badge to show you and your organization are members of the History and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota County.



Historic Preservation Workshops:

**Wednesday, Sept. 9, 4:00-6:00 PM. Jacaranda Library
4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice**

**Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:00-8:00 PM Chidsey Building
701 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota**

Another way to express your appreciation for the current plan, suggestions for additions, and any other comments is to email planner@scgov.net or take the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Cycle6HistoricPreservation>

Upcoming Programs and Special Announcements:

Venice Museum & Archives Exhibit- *Design For Living: John Nolen and the Renaissance of New Urbanism* A reception will be held on Thursday, Sept. 10th from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Museum, and the exhibit will run through January 2016.

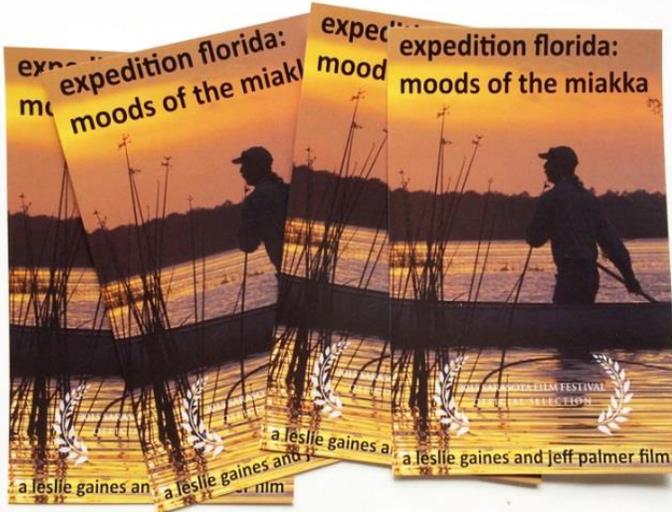
Venice Area Historical Society's fall programs will feature "Filmmaking in Florida" on October 27th with Rita Reagan of Jacksonville's Norman Studios and, November 17, "Sarasota 1920's History" with Jeff LaHurd. The series will return to Village on the Isle at 7:00 PM. Programs are free and some receive funding from the Florida Humanities Council.

The City of Venice Historic Preservation Board is updating the Historic Structures Inventory of plaques and their condition, noting if they require replacement, along with city parks location and their plaque placements as per John Nolen's landscape design.



Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society-September 8: USF Archaeologist Kara Fulton will speak on her research on Mayan culture in Belize. 7:00 PM at the North Port United Community Church, 3450 S. Biscayne Blvd. North Port.

Historical Society of Sarasota County Conversations at the Crocker- Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 PM:
Myakka, More Than The River Moderators - Jono Miller, John McCarthy, Chris Oliver and Paula Benschoff
Documentary Film – “Expedition Florida: Moods of Miakka”



This film is a celebration of the diverse landscapes and wildlife that define the Myakka, and an introduction to some of the varied people that have their own unique relationship with the river and its watershed. The stories range from ranchers like Buster Longino and Allan Horton to artists like Jean Blackburn who wades the river scanning for polychrome reflections from the sandy bottom. Scientists such as Mote Marine’s Ernie Estevez, Scientist Emeritus at Mote Marine Lab will reveal the uniqueness of the river. Efforts to protect the river by groups such as the Friends of Myakka, Myakka Conservancy, Jelks Foundation, and Myakka River Management Coordinating Council will be featured. In addition, the film will look back at Bertha Palmer and the early recognition of the special attributes of the Myakka Valley as well as the role cattle ranching has played in protection of the area.

(From the Facebook page, Expedition Florida: Moods of the Miakka)

Free to Members - \$10 to guests. Member Reception 5:30 PM.

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: 6:25 PM

Next Meeting: October 6, 2015 4:00 PM LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

The following are the dates for HPCsc meetings through December 2016

Remember all meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 4:00 PM, unless otherwise noted.

Some meetings will be field trips of special lectures instead of business type meetings. Suggestions for field trips or speakers and topics are welcome.

2015:

October 6, November 3, December 1 (may be a holiday party or field trip)

2016:

January 5, February 2, March 7, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5 (subject to change), August is skipped, September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6
