

BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2023

Members Present

Jane Beach, District V
Paula Beckner, District I
Cindy Forstall, District V
Roz Foster, District I
George Kistner, District IV - Chair
Brandon McKinney, District II
Jack Ratterman, District II – Co-Chair
Christopher Reynolds, District I
Gregg Young, District V

Others Present

Michael Boonstra, Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library, Librarian II Genealogy and Archives
Tammy Moon, Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library, Librarian I Genealogy and Archives
Bob Gross, Indian River Anthropological Society

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm, by the Chair, Mr. Kistner.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Beach, seconded by Ms. Foster, to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 Commission Meeting. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

A motion was made by Ms. Beckner, seconded by Ms. Beach, to approve the agenda. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Public Comments

Bob Gross introduced himself to the new commissioners and explained the role of the Indian River Anthropological Society. The recent donation of the Weona Cleveland collection was discussed.

Archivist Report

Michael Boonstra reported regular research requests. The department will be taking on a Summer intern from the University of Central Florida focusing on oral histories.

New Business

New Commissioner Chris Reynolds of Titusville introduced himself as a lifelong history buff with a special interest in Military History. New Commissioner Brandon McKinney has been working in local historical preservation since a teen, and is currently involved with Lawndale. His specific

interest lies in mid-19th century umbrella and parasol manufacturing. New commissioner Cindy Forstall has lived in Indialantic since 1997. Originally from Pensacola, she has long been active in the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club and works in real estate.

Old Business

Various ideas to make the production of the Indian River Journal a bit more tenable were discussed. A sub-committee was appointed by Chair George Kistner to flesh out these ideas to present at the next Historical Commission meeting consisting of Commissioners Gregg Young, Brandon McKinney and Cindy Forstall. A motion was made by Mr. McKinney, seconded by Ms. Forstall. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Roz Foster recapped the history of the Heritage Park project for the new Commission members. She reports the topographic survey and site plan have been completed and shared these with the Commissioners. Concerns remain about the moving and viability of some of the structures. Oliver's Camphouse is slated to be demolished, possibly for salvage. Shotgun houses are currently in limbo. Field Manor remains committed to the Brevard Heritage Park project and work continues forward.

Commissioners' Reports

Jack Ratterman explained to new members the role and current projects of the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency, of which he is a part.

George Kistner reported the success of the Field Manor Gala, which was also attended by Ms. Foster and Mr. Boonstra.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library, Second Floor. Meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.