

BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 25, 2023

Members Present

Jane Beach, District V
Cindy Forstall, District V
George Kistner, District IV – Chair
Martha Loss, District IV
Brandon McKinney, District II
Jack Ratterman, District II – Co-Chair
Christopher Reynolds, District I

Others Present

Michael Boonstra, Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library, Librarian II 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. Foster, seconded by Ms. Beach, to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2023 Commission Meeting. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

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

Public Comments

Bob Gross reports continued cataloging of Weona Cleveland collection. Discussion involving built over cemeteries, including a black cemetery in Hidden Creek.

Archivist Report

Michael Boonstra reported Henry Parrish is resigning from the Commission. Discussion involving follow up on the Annual report followed including ideas for increased awareness and visibility for the Commission. Mr. Boonstra announced that he will be leaving his position in this department but that he will still be in the building and available to assist if needed. Within the month, there has been 4 new additional oral histories.

New Business

Mr. Kistner discussed changing the County seal date to reflect the correct date. He has sent all the documentation to Commissioner Feltner's office with a request that it be put on the agenda. He is awaiting reply.

Old Business

Indian River Journal sub-committee. Mr. McKinney sent out an email to all members regarding the future of the journal and opened up the discussion. Options for software, format, budget and who can edit and create the Journal were all talked about. Ms. Forstall volunteered to research programs to create the Journal and will report back to the sub-committee.

Mr. Boonstra will be looking into what the policy for County Facebook pages currently entails.

Mr. McKinney discussed coordinating and exhibiting archival materials.

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.

Brevard Heritage Center at Field Manor. Mr. Ratterman discussed the progress on the project. Preliminary surveys and necessary paperwork are being done. Potential for the Center was discussed as well.

Mr. Boonstra discussed how to achieve a successful oral history. Mr. McKinney and Mr. Boonstra coordinated for a future oral history done at Lawndale.

Commissioners' Reports

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at Catherine Schweinsberg Road Central Library, Second Floor. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.