

University of Florida Historic St. Augustine, Inc. (UFHSA)

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Education, Interpretation and Facilities Committee Meeting

April 15, 2016

UF Planning Design, & Construction Conference Room, 232 Stadium

VIA Conference Call: 352-273-4024

Time Convened: 10:04 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:34 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Chair, Roy Hunt

Via Phone: Michael Gannon, Arva Moore Parks, Bill Proctor and Herschel Shepard

Others Via Phone: Matt Armstrong, Dixie Neilson, Cindy Stavely and Billy Triay

Committee Members Absent: Rick Gonzalez, Larry Rivers and Tracy Upchurch

Others Present: Linda Dixon, John Nemmers, Ed Poppell and Lora Smith

Chair Hunt suggested that the first order of business be to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held February 11, 2016. Committee member Gannon moved to approve, committee member Shepard seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Chair Hunt called for the review of the educational grant program. At the last meeting/teleconference the committee approved the oral history grant to Paul Ortiz, with funds to be disbursed over a 2 year period. Ed Poppell has spoken to Dr. Ortiz. Mr. Poppell informed the group that Dr. Ortiz agreed to the terms of the grant.

Chair Hunt reviewed the FLMNH proposal "Before and After the Melting Pot". In this proposal 7 different families who were important in early St. Augustine will be spotlighted. The committee had been concerned about principal investigators on issue is now resolved. The Chair would like to see approval for this proposal. Mr. Poppell wanted to mention that the grant is cheaper now due to reduced travel costs. Committee member Parks moved to approve, committee member Gannon seconded and the proposal was approved.

Chair Hunt reviewed the Colonial Quarter proposal next. At the next board meeting everyone will be updated by Dean Reid's group on the project. As of now, they have reviewed and recommended to the board that 2 new entrances be added and the gift shop should be converted into a new food venue. They were asked to look at the modifications of the building. Food venue names are not on the agenda today. Mr. Poppell asked for input from the Croce team. Cindy Stavely states that they would like approval for 2 new entrances, one near the watch tower and the second entrance near the DeMesa House. Mr. Shepard recommends the Florencia and Triay House be returned to restaurant and retail. He would approve the 2 new entrances pending design approval. This is a concern for him. Mr. Poppell states the changes to the gift shop will also need state approval and encourages the committee to move forward with the project. Chair Hunt asks

for approval of changes. Committee member Shepard moved to approve, committee member Proctor seconded and the design changes were approved unanimously, along with the entrances concept.

Chair Hunt went on to give the committee an update on the building plaques. Michael Kung is assisting Chair Hunt with the project. He is also working with Jane Adams office for logos.

Chair Hunt then updated the committee on the Collections Ownership issue. Mr. Poppell is working with the university attorney on the issue.

Chair Hunt then asked Ed Poppell to update the committee on future Government House exhibits. Mr. Poppell told the committee that he met with Gary Libby, Director Emeritus of the Daytona Museum of Arts and Sciences, who is a walking encyclopedia and very familiar with St. Augustine. He has already envisioned 3 potential exhibits for Government House. Committee member Parks asks if they already have a design team. Chair Hunt informs the committee that there is no need, because the exhibits already exist and they are in storage. He and Mr. Poppell believe that the exhibits should be free. So far Government House has had a lot of success with the free Canoes exhibit.

Mr. Poppell states that this might be a good time to discuss the potential name change of Government House. Currently they have come up with 'Cultural Center at Government House'. Chair Hunt advises the committee that it would give flexibility to the exhibits featured there. Mr. Poppell informs the committee that he met with the City of St. Augustine last week and they feel there has been a cultural void now that the 450th is over. The City was very excited about the possible new name. Chair Hunt informs the committee that this will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Chair Hunt then asks the committee if there is any other business they would like to discuss. Committee member Proctor informed the committee that he will be attending a meeting soon about the cooperative planning between Flagler and UF's College of Health and Human Performance. Chair Hunt asks for any other questions or comments. Dixie Neilson informed the committee that there is need of space to store collection items not in use. Chair Hunt responded that the inventory needs to be accessible for scholars who need to see the real thing and not something that has been digitized. This matter needs to be discussed at the board meeting next month.

Chair Hunt suggests a motion to adjourn the committee meeting. Committee member Shepard moved to adjourn, committee member Gannon seconded and the motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.