

Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc.
MEETING MINUTES
9:00 A.M., Thursday, December 15, 2016
Conference Call
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Participants

Directors: Mr. Lester Abberger; Mr. John Boudet; Ms. Monesia Brown; Mr. Bill Carlson; Mr. Bill Herrle; Ms. Lena Juarez, Chair (in person); Ms. Laura Rogers; and Mr. Sam Vickers

Staff: Dr. Jeana Brunson; and Ms. Elyse Cornelison (both in person)

I. Call to Order

Ms. Lena Juarez, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. Introduction of Board, Staff, and Guests

Chair Juarez welcomed all board and staff to the call. A few changes to the agenda was announced. A few of the board members will need to roll off the conference call early including Ms. Monesia Brown, Nominating Committee Chair. The new board member line item was moved to the beginning of the discussion items. Department of State updates will be added to the agenda and will be placed after the nominating committee.

III. Chair's Comments

IV. Discussion Items

A. New board members and nominating committee

i. There is interest in adding more members to the board. Ms. Brown urged all members to think of and recommend 1 or 2 people from within their circles to present for recommendation to the nominating committee. Please forward resumes and a brief paragraph on why the person would make a good board member for the FMFH board to Ms. Brown and Ms. Cornelison by January 20, 2017. A meeting will be scheduled after January 20 between Ms. Brown, Mr. Ziffer, and Ms. Cornelison.

ii. The nominating committee, as written in the by-laws, is the current Vice-Chair and past Board Chairs no longer serving on the Board of Directors. At this point in time that would be Ms. Brown and past-chair Gil Ziffer. Ms. Brown also asked if it would be possible to add to the agenda for the February quarterly meeting to make a revision to the section on the nominating committee. This section mentions that the recommendations shall be submitted to the board at the annual meeting, which is in June. Ms. Brown would like to give a little more flexibility than once a year.

B. Department of State Updates

i. Dr. Brunson updated the board on how the Department is continuing moving forward with the structuring of the Office of External Affairs (OEA). OEA incorporates the Museum of Florida History, the Knott House Museum, Mission San Luis, and The Grove.

ii. Dr. Brunson announced to the board that she has been promoted. Her new position is the Director of Museum Operations for the Office of External Affairs. She will be making sure that all four sites are operating within Department of State and the American Alliance of Museums standards.

iii. The Legislative Affairs Director, Ms. Christie Burrus Fitz-Patrick, has been promoted to Deputy Director for the divisions of Historical Resources, State Library, and Cultural Affairs. Her replacement is Ms. Angela Bonds.

C. Museum of Florida History's 40th Anniversary in 2017

i. May 18, 2017 will be a kick-off event

ii. October 19, 2017 opening reception for *Living the Dream: 20th Century Florida* exhibit. The exhibit will highlight important subjects starting with the end of WWII to 2000. One of the artifacts on display will be the golden shovels used to break ground for the construction of the Museum and the R. A. Gray building.

iii. Board members asked staff to present conceptual drawings of the *20th Century Florida* exhibit and an update on programming plans.

D. Legislative and Public Reception

i. Mr. Herrle updated the board on the idea behind this. This was originally planned for after the opening of Phase 2 of the Forever Changed exhibit in October 2015. However, due to construction issues with the replacement of the building's plaza this was delayed. The board would like to thank the legislators and public for supporting this exciting, permanent exhibit. The thought is that getting them here for a reception during legislative session is more organized than having them just coming to visit one by one.

ii. Proposed dates are March 27, 28, or 29, 2017 starting at 5:30 p.m. *The date subsequently has been set for March 21.

iii. Mr. Herrle updated the board on the new House rules about lobbyist and ethics due to the fact that many of the board members are registered lobbyists. The event has to be open to the public. The sponsorships have to be through the Friends of MFH. Question was posed to what the possible cost of event will be. The answer is somewhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Staff asked about the funding for this event. Mr. Herrle answered that the board members will fundraise and will contact their organizations then reach out to others. Dr. Brunson reminded the board that amount of funds are not in the approved budget and should be received before definite plans are finalized.

E. Update on Airport Traveling Exhibits

i. Chair Juarez reminded the board that one of the things that the Secretary of State asked us to do was to work on getting traveling exhibits on Florida history into Florida airports to help educate Florida residents and visitors. Museum staff has put together a plan to have 3 topics covered and an exhibit that will be easy for setup. Chair Juarez and Ms. Cornelison developed a one-page information sheet that was sent to the Florida Airports Council President/CEO Lisa Lyle Waters. Arrangements have been made for Chair Juarez and Ms. Cornelison to make a presentation on February 9 to the annual conference and arrangements for a tour to members on February 10. Chair Juarez asked that the board help with the tour on February 10 and to reach out to any airport staff that they may know to encourage renting the traveling exhibits if the council approves.

F. Endowment update

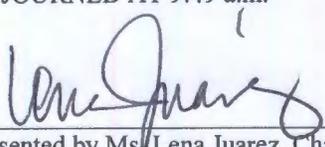
i. Mr. John Boudet was not available for the conference call. Chair Juarez asked staff to add this to the agenda for the February quarterly board meeting.

G. Planning for future board meetings and Museum programming

1. Four quarterly meetings along with dates and times for planning purposes were presented to the board along with a calendar of events for 2017.
February 9th at 9:00 a.m. *Has been changed to February 16 due to Florida Airport Council commitment
June 8th
October 5th or 12th
December 14

H. Adjourn

ADJOURNED AT 9:49 a.m.


Presented by Ms. Lena Juarez, Chair

Dated: 2/16/17