

HPC

Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission MINUTES

Monday December 4, 2023



2:00 PM Regular Meeting:

Call to Order.

Roll Call.

Present and answering the roll call were Chair Commissioner Brian Shea, Commissioner Edward Blanco. And Commissioner Barbara Bauman. Commissioner Brad Bertelli and Commissioner Kate DeLoach were absent.

Staff present: Derek Howard, Assistant County Attorney
Devin Tolpin, Principal Planner
Diane Silvia, Preservationist

Adoption of the Minutes from the meeting on August 7, 2023.

Edward Blanco motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting on August 7, 2023. Brian Shea seconded the motion. As there were no objections, the motion carried unanimously.

Changes to the Agenda.

There were no changes to the agenda.

Discussion Item

1. A public meeting to obtain the Commission's recommendations on a proposed update to the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines approved by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Ordinance No. 019-2005 that is being prepared by Archaeological & Historical Conservancy Inc., which entered a contract for the update with Monroe County on September 14, 2023, pursuant to a Small Matching Grant from the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (Grant No. 24.h.sm.100.003).

Dr. Jane Day, Historic Preservationist, and Mr. Bob Carr, Archaeologist attended the meeting by Zoom (Mr. Carr was unable to unmute).

Dr. Diane Silvia read the Discussion Item into the record.

Dr. Day introduced herself. She loves the Keys and is interested in doing what the community wants and needs. She wants to know if there have been problems with any of the existing guidelines. She is coordinating fieldwork time with Bob Carr as she does not believe preservation work cannot be done by Zoom. It will probably be in January but, will let us know. Also, any recommendation on accommodations would be appreciated. She has reviewed our existing guidelines and is researching guidelines from other communities in Florida. She is particularly impressed by the recent guideline project done for Lake Worth which incorporates

current technology and was funded by a Special Category Grant. We want to make it easier for the public while maintaining the integrity of the District. She asked if there were any questions.

Derek Howard, Assistant County Attorney, said due to the traffic issues with the bridge, should we take a break to wait for the other Commissioners.

Diane Silvia said Brad Bertelli was not coming due to the traffic and Kate Deloach did not answer the phone. We do have a quorum.

Dr. Day her copy of the guidelines has only one page with six photos of contributing structures in Appendix 3.

Dr. Silvia said her copy only has one page as well.

Dr. Day said she needs a list of all the contributing structures in the District.

Dr. Silvia said we do have a list. Mr. Carr updated that list when they did the survey for Tavernier.

Dr. Day said she plans to take pictures of all of them. She is interested in making this user friendly and making the District work. She is fine with having a public meeting.

Dr. Silvia said that is one of the items in the scope of work. I am hoping we can do that at the January 8th meeting in Key Largo and that we can advertise in the newspaper that the public can provide input at that meeting in person or by Zoom. Also, written comments can be sent by email and provide a deadline for that process. We need to have at least one of these meetings in the Key Largo area.

Dr. Day said I think we need to have at least two meetings. The January meeting will be at the beginning of our fieldwork. Once we have an approved draft, the public can comment on that.

Brian Shea said we would like to make the process easier for the public to understand.

Devin Tolpin, Principal Planner, said the purpose of this meeting is to introduce this project to you and receive any feedback or comments you may have.

Mr. Shea said he would like to see the inventory of contributing structures included and standards added for elevating structures. The National Park Service has put out a publication on that.

Dr. Day said guidelines for elevating structures were on the list sent by Diane.

Dr. Silvia said of course we will start out with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards as it pertains to all historic resources. We need to be a little more specific about the Tavernier Historic District. These are some things I feel we should consider: to better address additions and accessory structures; placement of mechanical equipment and pools (Perhaps, we could have

pools and decks in the rear yard as staff approvals); add something about demolition by neglect which is included in Chapter 135; elevation of structures; possibly requiring metal roofs to have a galvalume finish unless there is a request for white based on energy efficiency; for fencing, do we want to see chain link fencing in front of a historic house or should it be wood pickets; should lattice infill on historic structures be limited to wood lattice; and a section added on archaeological deposits. These are some of my thoughts.

Mr. Shea said we need to include windows.

Dr. Silvia said windows are a big issue which will require serious thought.

Dr. Day said she agrees windows are an important issue in this part of the State and we will look at how this is being handled in other jurisdictions.

Mr. Shea said we now have some direction and can discuss this further at our next meeting.

Other Business:

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment.