

HISTORIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE INFORMAL MINUTES
February 28, 2017

The meeting convened at 2 PM. Matt Noble, the staff member assigned to the Historic Advisory Committee (HAC), was present. Members in attendance were AJ Bassett, Fran Santini, Linda Meeder, Dan Hendrickson and Suzanne Katt. Guests present were Russ Carter and Betty Simpson.

Fran, Linda and AJ resigned as HAC members. For various reasons, each of them said they were not able to give the time necessary for the committee's work. Fran opined that younger members were needed. AJ and Fran did agree to be ex officio members and a motion was made to that effect. It passed unanimously.

AJ mentioned that she had given a timeline of the HAC meetings and the history of the plaque recognition program to Russ. Suzanne agreed to make copies for all the new members.

AJ suggested Russ Carter and Betty Simpson as new members. Linda suggested Ann Alsop. Matt asked that anyone who is interested in serving submit a letter of interest within the next week and a half so they can be voted on at the next Local Planning Agency meeting.

Matt said that he would like to see the plaque program publicized. AJ talked about some of the historic structures on the island that should be part of the program. There was some discussion about how to improve the visibility of the program. Some members expressed frustration that the program does not generate enough interest. Ultimately, all the members agreed there should be an effort to raise the visibility of the program.

All members agreed that new letters should be sent to eligible owners of historic structures on the island. Dan and AJ said they believed the letter should have a welcoming, island feel. The members agreed the mechanics of the invitation and follow-up would be discussed at the March meeting.

Dan also asked that Matt give a tutorial at the March meeting on the difference between the recognition program and historic designation. He believed it important since all of the members, except for the ex officio members are new.

AJ expressed concern over the number of trees being lost on the island and that the trees are not being replaced with the same type of trees. Matt said that he worked on the Lee County tree recognition program and that we could adopt the same program. The members agreed that this is a worthy project.

Suzanne said that at the April meeting she wants to go through the mission of the HAC and determine what can be accomplished given our resources.

Matt and AJ talked about the Women's Club and the fact that its historic designation application was stalled. AJ agreed to follow up with the applicants and find out what we can do to help them finish the process. Matt said that with historic designation, grants are available to help with maintenance. He said the town used to offer grants and he is hopeful that it will do so in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 PM.

Suzanne Katt
3/28/17