



Clay County Historic Preservation Board June 16, 2015

Present: Cynthia Cheatwood, Gayward Hendry, Cynthia Stone, Julia Cramer, Angela Williamson, Carolyn Morgan, Jerry Casale, William Randall, Marilyn Haddock
Absent- Pat Mueller
Visitor- Vishi Garig, archives specialist

Meeting called to order 9:05AM.

Minutes were read and approved by unanimous vote.

Williamson moved to accept the slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee. Hendry seconded. Unanimous vote was made in approval. New slate will begin August 11, 2015, the next meeting of the board.

The Hibernia marker was then discussed for St. Margaret's Church in Fleming Island. Cramer is preparing the application with assistance from Cheatwood and Garig. A suggestion was made that a letter be sent from this board to the group owning the old chapel (Episcopal Diocese) to explain intentions for the marker and to seek their approval. If they do not grant us permission to have the sign near the church alternatives will be discussed, possibly including the road leading to the chapel. The marker cannot be placed in a position that might cause injury should a vehicle run into it. Morgan said Hutching has volunteered to assist in getting the owner of the property to agree. Discussion was made that the marker would enhance the value of the property.

Morgan advanced an interest in this board helping to establish Bellamy Road as an historic trail. There are only a few owners (mostly agricultural) that would need to be approached. It would add to the culture of the county. There is not a survey alignment so that would need to be done. Some pieces of the road are still in place. There may be federal money available to proceed with this project. Garig said there is a wealth of maps available through the GOO (Google Earth) website.

Various county historical signs were then discussed. The text of the signs should be written by each member who advocates for them. The board is not sure about the limit of word count on the signs. County Public Works produces the signs. Hendry will check on the dimensions.

Continued

Haddock asked to change the status of the county marker for Savage to a state marker. This project will be run by Haddock and Randall. Hendry says Lee Field would also be a state historical marker. A county marker for Keystone will be researched to see if it will be better as a state marker. Stone moved that Haddock and Williamson work on Keystone, seconded by Randall, unanimously approved. Vishi suggested she has a system for county signs that works well. The board can work through Vishi to expedite the process.

Garig mentioned that a new flag is needed for Magnolia Cemetery. She suggested a sign would be good for that site as the obelisk in place does not tell the whole story. Hendry and Garig will work on putting a sign there. A state marker may be sought for the area in the future.

Haddock will research markers and keep a record for the board.

The subject of the Geiger marker proceeded. 143 people attended the marker dedication and everyone loved it. Hendry thanked the board for their help and highlighted the contribution of the students involved. Cramer thanked all involved, she is sending thank you notes to those in the program. Haddock shared a post card she received that has a picture of the Geiger ship.

Williamson mentioned the memorial ceremony for Ft. Heileman. Everyone appreciated the event. The board thanked Casale for being key note speaker.

Cheatwood explained the process for the Camp Chowenwaw marker. Gayward moved to have Cheatwood coordinate activities related to this marker, even after the termination of service on the board. Stone seconded. Cheatwood explained the steps involved in the process so that others can continue the work after she leaves the board. All paperwork is done and the application for the Chowenwaw marker is submitted.

Regarding preservation training, discussion continued regarding Mr. Zimny coming to instruct the board. He was expected to come to the current meeting but was not able to come due to budget constraints. Cramer proposed Tues, Aug. 11 at 9AM at the old courthouse. Zimny would be invited to speak at 10 AM. If the board needs to use our budget for this training that will be accomplished. Morgan will investigate options.

Haddock presented at current roster of the board, prepared by Ann Mitchell.

Hendry had to leave the meeting at this point.

Continued

Cramer started a discussion of advertising/pamphlets. She would like to see more information spread around the county. Discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

Casale mentioned the Sat., Aug. 15th Seminole War Foundation's event. In St. Augustine, there will be a memorial service with reenactors, dedications by speakers, parade through a central are to Trinity Hall, where presenters and a key note speaker will be available. The event runs from 10 AM to 5PM on that date. Many events are free.

Haddock announced the meeting of the Clay County Historical Society, June 22nd, where Beth Smith will speak about turpentine camps in Clay.

Stone explained that Middleburg Museum has a crisis. The association rents the building and needs construction repairs. Cheatwood suggested the society approach the Construction Academy at Middleburg High School. They would probably be able to supply labor if the county could supply materials. Morgan asked that they send request through her so she can send it to the right people of the county. The property (Middleburg Civic Association) concerned is on the national register.

Cheatwood explained that the Town of Orange Park has granted the Historical Society of Orange Park exclusive use of the Clarke House in order to protect the historical integrity of the building and property. This can serve as a model for the other communities in Clay County. Cheatwood will provide a copy of the agreement to the board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

June 2015 minutes documented by Cindy Cheatwood

Minor changes approved by Board

Completed by Marilyn Haddock