

BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2022

Members Present

Jane Beach, District V
Roz Foster, District I
George Kistner, District IV - Chair
Martha Loss, District IV
Henry Parrish, District II
Jack Ratterman, District II – Co-Chair

Others Present

Michael Boonstra, Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library, Librarian II Genealogy and Archives
Tammy Moon, Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library, Librarian I Genealogy and Archives
Bob Gross, Indian River Anthropological Society.
Wendi Bost, Brevard County Library System, Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm, by the Chair, Mr. Kistner.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Ratterman, seconded by Ms. Beach, to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021 Commission Meeting. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

A motion was made by Ms. Foster, seconded by Ms. Beach, to approve the agenda. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Public Comments

Bob Gross discussed the current status of the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science and the future of the collection it holds. The commission decided to add continued discussion about the museum to next meeting new business. Bob also discussed filming more of the oral histories for the county before some of the opportunities are lost. Michael advised that the resources for filming and editing were available any time via the library system for any interviews Bob or any of the commissioners wish to organize and prepare.

Michael Boonstra introduced Wendi Bost, the director of the Brevard County Library System, replacing Jeff Thompson. Wendi discussed the recent accomplishments and changes in the library system since her tenure began as well as the various library resources available to the commission for any projects they might wish to do.

Archivist Report

Michael Boonstra reported the department has been working on various newspaper story research requests such as for Senior Life on Holy Apostles Church and the Then & Now series.

In process as well are research requests for Micco, Brevard black history and local historical shipwrecks. The department is also working with the Marine Resources Counsel regarding a donation of some of their archived materials as well as a large donation of Cocoa High School memorabilia. The library has done large, system wide displays for Black History this month and the department continues to work on the library system's 50 year anniversary celebration.

New Business

George Kistner reported on the nominations committee. Jane Beach will head up the nominations committee. Elections will be held next month.

Old Business

Michael Boonstra reported on the Indian River Journal. The three bids for printing the journal have come in and Pride Enterprises, is the lowest bid. Postage will go in the three bid process next. Some typos were noticed in the proof copy, it will be re-sent to all commissioners for further proof-reading. It was decided due to time restraints, the current journal will be re-designated as Spring/Summer 2022.

Michael Boonstra reported on the Dennis Sawyer Historical Markers. The two new markers are ready for installation. It was decided the dedication will occur on February 26, 2022 at 11am, pending Roz verifying with the church. The County Commissioners will be personally invited as well as Sawyer family members and church congregation. Roz and Jack will be installing the poles ahead of time in preparation.

Roz Foster reported on Heritage Park. The Field Manor meeting scheduled for December was cancelled due to Covid concerns. She will follow up to find out about a re-schedule. Roz recapped the goals of Heritage Park and the issues holding it back.

Commissioners' Reports

A motion was made by Roz Foster, seconded by Ms. Loss that the commission further discuss the current status of the on-loan collections held at the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science at the next meeting. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

The next meeting will be held February 22, 2022 at Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library, Second Floor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.