



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Old City Hall, Tampa City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, 315 E. Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33602

Call to Order: Vice Chair Dominique Cobb called meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Silent Roll Call and Introductions:

Commissioners Present: Dominique Cobb, KerryAnn Kanch, Patricia Ortiz, Mary Schukraft, and Susan Swift.

Commissioners Arriving After Roll Call:

Commissioners Absent: Dr. Thomas Pluckhahn and Vivian Salaga

Staff Present: Elaine Lund, Ron Vila, and Beverly Jewesak

Legal Staff: Camaria Pettis-Mackle

Commissioners introduced themselves and their position on the Board.

Reading of Minutes of March 9, 2021: Vice Chair Cobb stated that the minutes stand as read.

Announcements: Elaine Lund, Historic Preservation Specialist

- Good Morning, Commissioners.

Conflict of Interests/ Ex Parte Communication: Camaria Pettis-Mackle, Assistant City Attorney Camaria Pettis-Mackle asked the Commissioners if there were any conflicts of interest for the record based on the items that are on the agenda. Seeing none, for the record. Ms. Pettis-Mackle asked the Commissioners if there were any ex parte communications regarding the items that are on the agenda today. Seeing none, for the record.

Swear-In: Beverly Jewesak swore in all owners, applicants, interested parties, and witnesses within City Council Chambers.

Ybor City Local Historic District Design Standards Update

Pat Tyjeski with S&ME – provided a PowerPoint presentation, Agenda – Project Scope, Proposed Outline, Public Input, Adoption. Spoke about how the new proposed standards document was going to

be laid out. Spoke about the stakeholder's meetings and proposed Social Pinpoint Idea Wall. Explained next steps and took questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Schukraft – I have just a few comments, some of which are editorial. I think that we need to make a very strong statement in this document about how preservation in a vibrant community are not antagonists to each other, but in fact that is really what helps to provide a vibrant community that people want to come to; because its significant, but also because it is unique, which leads to the economic impact. Collecting all the tourist dollars that you get from Ybor, which is increasing. Every time I go there, there is a new hotel or restaurant. That has to be a really strong message. Usually those things get buried into bland statements, and I think we need to bring that to the forefront. Secondly, why is there always this exclusion of a portion of Ybor City, the quadrant is always excluded from Ybor City?

Elaine Lund – Historic Preservation Specialist - the original 1974 boundary of the Ybor City Historic District is shown on the map in gold/orange color. It was very focused on the commercial core area. The Ybor City National Historic Landmark District Boundaries were expanded in 1990, by an initiative through the National Park Service based on the country's ethnic neighborhoods and immigration stories. The story of the Ybor City as an immigrant community and a strong economic driver for the growth of Tampa through the cigar industry identified the area for this program. They were looking at the more intact residential areas that were not disrupted by the interstate or by the swath where Nuccio Parkway had been introduced. There were three discontinuous areas included in that National Historic Landmark Boundary in 1990. Part of the drive to expand to expand the National District was also the impact of the interstate in the 1980s. There was interest in doing some type of mitigative activity, and some of that was the expansion of the historic district boundaries. The local historic district boundaries have been expanded over the years as the neighborhood associations have worked with us to gain the protections provided by being part of a local historic district. The neighborhood just to the east of Cuscaden Park was not receptive at that time and was not a part of the 2013 expansion. It is still one of our goals to expand the Local Historic District to include all of the National District.

Commissioner Schukraft – Who are the stakeholders and who identified them?

Elaine Lund – Staff identified the stakeholders; organizations such as the YCDC, the neighborhood associations within the district, any parties that have shown interest over the years and requested updates in the Ybor City Local Historic District. We can provide the stakeholder information to you.

Commissioner Cobb – Thank you Ms. Lund, I was also going to ask about stakeholders. What other information is being added to the landlord rehabilitation, and what are the resident and neighborhood component for public input?

Pat Tyjeski – What we plan to do is have the website and ask a few questions about the different topics, the idea is to send that out via email to as many people as we can. Originally, this was not part of the scope, we offered to put it in. We are not offering an in-person public workshop, because it was a little bit more than the City could pay at this time. This is like a bonus; let's put it out at least virtually, since we cannot do in-person meetings.

Commissioner Cobb – The reason why I asked is because right now these neighborhood associations like VM Ybor and Ybor Heights, they are also following the East Tampa SAP. I think it will be a good piece of information if we could add what’s going on to our component in East Tampa. This falls within those districts, and unfortunately, we don’t have that type of information. I would like for those areas like VM Ybor and Ybor Heights to be more involved. Because currently with our SAP that is going on we have the same type of sticky notes and testimonials, and it has shown that the community has engaged very well with that and maybe if that component could be pushed out more in East Tampa and Ybor Heights area that would be great.

Pat Tyjeski – I think we can coordinate with staff and maybe submit some of that information to the consultants they can incorporate some of the historic districts’ component to their part.

Commissioner Ortiz – I really like that you changed the title from guidelines to standards. I think that sends a strong message. I also like your idea of using photos with dos and don’ts. That definitely helps our builders understand what is allowable and what is not. Of course, demolition is a topic that comes up quite often in the Ybor City area, from my experience, particularly north of I-4, I think we do have to send a good message out to talk about the economic development incentives associated with rehabilitation rather than demolition, and that is probably beyond your scope. I spend a lot of time digging through the code, and, if we could, notate the code regulation to be really clear with what the specifics are. I think there are so many stakeholders, and I think that we may be able to capture some of their ideas by having a table tent or something to direct them to provide that information.

Commissioner Cobb called a 5-minute recess.

Hyde Park National Register Historic District

Elaine Lund, Historic Preservation Specialist – Presented a PowerPoint presentation on the request to expand the boundaries of the Hyde Park Local Historic District into the area that is already the National Register Historic District. Through maps and a historic account, Ms. Lund provided the history of the Hyde Park Local Historic District. The National Register listing does provide some protection; however, the Local Historic District provides additional protections by review of the ARC and most notably the protection against demolition. This request has been on the workplan for several years. It was not being actively pursued. We now have interest from two of the local neighborhood associations to move forward with expanding the Hyde Park local historic district. Today you have two applications one from the Hyde Park - Spanish Town Creek Civic Association and one from the Historic Hyde Park Neighborhood Association. The representatives from the two neighborhood associations will have time to speak today and we will be noticing for the July 20, 2021, HPC Public Hearing when the Commission will be asked for a recommendation.

Additional swear in was performed.

Public comment: Aaron Albregts, Reese Riggle, Kelly McMillan, Patrick Cimino

Commissioner Ortiz – Motioned to grant Mr. Riggle an additional 5 minutes. Commissioner Schukraft seconded. Motion carried by 5-0-0.

Commissioner Schukraft – I support your efforts. One of the things that is very rarely discussed in historic preservation, at least in writing, is what happens when these giant Interstates were put through neighborhoods: the ripping of the fabric, what was the economic impact, the cultural impact. These were Federal programs that extended the Interstate system, and I for one would like to see something that addresses what happened to these neighborhoods. The effects were devastating to these neighborhoods. There are known creeks that ran through this area. When people complain about having to work with the historic preservation division, people need to know that those neighborhoods that are historically designated sell at a higher value than other areas. The economic impact can be made for those who are hesitant. The institutional power that TGH and the University of Tampa have as landowners along Kennedy is significant and the neighborhood associations need to consider that.

Commissioner Ortiz – Thank you for explaining why you want to expand the district. I think it will be well worth the effort.

Commissioner Swift – Is the expansion area everything between the red and blue lines, or just north of the red line?

Elaine Lund – It is the request of the neighborhood associations to expand the district north to the Selmon Expressway. We had done some initial analyses in 2018-2019 and had a pause due to the pandemic. The area that is north of the Crosstown has had more intrusions, as in more new construction and demolitions; therefore, the area south of the Crosstown is more intact as far as the historic fabric.

Commissioner Cobb – I do take special interest in the forgotten black community of Dobyville. In recent years there have been news articles and news coverage from different entities on the lost history. I am very excited about hearing these upcoming ventures and also if the Commissioners could possibly have information on the next walking tours. As we know, Tampa has a lot of forgotten history, especially the Zion Cemetery, and those things are very important to Tampa. I am grateful that this is coming up because we have all had our time here in Tampa, and I do believe it is very important to recognize these parts of history that may have been forgotten or have not been properly preserved.

Date and Time of Next HPC Meeting:

July 20, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Election of Officers

Elaine Lund – I would recommend, if it is the pleasure of the Commission, to postpone the Election of the Officers to the next Public Hearing when all Commissioners have the opportunity to be present.

Motion: Mary Schukraft Second: Patricia Ortiz

Motion to postpone the Election of Officers to the July 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

New Business:

None submitted.

Adjournment:

10:18 a.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Vivian Salaga – Chair