

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Gamblin, Chairman
Martha Bireda, Sushila Cherian,
Valerie Colbert, Kelley Frohlich,
Donna Peterman, Julie Price

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Wooster

OTHERS PRESENT: Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner
Kathy Burnham, Kelly Gaylord

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Gamblin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. November 19, 2020

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. September 24, 2020
- Ms. Price MOVED, Ms. Colbert SECONDED approval of the September 24, 2020, minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. CA-23-2020 - 108 Gill Street - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - Fence
- Mr. Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner, reviewed the CA-23-2020 application, as delineated in the agenda material, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- B. CA-24-2020 - 455 West Retta Esplanade - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - Rehabilitation
- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff's evaluation of CA-24-2020, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- C. CA-26-2020 - 509 West Olympia Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - Roof
- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff's evaluation of CA-26-2020, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- D. CA-27-2020 - 308 Sullivan Street - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - New Windows

- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff's evaluation of CA-27-2020, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- E. CA-28-2020 - 410 Gill St. - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - Cement Deck
- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff's evaluation of CA-28-2020, concluding staff approved the request administratively.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. County Centennial
- 1. Subcommittee Reports
- Ms. Price announced she would attend Charlotte County's meeting to be held next week. She reported she had discussed ideas to commemorate Charlotte County's centennial with Ms. Kaley Miller of the Punta Gorda Airport.
- 2. Historical Markers – Fishermen's Village Harborwalk
- Ms. Kathy Burnham, Fishermen's Village (FV) Marketing Manager, displayed a picture of the plaque which FV recently installed along the Harborwalk and material related to the remaining plaques planned for installation, as delineated in the agenda material. She estimated the marker project would be complete by summer of 2021. She explained the markers would be placed along the FV portion of the Harborwalk, were made of bronze and could withstand the weather. She offered to coordinate with the Historic Preservation Advisory Board to prevent duplication of markers and to ensure all areas of history were addressed.
- Ms. Peterman noted a marker concerning the Hotel Punta Gorda was proposed; however, the hotel's location was distant from FV.
- Mr. Austin pointed out the locations of the topics of the markers could be seen from certain areas within FV, such as the pier, acknowledging concerns related to ensuring history was presented in the context of the location to which it belonged or from which it could be observed.
- Ms. Bireda questioned if materials prepared for the Board's marker project could be shared with FV as they were more geographically specific, concluding it was important to accurately depict the City's history.
- Mr. Austin suggested a map of the waterfront could clarify the locations of the historic structures depicted in FV's markers. He spoke in favor of partnering with FV to locate one or more of the markers at the actual location of the plaque's topic beyond the FV property, noting same could be a low-key branding opportunity for FV.
- Ms. Bireda then questioned whether the Board intended to move forward with the historic marker program once the pandemic ended.
- Ms. Peterman replied same could be discussed at that time.

- Ms. Price expressed optimism the Board could coordinate with FV on markers.
- Ms. Peterman suggested the markers related to the Trabue settlement could be incorporated. She then confirmed the City's permission would be needed to place markers along portions of the Harborwalk beyond FV.
- Ms. Burnham reiterated FV would continue to work with the Board.
- B. ***Master Plan: City of Punta Gorda Comprehensive Plan 2040 Update
 - Mr. Austin stated staff was working with a consultant to update the City's Comprehensive Plan, specifically the Housing, Coastal Management, Transportation, Future Land Use and Historic Elements, noting drafts were available on the Citywide Master Plan website and the City's website. He stated the changes were minimal, with regulatory changes in the beginning. He explained the main body of the Historic Element was a brief history of the City and area. He pointed out a brief discussion of the historic resources survey was included and was the foundation for the policy which recommended adoption of the local register of historic properties, adding there was discussion of linking historic preservation to coastal management as existing historic structures could be at risk over the next 75 to 100 years.
 - Ms. Peterman questioned if this would be an appropriate place to consider a formal role for the Board with regard to plaques.
 - Mr. Austin stated the Board could express a desire for policies related to the regulation of historic markers throughout the City, noting same would be challenging due to freedom of speech.
 - Ms. Peterman MOVED, Ms. Price SECONDED to recommend the Board have a role in providing oversight and assistance with the development and placement of historic markers in the City be reflected in the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the Comprehensive Plan's Historic Element. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - Mr. Austin stated staff would provide the Board's comment to the consultant in order to incorporate same in future drafts. He then confirmed the Historic Element contained policies which concerned adoption of a local register of historic properties, creation of two historic districts and replacement of the existing Bethel-St. Mark Historic District with a conservation district to be further defined within the Land Development Regulations.

STAFF COMMENTS

- None.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- Ms. Bireda requested Mr. Austin send her the materials provided by FV and call her after 2:00 p.m. She then questioned if temperatures could be taken prior to meetings.

- Mr. Austin replied he would look into same.
- Ms. Cherian expressed concern regarding the use of the word “oversight”.
- Mr. Austin replied staff would ensure proper wording was utilized to avoid overstepping the City’s legal authority.
- Ms. Peterman explained she had chosen “oversight” as same was vaguer than “control”, indicating she selected that word with a cooperative process in mind.
- Mr. Gamblin requested the Board’s bylaws be provided to members, suggesting members review same to clarify their duties.
- Ms. Price pointed out this date marked the beginning of the United Way’s 2020 Campaign Kickoff and Day of Caring, commenting on their efforts to break the cycle of poverty locally.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- Ms. Kelly Gaylord, Punta Gorda Historic Mural Society (Mural Society), stated the Mural Society was unable to enter into a contract with the artist for the mural reviewed by the Board in February 2020, noting a new sketch by another artist (Keith Goodson) would be provided. She expressed enthusiasm regarding the new mural, estimating painting would commence in early December 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 10:07 a.m.

Brad Gamblin, Chairman

Leah Pues, Recording Secretary