

DRAFT
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2011 – 3:00 P.M.

Cumulative Attendance

Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
E. Clay Shaw, Chair	P	9	1
Dr. Claire Crawford, Vice Chair	P	8	2
Peg Buchan	P	10	0
Sandra Casteel	P	9	1
Beauregard Cummings	A	4	2
Maureen Dinnen (3:10)	P	5	3
Patricia Hale	P	7	3
Mark Halgunseth	A	3	2
Stephanie Jean	P	6	4
Ina Lee	P	8	2
Chuck Malkus	P	6	0
Nuccia McCormick	P	8	0
JoAnn Medalie	P	9	1
Donna Mergenhagen	P	9	1
Wingate Payne	P	10	0
Mary Rizor	A	4	2
Lisa Scott-Founds (3:12)	P	5	1
Lewis Tunnage	P	10	0
Dennis Ulmer	P	10	0
E. Birch Willey	P	8	2

As of this date, there are currently 20 members appointed to the Committee, which means 11 would constitute a quorum.

Staff

Shannon Vezina, Staff Liaison
 Maxine Singh, City Commission Liaison
 Barbara Hartmann, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to the City Commission

None.

I. Call to Order

- **Opening Statement and Roll Call**

Chair Shaw called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

- **Approval of Minutes from September 13, 2011 Meeting**

Motion made by Vice Chair Crawford, seconded by Ms. McCormick, to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 meeting. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

II. Upcoming Events

- **Light Up the Beach – Nov. 22, 6pm-8pm**
- **Pioneer Day – Dec. 3, 1pm-3pm**
- **Gourmet Food Truck Expo – Dec. 8, 5:30pm-10pm**
- **Light Up Sistrunk – Dec. 9, 5:30pm-8pm**
- **South Beach Lot Rededication – Dec. date TBD**
- **Downtown Countdown – Dec. 31, 4pm-3am**

Ms. Dinnen arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Ms. Vezina reviewed the events scheduled through the end of 2011, including their respective locations. She noted there will also be the placement of three remaining State historic markers and park plaques, including a ceremony at Bass Park to recognize James Linwood Bass on December 31. The time for this event has not yet been finalized.

Ms. Scott-Founds arrived at 3:12 p.m.

Chair Shaw added that a holiday lighting event will be held on Las Olas Boulevard on November 29. Ms. Vezina added the Winterfest Boat Parade will take place on December 10.

III. Old Business

- **Recognition of Centennial Participants**

Ms. Vezina explained that this is the “thank you list,” and asked that any members with additional names for this list contact her after today’s meeting to ensure no one is left out.

- **Comprehensive List of Centennial Committee Accomplishments**

- **Events, Exhibits, Plaques, Documents, Media Hits**

Ms. Vezina recalled that a final presentation of the Committee's accomplishments will be made to the City Commission in January 2012. This will include a brief PowerPoint presentation showing the major accomplishments of the Centennial Committee, and a report submitted to the City Commission including that will include an overview of all Centennial events. A draft of this report is underway, hard copies are being distributed around the table and can be sent to the members upon request.

- **Centennial Committee Recommendations**
 - **Donation of Historical Exhibits, Documents**
 - **Continuation of Park Plaque Project**

Ms. Vezina recalled that the Committee had opted to donate exhibits and materials to the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, with the proviso that they share the materials with other historical organizations. They had also voted to continue the park plaques program in the future. She asked if there were any additional recommendations to be included in the report to the City Commission.

Ms. Payne suggested that they also recommend the City continue to investigate the possibility of two Centennial legacy projects, the 17th Street Bridge Lighting and the Sistrunk Monument.

Mr. Malkus asked if the Aquatics Complex and Swimming Hall of Fame project should be considered a legacy project, as they constitute a landmark facility and venue. Ms. Payne pointed out that this project has not yet been approved, and may involve political issues, which have prevented other projects from being legacy projects. Mr. Malkus said the funding for the Aquatics Complex has been approved, and the existing facility cannot continue in its present condition, which means the project will move forward.

Vice Chair Crawford advised that the Centennial year is nearly complete and the Aquatics Complex had never been discussed at a previous Committee meeting. She felt it should not be added to the list of Centennial projects. Chair Shaw agreed that this had never been discussed and involved many issues beyond the Committee's purview.

- **Presentation of Founding Pioneer List**

Ms. Vezina concluded that this list will constitute the final element of the presentation to the City Commission in January 2012. The names of the founding families will be listed in a framed document that will be presented to the City Commission with the intent of it being displayed in City Hall.

VI. New Business

- **Committee Recognition at December 6 Commission Meeting, 6pm**

Ms. Vezina advised that the City Commission would like to formally thank the members of the Centennial Celebration Committee at the Regular City Commission meeting on Tuesday, December 6. She requested that all members attend this meeting if possible.

Ms. Lee asked if the Committee's presentation to the City Commission in January would be at a regular evening meeting or an afternoon Conference Agenda meeting. Ms. Vezina said this had not yet been determined, but she would try to find out a time certain within the next two weeks.

V. Other Matters of Interest

Ms. Jean noted that no one had reached out to the Committee with regard to the ultimate plans for the Shippey House. She suggested that they might write a letter in opposition to the potential demolition of the building.

Ms. Mergenhagen noted that this has been a complex issue, and observed that the Mayor and City Commission might be able to make a personal plea to the property owner, which could make fundraising issues easier for the dispensation of the Shippey House. She cautioned that should the Committee write a letter of support, it would be best that they do not encourage the use of City money toward the building's preservation, as a 501(C)3 has been founded to manage the renovation.

Ms. Payne advised that while she was supportive of historic preservation, she felt this issue was outside the Committee's realm and she did not feel they should become involved. Ms. Dinnen said she did not believe a letter of support could be harmful and could actually be helpful, particularly if it is seen in conjunction with the efforts of others in the community. She felt the issue was related to the Committee's purpose and mission.

Motion made by Mr. Malkus, seconded by Ms. Dinnen, that the Centennial Committee write a letter of support for continued efforts to ensure that the Shippey House receives proper resolution and additional time necessary to complete coverage of expenditures.

Vice Chair Crawford pointed out that raising money for historic preservation efforts could take several years and a great amount of funds. She stated that there have been years in which a group dedicated to preservation could have acted to raise money for the Shippey House. Ms. Jean said while the preservation efforts might be last-minute, she did not believe the Committee's

support would do any harm. She added that she would not want the Committee to fail to act on behalf of historic preservation, and noted that the Shippey House was nearing 100 years in existence.

The Committee discussed potential amendments to the **motion**, as well as additional information regarding the status of the Shippey House. Mr. Malkus withdrew his **motion** so it could be restated.

Motion made by Ms. Jean, seconded by Mr. Malkus, that the Centennial Committee write a letter of support for the preservation of the Shippey House. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Ms. Buchan recalled that the Committee had once discussed the possibility of a Centennial time capsule, and asked if the members were interested in pursuing this further. She provided a handout describing how a time capsule could be created: individuals would be allowed to purchase envelopes that would be placed in the capsule. Instead of being buried, the capsule would be placed in a public or historic location and sealed for 25 years. She noted that this would be a relatively inexpensive venture and could be a fun way to close the City's Centennial year.

Ms. Buchan continued that the initial costs, in addition to the cost of the time capsule itself, would include having an individual on hand to operate phone lines and take questions from the public or press. She proposed that a marketing company in the City could provide an intern for this purpose at \$250/week for 12 weeks. The cost would be approximately \$3000.

Ms. Mergenhagen suggested that this campaign could be coordinated with the final ad to run in the *Sun-Sentinel* thanking everyone involved in the Centennial year. Ms. Lee agreed that this would be a good way for the year to "go out with a bang," but advised they would need to investigate whether or not the project could be accomplished without going through the City's procurement process.

Ms. Vezina explained that the process requires three price quotes for any effort or project that would cost over \$1,000; the formal RFP process is not required unless a much higher cost threshold – either \$10,000 or \$25,000- is reached. This meant they would need two additional quotes from vendors that could potentially perform the same service.

The members discussed how a time capsule project could be budgeted, including the purchase of envelopes and the method(s) of payment. Chair Shaw commented that the project would need to go before the City Commission for approval before any Committee funds could be spent. Ms. Vezina confirmed this, and estimated that it would take approximately one month to request that the item appear on a City Commission meeting agenda.

Motion made by Ms. Jean, seconded by Mr. Malkus, to accept the Centennial time capsule concept and proceed forward at a cost of up to \$4,000 to implement the concept.

In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Ms. McCormick reported that she had met with the City Manager with regard to the bridge lighting project, and he was supportive of the idea. There will be bids accepted for the project in early January 2012; once the bids have been accepted, it would be possible to raise funds.

- **Confirm Date of Final Committee Meeting**

Ms. Vezina confirmed that the Committee will remain intact through January 31, 2012. She noted that she would write the letter tonight in support of the preservation of the Shippey House, on behalf of the Centennial Celebration Committee.

Chair Shaw thanked the Committee members for all their hard work throughout the year.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]