



## ***CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA***

The **Miami Springs Historic Preservation Board** met at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 in the City Hall Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

The following were present:

Chair Sydney Garton  
Vice Chair Jo Ellen Phillips  
Charles M. Hill  
James Watson  
Yvonne Shonberger

Also Present:

Board Secretary, Juan D. Garcia

### **2) Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2016 Regular Meeting**

Minutes of the March 16, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Chair Garton requested that a change be made to the word "being" on page three, paragraph six, to "begin".

**Vice Chair Phillips moved to approve the minutes as amended. Board member Shonberger seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

### **3) New Business:**

#### **a) Discussion on the Hunting Lodge – 281 Glendale Drive**

Chair Garton asked if there was any new information regarding this item. Board Secretary Garcia informed the Board that the City Clerk's Office has received various calls from people interested in buying the Hunting Lodge, a historically designated house, which was recently put up for sale. Many of the callers asked if they could make any changes or addition to the property.

Board member Watson informed the Board that he also received a call from a realtor asking similar questions. He instructed the realtor to contact the City Clerk's Office for more information.

Board Secretary Garcia explained that the City Clerk's Office has told anyone that has called asking about making changes or additions to this property that only the property owner can request to make changes to a historically designated home by obtaining approval through a certificate of appropriateness. All callers have also been advised to read Section 153-58 in the City Code which explains the process of receiving a certificate of appropriateness.

Board member Shonberger explained that if someone would decide to go through with the process of obtaining a certificate of appropriateness, that the biggest hurdle would be getting approval from the Building Department because this structure was built a long time ago and it would have to be brought up to the current Code requirements.

The Board decided that all calls regarding the Hunting Lodge can be directed to the City Clerk's Office, if any additional information is being requested then the person requesting information can attend the next Historic Preservation Board meeting.

#### **b) Discussion on Scenic Highway Designation**

Discussion ensued regarding designating Curtiss Parkway and the Circle as an FDOT Scenic Highway. Board Secretary Garcia notified the Board that he attempted to call FDOT program Coordinator Mike Palozzi in order to invite him to the meeting but was unable to reach him. Board Secretary Garcia added that he also spoke to some Staff members and found that there are no immediate plans to change anything on Curtiss Parkway or the Circle.

Board member Watson mentioned that the report that needs to be submitted for the Scenic Highway Designation is very detailed and extensive. Board member Shonberger added that it would be a challenge as the Board already has a lot going on for this year and it might be better if this item was tabled and discussed in three years. Board member Shonberger stated that since there are no immediate plans to change the road, it would be best to work on this with more time.

**Board member Shonberger made a motion to table the Scenic Highway Designation for three years. Vice Chair Phillips seconded the motion.**

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of time that the item should be tabled for.

Board member Watson mentioned that this was an item that got attention from the community and he does not want to give the impression that the Board is not moving forward with this because they do not want to. He wants it to be clear that this item will be revisited at a later time due to amount of items the Board is currently working for this year.

Board member Hill wished to amend the motion to table the Scenic Highway Designation for two years instead of three. Board member Shonberger withdrew her motion.

**Vice Chair Phillips made a motion to table the Scenic Highway Designation for two years. Board member Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

Chair Garton wanted to thank the members of the community who attended the previous meetings and spoke on this item. The Board would like to make it clear that the decision to table this item was made after receiving information from staff that there are no immediate construction projects for Curtiss Parkway, as well as careful discussion and review.

**c) Review Flyer from Dade Heritage Trust**

Board Secretary Garcia notified the Board that the City Clerk's Office received flyers in the mail from Dade Heritage Trust that advertised historical designation services.

Board member Shonberger commented that the service that is being advertised is for property owners in cities that don't have historic preservation boards in order to help them get their properties designated. Board member Shonberger added that this would not be the case in the City of Miami Springs as this is one of the functions of the Board.

Chair Garton commented that although this flyer has a lot of great information, she does not think that this is something that should be circulated to the residents of Miami Springs as some of the services the flyer advertises do not apply to this City.

**4) Old Business:**

**a) Update from the Miami-Dade County Mayor's Commission guideline for Historical Preservation.**

Vice Chair Phillips reported that there has not been any new information regarding the County Mayor's Commission. She added that this is something they are still working through and that it has not yet gone in front of the County Commissioners for a vote. She believes there will be more to report on at the next Historic Preservation Board meeting.

**b) Designation of the Michael House – 27 Hunting Lodge Drive**

The Board discussed what steps were left in the designation process for the Michael House. Board member Shonberger provided the Board with a draft of the designation report for the Board to review.

Board member Shonberger asked Board Secretary Garcia to read the designation report aloud so that the Board may make corrections as they go along. At this time Board Secretary Garcia read the designation report to the Board members.

The Board pointed out minor typos and formatting errors that appeared on the designation report. Chair Garton asked the Board secretary to make the changes to the designation report that were requested and once completed, send out an updated version of the report to the entire Board for review.

Chair Garton asked if the designation letters have been sent out to the property owner. Board Secretary Garcia responded that the designation letters were finalized by the Board at the last meeting and no letters have been sent yet to the property owner.

**Board member Hill motioned to send the designation letter to the property owner of the Michael House – 27 Hunting Lodge Drive. Board member Shonberger seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**5) Other Business:**

**a) Curtiss Mansion Report**

Vice Chair Phillips reported to the Board that the Curtiss Mansion has received approval and support from the City Council to construct a new parking lot. This new parking lot will include the asphalt pavement, lighting for the lot, landscaping and storm water drainage. Vice Chair Phillips added that since this is City owned property, there will need to be a request for proposal in order for companies to bid for the work. The parking lot should be completed before late August, in time for the City's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration.

The Curtiss Mansion is preparing to host the Smithsonian "Water and Waterways" exhibit beginning on September 9<sup>th</sup> and will remain open for six weeks. On the Friday that the Smithsonian exhibit opens, the Curtiss Mansion will also be hosting the first event to celebrate the City's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, the City will host a Family Fun Day at the new Aquatic Center with games, birthday cupcakes, free swim, and bounce houses. Vice Chair Phillips also informed the Board that on Saturday, the City will be hosting a 1920s themed golf tournament as parts of the City's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday as well.

Discussion ensued about adding wayfinding signs throughout the City that lead to the Curtiss Mansion, similar to the signs that lead to the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables or the Deering Estates in Palmetto Bay.

**Board member Shonberger would like to request that wayfinding signs be added throughout the City leading to the Curtiss Mansion before the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Board member Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**b) Reports from Board Members**

There were no reports from Board Members at this time.

**c) Information/ Reports from Board Liaison from City Council.**

The Board Liaison was not present.

**5) Preparation of the Agenda for the Next Board Meeting:**

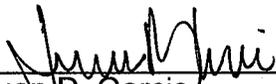
The following items are to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of August 17, 2016.

- Public hearing for the Michael House – 27 Hunting Lodge Drive
- Update from the Miami-Dade County Mayor’s Commission guidelines for Historic Preservation.
- Discuss the additional historical sites to for designation.

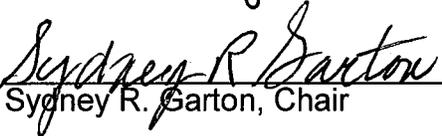
**6) Adjourn**

There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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 Juan D. Garcia  
 Board Secretary

Adopted by the Board on  
this 17 day of August, 2016.

  
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 Sydney R. Garton, Chair

Words ~~stricken through~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.

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