

## **New Smyrna Beach Historic Preservation Commission Meeting March 10, 2021**

**Present:** Curtis Hodges, Marvin Owens, Joanna Mahood, Lianne Bennett (chair), Terry Bledsoe, and Angie Barretta-Herman. **Absent:** Anna Marie O'Mara

**Others Present:** Planning Development Services Coordinator Stephanie Ferrara, Assistant City Manager Brian Fields, City Commissioner Mike Kolody, and Assistant City Attorney Chris Ryan

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** for meeting on November 16, 2020

**Unanimously approved** after a discussion regarding the inclusion of information from Chapter 50 of the City Ordinances that explicates the vote to demolish a contributing structure at 309 Downing Street. The City attorney advised that Minutes state only the facts to protect the City from liability. A Commissioner commented that the City gives the perception of being more concerned about liability than transparency.

Commissioner Mike Kolody updated the Commission on the recent workshop reviewing all City Commissions, Boards and Committees.

### **NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION**

**309 DOWNING STREET:** Demolition of a contributing structure located at 309 Downing Street was approved in February with the condition of prior archeological monitoring and submission of the report. Now in hand, the submitted report stated that "the property will not require further archaeological testing or monitoring due to the extensive nature of mechanical disturbance."

**10<sup>TH</sup> STREET WIDENING PROJECT:** Volusia County is in the process of improving the roadway and intersections along the east portion of 10th Street and hired an archeologist to perform monitoring during the construction. The final report and update to the Florida Master Site File will be submitted to the State of Florida, Department of Historic Resources within one (1) year of the project completion date and staff will forward it to the Commissioners.

**301 Smith Street Project:** The NSB Utilities Commission contracted to remove items from the site that were part of the old electric generator plant. No new prehistoric or historic resources were encountered in the project area during excavation.

**2021 Donnadine Preservation Award:** The City created the Historic Preservation Award program in 2002. In 2009, the award program was renamed in memory of Donnadine Miller, who was an active volunteer and member of the community. While award recipients are encouraged to apply for local landmark designation, receiving an award does not place any restrictions on the property. 2021 Applications are available at City Hall, 210 Sams Avenue; the New Smyrna Museum of History, 120 Sams Avenue; and online at [the City website](#).

**Update on New Smyrna Beach Local Historic Districts:** Staff recently mailed second notices to properties located in both National Historic Districts about nominating these two districts as Local

Historic Districts. First notices were mailed November 16, 2020. Staff received positive response from approximately 15% of owners following the initial mailing. 105 properties are in the Coronado Historic District and over 432 in the Mainland Historic District.

The Board provided input to educate the public to obtain more positive responses. Suggestions included a printed Frequently Asked Question handout, a door-to-door effort to answer questions and an information booth at the Farmers' Market. Having neighborhood meetings was also discussed.

**Selection of 2021 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson:** Joanna Mahood was elected Chairperson and Curtis Hodges was elected Vice Chair. The Board thanked outgoing Chairperson Lianne Bennett for her service.