MINUTES
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2ND FLOOR, TOWN HALL
360 SOUTH COUNTY ROAD, PALM BEACH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011, 9:30 a.m.
(CONTINUED FROM SEPTEMBER 21, 2011)

Please be advised that in keeping with a directive from the Town Council, the minutes of all Town Boards and Commissions will be "abbreviated" in style. Persons interested in listening to the meeting, after the fact, may access the audio of that item via the Town's website at www.townofpalmbeach.com or may obtain an audio recording (CD) of the meeting by contacting Cynthia M. Delp, Secretary to the Landmarks Preservation Commission at (561) 227-6408. As a point of reference, you will find the recording times listed on these minutes at the beginning of each item.

I. CALL TO ORDER:(9:32:29 a.m.)

Chairman Cooney called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL:(9:32:32 a.m.)

Edward Austin Cooney, Chairman	PRESENT
William P. Feldkamp, Vice Chairman	PRESENT
William O. Cooley, Member	PRESENT
Dudley L. Moore, Jr., Member	PRESENT
Jacqueline Albarran, Member	PRESENT
William J. Strawbridge Jr., Member	PRESENT
Leslie Diver, Member	PRESENT
D Imogene Willis, Alternate Member	ABSENT*
Wallace Rogers, Alternate Member	ABSENT*
Rachel Lorentzen, Alternate Member	ABSENT*

*Absence does not negatively impact member's attendance record as this is an extra meeting.

Staff members present were: John S. Page, Director of Planning, Zoning & Building, John Lindgren, Planning Administrator, Jane S. Day, Ph.D., Staff Historic Preservation Consultant, and Cynthia Delp, Secretary to the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Town Attorney John Randolph was absent.

III. ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH TO PERSONS WHO WISH TO TESTIFY:(9:33:01 a.m.)

Mrs. Delp administered the oath at this time to all those who wished to testify.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND COMMISSION MEMBERS:(9:33:18 a.m.) None

V. INFORMAL PRESENTATION: FLAGLER MEMORIAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT(9:33:30 a.m.)

Mr. Cooney noted that in previous meetings, there was some discussion relative to the processes which have brought this project to this point. He had asked Dr. Day to prepare some information in that regard. Dr. Day presented, in detail, a very thorough time line commencing from May 6, 1988 through present relative to the Town's three bridges, the review processes relative to the bridges, and the role of the LPC in that process. She indicated that she had consulted Town records, newspaper records, and had spoken with previous Town Planner, Timothy M. Frank, and Town Attorney, John C. Randolph to gather her data. She explained that the Town landmarked the bridges and bridge vistas in order to gain a seat at the table, for the LPC, when future changes to the bridges were contemplated. After finishing her review of the time line, Dr. Day stated that it is clear that the Town has been proactive since the beginning relative to the bridges, and in fact, has been working with the State on a new Flagler Memorial Bridge for almost a decade. She commented the new bridge, in deference to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, should pay some reference to the original Flagler Memorial Bridge, which was a railroad bridge.

Mr. Cooley drew attention to the LPC ordinance section relative to time periods for applications for demolition, November through April. As the Application for Certificate of Appropriateness hearing is scheduled for October, Mr. Cooley raised procedural questions. Mr. Page responded that Town Attorney Randolph has concluded that "It is important to note that the ultimate decision in regard to the demolition and reconstruction of the new bridge rests with DOT for the reason that the Department of Transportation has plenary power to plan and construct state roads and bridges." Mr. Randolph, per Mr. Page, believes that it is vitally important that the Town and the DOT cooperate to the greatest extent possible in planning for the demolition of the existing bridge and construction of a new bridge, remembering that the State does have plenary power. As such, Mr. Page asked the commission to focus upon cooperation.

Chairman Cooney commented that the Town landmarked the bridges and vistas to gain some aesthetic control when the bridges were replaced, and that control is in place. He discouraged any unnecessary "nitpicking" about the details of the ordinance noting that this is State property, not private property. Mr. Cooney discouraged delaying the bridge hearing until November and saw no good in frustrating the time schedules of the State when relations have been so cooperative thus far. Mr. Cooley, however, maintained his position that the ordinance should be followed. Other members who commented agreed with Mr. Cooney that cooperation should continue, and that hearing the bridge issue in the month of October was not setting a dangerous precedent with regard to the ordinance.

ARCHITECTURAL PRESENTATION BY: Ryan C. Hamrick, P.E., PCL Civil Constructors, James Hughes, P.E., FDOT Project Manager, Keith Krieger, P.E., Kimley-Horn and Associates, and Alberto Sardinas, FDOT Bridge Repair Supervisor

Mr. Hamrick began his presentation by listing several changes, since the September 21, 2011 presentation, to which the State has agreed: barrel tile roof material; lantern style lights; and, an arched entry at the door of the tender's house. These were LPC suggestions which have been integrated into the design. As for the access house, several design options were presented. After discussion, most members leaned toward Design 2a for the access house: a design which eliminates the entry portion of the access house in favor of a hatch-type entry (which allows for the amenity of an overlook). It should be noted, however, that even with Design 2a for the access house, commission members suggested certain improvements. The commission commented relative to other design details of the bridge as well.

Jeffery W. Smith, 241 Sanford Avenue, and current Chairman of the Architectural Commission, was asked to comment. Mr. Smith's comments were detailed and comprehensive, but in short, he was not in favor of the bridge design concept at all, and advocated for a traditional Mediterranean bridge which is

appropriate for Palm Beach.

Mr. Moore commented that no progress was being made toward reaching a consensus relative to the design. His opinion was that the bridge was too contemporary and needs to be more Mediterranean. He suggested that the input of local architects, who know what is appropriate for Palm Beach, be solicited in hopes that they could render specific design suggestions to FDOT. Mrs. Albarran suggested that perhaps she, Eugene Pandula (former LPC Chairman and member of the bridge committee), and Jeffery Smith, ARCOM Chairman, might actually sketch with the State's design team to arrive at a design which is appropriate for the Town and also meets the State's criteria. The State representatives cautioned that the design process cannot be started over from "scratch" at this point, and advised that there are certain safety features built into the design which are not negotiable.

Let the record show that Ms. Diver left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

MOTION BY MR. MOORE THAT WE SOLICIT THE INPUT OF JACQUIE ALBARRAN, GENE PANDULA AND JEFF SMITH TO MEET WITH THIS GROUP AND ATTEMPT TO RENDER SOME SPECIFIC PLAN THAT THEY COULD AGREE ON, AND EXPEDITE THE PROCESS WITH THE THOUGHT IN MIND THAT THERE MAY STILL BE A NEED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION, BUT HOPEFULLY IT WOULD BE MOVING TOWARD SOMETHING THAT IS MORE APPROPRIATE FOR WHAT THIS COMMISSION IS ATTEMPTING TO DO.
MOTION SECONDED BY MR. COOLEY.

Under discussion, commission members reiterated some of their design concerns and preferences.

Under discussion, Laurie Volk, 206 Phipps Plaza, called attention to a particular section of the LPC ordinance relative to criteria for issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness, and also mentioned the section of the ordinance limiting review of demolitions to the months of November through April. She maintained that the ordinance should be followed. Chairman Cooney and other members restated the commission's position on this uniquely different State project.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Staff will coordinate the design meeting, and it was suggested that representatives from the City of West Palm Beach should be invited to attend the meeting, after the aforementioned three architects have had an opportunity to work for a few hours.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers, 2nd floor, Town Hall, 360 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Austin Cooney, Chairman
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
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