

MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
Cultural and Environmental Learning Center Advisory Board
Special Meeting
Town Hall - Council Chambers
2523 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Thursday, January 30, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 by Chair Hill.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Barbara Anderson Hill, Betty Simpson, Cheri Smith, Ceel Spuhler, Becky Werner, and Lorrie Wolf.

Unexcused: Rex Pontius

Historical Advisor: Bill Grace

Town Staff: Regan Doherty and Randy Norton.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

IV. MOUND HOUSE MUSEUM EXHIBITS AND LANDSCAPE SIGNAGE AS PRESENTED BY SEARCH IN THEIR MASTER PLAN

Chair Hill stated that CELCAB reviewed the master plan and conceptually approved it, but CELCAB was meeting to reevaluate that decision. Ms. Werner explained that she moved to accept the concept, not the master plan. Ms. Werner noted that the motion was confusing. Ms. Werner questioned the timeline of landscape signage. Ms. Doherty stated that SEARCH would not begin landscape signage until museum design, fabrication, and installation were complete. Ms. Werner indicated that security cameras would be part of the original security system.

Ms. Werner suggested that free-standing signs were not necessary and if directional signs were needed, they could be installed in the upper and bottom hallway. Ms. Spuhler agreed and stated that one wall-mounted directional sign in the landing would work well.

Discussion was held regarding voting on items in the master plan. Chair Hill reviewed her understanding of what CELCAB was originally tasked to do. Chair Hill understood that specific segments would be presented to CELCAB to vote on for recommendation. Mr. Norton stated that was correct for the outside signage; however, the number of indoor signs needed to be addressed. Discussion was held regarding reading panels and text development.

Ms. Spuhler stated that the signs were needed, but that donor signs could be displayed at Town Hall. Ms. Spuhler was concerned about sufficient wall space for the signs. Ms. Doherty stated that measurements would be taken first.

Chair Hill requested clarification regarding the exterior donor sign. Ms. Doherty stated that she did not see an exterior donor sign in the plan. Ms. Doherty stated that the exterior donor panel was included in the SEARCH action plan. Discussion was held regarding the original donor sign plan, capital campaign, endowments, incentives, and donor recognition. Ms. Werner suggested postponing the decision regarding donor signs.

Ms. Wolf agreed with eliminating free-standing signs, and she stated that donor panels were a vital part of funding activity for non-profits. Mr. Grace indicated that donor recognition would need to be part of any campaign. Ms. Wolf and Chair Hill agreed that donor panels should be displayed at the Mound House.

Ms. Doherty revealed that SEARCH staff would be present at the February meeting. Discussion was held regarding donor signs.

MOTION: Ms. Wolf moved to eliminate two free-standing, way-finding signs inside the house; second by Ms. Werner.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Spuhler moved to eliminate the interior donor sign in the living room; second by Ms. Werner.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Werner moved to direct SEARCH to produce a large, exterior entrance sign for major donors as specified by previous CELCAB laws; second by Ms. Wolf.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the Save the Site sign in the living room. Ms. Doherty noted that she could request that SEARCH address the sign at the February meeting.

Ms. Spuhler pointed out that pictures in the hallway and the garage could be enlarged.

Discussion was held regarding a recommendation from SEARCH to combine seven signs to four on the second floor porch. Issues included traffic jams, distance of signs from walls, and funding.

Ms. Werner questioned the elimination of one of the kiosks in the contemporary history room. Ms. Doherty explained the recommendation from SEARCH.

Discussion was held concerning storage in closets, the 1921 bathroom, and a silver cup. Ms. Werner questioned choosing the artifact replicas as stated on page 69. Ms. Doherty volunteered to create a list of replicas that would fit with the theme of the panel.

Mr. Grace questioned the location of the main entrance. Ms. Doherty explained that the original entrance at the front door would have to be ADA compliant, which would cut down on planned display space in the room. Ms. Doherty reported that the light in the center of the room was an issue. Discussion was held regarding the location of the new entrance.

Ms. Spuhler questioned whether a volunteer would be located in each room. Ms. Doherty replied that volunteers would be ideal.

Mr. Grace stated that he had concerns regarding the front entrance and he did not feel that ADA compliance with the front door was a cost issue since it would cost as much to create a path to the new entrance. Discussion was held concerning entrance and exit options.

Ms. Wolf suggested moving the admissions desk to the garage. Discussion was held concerning traffic flow, issuing pins for admission, and ADA compliance.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Catherine Wallace expressed concern that SEARCH was instructing CELCAB what to do. Ms. Wallace questioned the number and content of interior signs and requested copies of the sign information from the master plan. Ms. Wallace noted that one volunteer could be assigned to two rooms. Ms. Spuhler offered to go over the planned signs with Ms. Wallace.

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Werner thanked CELCAB for their patience and hard work.

VII. UPCOMING MEETING DATE - February 27, 2014

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Simpson moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Smith.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Adopted 2/27/14 with/without changes. Motion by Betty Simpson
(DATE)

Vote: 5-0 Signature: Barbara Heil

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