

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**Cultural and Environmental Learning Center Advisory Board**  
**with Friends of the Mound House and**  
**Mound House Volunteers**  
Newton Park – Seven Seas  
4610 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Thursday, April 11, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Hill.

**II. ROLL CALL**

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

Unexcused: Rex Pontius

Historical Advisor: Bill Grace

Town Manager: Don Stilwell

Council Liaison: Anita Cereceda

Town Staff: Regan Doherty and Randy Norton

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**IV. VISITOR ENTRANCE DOOR TO THE MOUND HOUSE MUSEUM**

A) Explanation of materials included in the meeting packet by Regan Doherty

Ms. Doherty reviewed information concerning the location of the visitor entrance, including original and current plans.

B) Preferred entrance - all attendees are invited to participate in the discussion

Ms. Spuhler felt that entering through the Tudor front door was the answer. Ms. Spuhler reviewed the intended flow of the house and suggested trial runs with both entrances.

Ms. Smith stated that the entrance should be in the front like other museums.

Ms. Simpson partially agreed with Ms. Smith regarding the front door entrance and exit through the gift shop; however, she would like to keep the Period Room intact.

Ms. Wolf agreed with entering through the front door and exiting through the gift shop, and she suggested selling tickets offsite.

Ms. Werner stated that she agreed with the front door entrance but, after reading two studies, she had concerns regarding water and weight.

Mr. Grace remarked that the entrance had always been in the front and he had concerns regarding the historical integrity of the building if the entrance was moved. Mr. Grace noted that tickets could be sold on the front porch and should not be a determining factor with the entrance.

Chair Hill reviewed issues concerning changes to the entrance. Chair Hill stated that she supported the original front entrance.

Ms. Prasse stated that tickets should be purchased offsite, not in the Period Room.

Ms. Vaughan questioned the logistics of selling tickets.

Ms. Heckman agreed with purchasing tickets offsite. Ms. Heckman remarked that she recently visited homes in Savannah and entered through the gift shops. Ms. Heckman thought the <sup>DeLysle</sup> Delilah Room would be a good entrance.

Ms. Senecal remarked that she preferred entering through the gift shop. Ms. Senecal agreed that the <sup>DeLysle</sup> Delilah Room could work as an entrance.

Ms. Hill proposed looking into the Period Room from different angles instead of walking through the room.

Ms. Sharpe agreed with Ms. Hill.

Ms. Leary questioned the traffic flow.

Ms. Werner did not feel that large groups would visit at the same time.

Ms. Wallace felt that the integrity of the Period Room was the priority and tickets should be sold offsite.

Ms. Grace questioned the structure of the top of the underground exhibit and suggested reviewing previous reports.

Mr. Norton stated that the structural issues needed to be addressed.

Mr. Grace remarked that the original plan addressed structural issues.

Ms. Doherty reviewed previous meetings with the contractor, architect, and Ms. Lewis.

Ms. Cereceda agreed with Ms. Spuhler concerning a trial run and suggested preparing both entrances. Ms. Cereceda agreed with offsite ticket sales. Ms. Cereceda suggested preparing the front door first and determine what impact the side door would have on the underground exhibit.

Ms. Werner requested clarification regarding ADA compliance with entrance and exit doors. Discussion followed.

C) CELCAB recommendation for the location of the visitor entrance to the Mound House Museum

**MOTION:** Ms. Wolf moved to make sure the front entrance into the Period Room be the official front entrance to the Mound House Museum; second by Ms. Simpson.

Ms. Spuhler suggested trying out the flow before making a decision. Discussion was held regarding ADA compliance and amending the motion.

**AMENDED**

**MOTION:** Ms. Wolf moved that CELCAB direct the contractors to follow the original designs incorporated by CELCAB in reference to the front door; second by Ms. Simpson.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**V. APRIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING DATE AND TIME - TBD**

**MOTION:** Ms. Ceel Spuhler (1:26:23) moved to cancel the April 24, 2014 meeting; second by Ms. Larrie Walt

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**VI. MOUND HOUSE MUSEUM OPERATIONS - ADMISSION FEES**

Tabled until May.

**VII. ITEMS FOR CHAIR HILL TO BRING TO TOWN COUNCIL JOINT WORK SESSION**

CELCAB members agreed to send items to Ms. Doherty.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Wallace agreed with a trial run to determine flow. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hill mentioned the Jacaranda Festival and the Mound House.

Ms. Cereceda stated that Council would discuss 216 Connecticut St. at a workshop on the 21st at 10:00 a.m.

**IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Discussion was held regarding the Grand Opening.

Ms. Cereceda offered to meet with Ms. Wicks regarding volunteers and tickets.

**X. ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Ms. Barbara Hill (1:41:15) moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Spuhler.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Adopted 5/22/14 (DATE) with/without changes. Motion by Betty Simpson

Vote: 5-0 Signature: Ceel Spuhler

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