

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, July 10, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting was called to order at 3:10 by Chair Hill.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Barbara Anderson Hill, Betty Simpson, Cherie Smith, and Ceel Spuhler.
Excused: Becky Werner and Lorrie Wolf.
Historical Advisor: Bill Grace.
Town Council Liaison: Rexann Hosafros.
Town Staff: Randy Norton and Paul Rapp.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

IV. MEETING WITH EMILY POWLEN, Project Manager from SEARCH, Inc.

Ms. Powlen referred to a status report included in the packet of information distributed to members. Ms. Powlen reported that generally the exhibits and design were on time and on budget. Ms. Powlen and three staff members set aside two weeks for installation beginning August 10. Discussion was held concerning missing artifacts. Town staff was charged with the task of researching the location of missing artifacts. Ms. Powlen stated that she would contact former members of Synergy regarding the artifacts.

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Ms. Powlen distributed draft text for 15 exterior interpretive panels. Chair Hill questioned the exterior recognition sign. Ms. Powlen stated that she was not aware of the sign, but she noted that she would create options for CELCAB to review.

Ms. Powlen reported that 57 exterior landscape plant ID panels were planned. Ms. Powlen distributed sample draft concepts. Discussion was held concerning variations of concepts. Ms. Powlen revealed that the text for the panels originated from Synergy, but she stated that CELCAB would have final approval.

Ms. Powlen stated that 11 way-finding signs had been planned. Ms. Powlen recommended three or four signs for exits and restrooms. Ms. Powlen requested feedback regarding the rough draft site plan map. Discussion was held regarding tent size and location of pier.

Ms. Powlen recommended installing two way-finding signs at the entrance indicating the location of the museum shop and the orientation theater, and one sign at the top of the stairs.

Ms. Powlen distributed handouts of panels to be installed on a track system in the orientation theater. Discussion was held regarding the framework material for free-standing panels and lighting.

Ms. Powlen revealed that the final estuary panels were being delivered to her office and, in the event that CELCAB was not happy with the final results, SEARCH would reprint the panels. Ms. Powlen distributed copies of the panels. Chair Hill felt that the panels lacked continuity in terms of aesthetics. Ms. Hosafros suggested that members evaluate the current panels before committing to replace them. Ms. Powlen stated that she would provide members with an alternative design option and the cost to manufacture and deliver new panels.

Chair Hill requested clarification of the room named Contemporary History. Consensus was reached to change the name at the next meeting. Ms. Powlen distributed copies of the new room layout for the second floor. Mr. Rapp stated that he would send an email to members explaining what the Contemporary History room included in order to provide information for renaming. Ms. Powlen revealed that a second central display unit was added to provide cohesion between the two rooms. Discussion was held concerning the display units, the size of the Cuban fishing rancho, the Long story, who will review the text, the color of the door to the lift, construction changes to the puzzle units, the Calusa closet, and placement of the estuary panels.

Ms. Powlen distributed handouts of the panels in the Calusa room. Discussion was held concerning the selection of an artist, options for the Tools of the Estuary panel, adding backgrounds to 3-D images, and the artifact display case. Ms. Powlen provided floor plans with snapshots of the panels. Discussion followed pertaining to text, the bathroom panel, kiosks, captions for photographs, and a preliminary design of the kiosk software, which included a printout of potential images and captions.

Discussion was held regarding composition and durability of the puzzle units. Ms. Powlen distributed handouts of sample puzzle pieces, frames, and units.

Ms. Hosafros suggested that Ms. Powlen provide members with a final date for approval of panels and related items. Ms. Powlen stated that the process required 60 days for production and installation. Ms. Powlen stated that she would email alternative layouts to Mr. Rapp, who will forward the information to members. Ms. Hosafros recommended scheduling two meetings per month until the grand opening. Mr. Rapp agreed to check availability with the Town Clerk.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Penny Sharp was concerned about compliance with ADA requirements and large gatherings of people in the tent at the Mound House.

Ms. Kelly Leary (sp?) revealed that a window was open on the second floor of the Mound House over the weekend. Ms. Leary felt that volunteers should have access to emergency numbers. Ms. Hosafros stated that she was available via cell phone or email. Mr. Norton and Mr. Rapp provided their cell numbers.

Ms. Catherine Wallace stated that volunteers contacted 11 people regarding the open window. Ms. Wallace expressed concern about the missing artifacts.

Ms. Powlen provided options for ADA compliance pertaining to visual and hearing accommodations.

VI. UPCOMING MEETING DATE - July 24, 2014

VII. ADJOURN

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

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Adopted 8/28/14 with/without changes. Motion by Lonnie / Ceel
(DATE)

Vote: Unanimous Signature: Barbara Hill

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