

**August 18, 2025
HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
MINUTES
4:00 PM
2401 SE Monterey Road, Commission Chambers**

PRESENT

Chairperson Pro Tem..... Robert Steele
Members Joette Lorion Rice
William Weiss
Rodney Johnson
Douette Pryce

Absent..... Evan Anderson
Sherry Lee
Jacqui May

STAFF PRESENT

HPB Liaison..... Elise Raffa
County Attorney..... Frank Moehrle
Assis Jordan Pastorius

*** Indicates a motion**

**** Indicates a vote**

***** For the record comment**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Joette Lorion Rice moved for approval of June 16, 2025, minutes. **Douette Pryce seconded the motion. ***Motion passed unanimously.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REVIEW

Members reviewed the existing 1997 survey and its original scope of work.

Joette: How do we go about applying for a grant?

Elise: Staff can continue to explore opportunities with the CLG program.

*Douette Pryce moved for staff to get a new estimate for a survey, email the Board the City of Stuart's survey, and look into applying for a CLG grant. **Joette Lorion Rice seconded the motion.

***Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public: None

B. Members:

Joette – The Historical Society of Martin County has always worked together on the House of Refuge with the County. I made a public comment at the Board of County

Commissioner (BOCC) meeting because I was very concerned about the agreement not getting approved. Some people are concerned about finances, but the House of Refuge is the oldest building in the county and needs to be saved. Some work needs to be done to explain to the Commissioners about the importance our historic resources.

Douette – Yes, it's important for them to realize the importance.

Joette – The Board of County Commissioners should work with us more for support. Right before the BOCC meeting there was an article in Southern Living Magazine about how amazing the House of Refuge is; it's the last one standing.

Rob – I have invited and given tours to all the commissioners of the House of Refuge.

William – The House of Refuge is a jewel of our community.

Douette – There were a lot of great events during Historic Preservation Month. I was impressed by the caliber of events; everything went so well. The Sheriff's Office event was lot of fun. Staff did a great job.

C. Staff: None

ADJOURN: 4:50 p.m.

Prepared by:

Jordan Pastorius, Assistant Community Development Manager

Date

Robert Steele, Vice-Chair

Date

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