

June 16, 2025
HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
MINUTES
4:00 PM
2401 SE Monterey Road, Commission Chambers

PRESENT

Vice Chair.....	Robert Steele
Members	Joette Lorion Rice
	William Weiss
	Sherry Lee
	Jacqui May
Absent.....	Rodney Johnson
	Douette Pryce
	Evan Anderson

STAFF PRESENT

HPB Liaison.....	Elise Raffa
County Attorney.....	Frank Moehrle
Commission Aide	Patricia Higginbotham

*** Indicates a motion**

**** Indicates a vote**

***** For the record comment**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 10, 2025, minutes were brought back to the Board for review and approval.

*Joette Lorion Rice moved for approval. **Robert Steele seconded the motion. ***Motion passed with 3 ayes and 2 nays.

April 17, 2025, minutes: *Joette Lorion Rice moved for approval of the minutes with the additional notation that she presented each Board member with a nomination summary of Saadia Tsaftarides for Preservationist of the Year. **William Weiss seconded the motion. ***Motion passed unanimously.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2025 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH REVIEW

Elise Raffa showed a PowerPoint presentation of highlights from the month's events. Board members suggested adding the event photos the Martin County Historic Preservation website. A note to print additional calendars for next year was made and a reminder of the Centennial Plaque Dedication with the Martin County Board of County Commissioners at the historic Martin County Court House on August 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS**A. Public: None****B. Members:**

Robert Steele announced the Martin Digital History grant will be ending in December 2025, the need to continue this work, and to obtain new funding sources. He suggested that the Board send a letter of support to the Martin County BOCC. He also shared the House of Refuge restoration will start soon.

Jacqui May shared that the State has “Florida Memory” library as another possible resource for preserving MC history. Board member May requested the status of the historic county survey. She will forward the contact information of the company in St. Augustine to Jordan Pastorius and possible grant matches. Board member Steele requested the previous historic county survey and scope be provided during the next meeting in August. Board member May requested a 2024/2025 financial report be presented to the Board during the August meeting.

She announced the MC Black Heritage Initiative organization is meeting with Martin County School Board on June 17, 2025, to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding to teach living history.

Joette Lorion Rice – wants to revise the Historic Preservation presentation before it gets used again. Board member Rice asked about why the Board had not been notified about the restoration of the House of Refuge. Jordan Pastorius will research this question and speak to the appropriate staff regarding the Board’s concern.

*Sherry Lee moved to have Joette Lorion Rice draft a letter of support for continuing the MC Digital History project with the intent for the Historic Preservation Board to contribute a monetary amount. **Jacqui May seconded the motion. ***Motion passed unanimously.

*Jacqui May moved to have a 2024/2025 financial report provided to the Board in August. **Sherry Lee seconded the motion. ***Motion passed unanimously.

C. Staff: None**ADJOURN: 4:55 p.m.**

Prepared by:

Patricia Higginbotham, Commission Aide

Date

Evan Anderson, Chair

Date