

1972

Minutes of Directors' Meeting, January 6, 1973

Florida Historical Society
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MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS' MEETING

Florida Historical Society

The semi-annual meeting of the officers and board of directors of the Florida Historical Society was convened in the Society's library, University of South Florida Library, Tampa, at 10:15 a.m., January 6, 1973, by Dr. John E. Johns, president. Attending were Milton D. Jones, Thelma Peters, Mrs. Milton D. Jones, Mary Jane Kuhl, Samuel Proctor, Audrey Broward, Donald Curl, Michel G. Emmanuel, David Forshay, Bryon S. Hollingshead, Anthony P. Pizzo, Sister Elizabeth Ann Rice, Jerrell H. Shofner, Normann Simons, Charlton Tebeau, and James C. Craig. Dr. Johns welcomed the group and introduced the new Board members, Sister Elizabeth Ann Rice and Messrs. Emmanuel, Forshay, and Simons. Mrs. Emmanuel, William M. Goza, and E. A. Hammond were recognized. The minutes of the previous Board session on May 11, 1972 were approved as published in the October 1972 issue of *The Florida Historical Quarterly*.

The President stated that Mrs. C. G. Lindley of Panama City has asked the Florida Historical Society to pass a resolution favoring the preservation of a 250-acre tract of land on Tindell Air Force Base, which is in danger of being sold by the federal government to a paper company for a dumping area. Dr. Forshay made the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Florida Historical Society supports and endorses all efforts toward acquisition of a certain 250-acre tract of land on Tindell Air Force Base, Florida, by the State of Florida, or the retention of same by the Federal Government, and that it be preserved as an historical site.

The resolution passed, and the recording secretary was instructed to communicate this action to Mrs. Lindley.

Dr. Johns showed a plaque from the Liberty Ship *SS Andrew Turnbull* presented to the Society by H. J. Turnbull, a descendant of Andrew Turnbull.

Mrs. Kuhl, executive secretary, reported that the Society had 1,734 members as of December 31, 1972, a net gain of 188 over the previous year. The balance in all bank accounts is \$36,985.45:

Father Jerome Memorial Book Fund, \$3,273.07; Julian Yonge Publication Fund, \$14,302.50; Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Fund, \$2,815.28; main savings, \$13,406.98; checking account, \$2,984.73; and Charlton W. Tebeau Fund, \$202.89. Mrs. Kuhl explained the various bank accounts to the new directors. Mr. Forshay moved the acceptance of the financial report, and this passed.

Mrs. Kuhl asked that the Board consider sending one delinquent dues notice to members one month prior to their actual expiration date. This would save time, postage, and in many cases, an issue of the *Quarterly*. The Board instructed Mrs. Kuhl to proceed in this manner. It was decided to leave the foreign subscriptions at the same cost, not imposing a premium for additional out-of-the-country postage. Mrs. Kuhl requested money for the binding of periodicals, and this was approved. Mrs. Kuhl noted that the University of South Florida Library would be moving to new quarters, and with this in mind, she asked about disposition of duplicates of periodicals in the Society's files. She was instructed to trade or sell the extras. A form letter listing the periodicals inventory will be sent to members. The foot locker of Colonel Hamilton R. Horsey whose papers were given to the Florida Historical Society will be returned to the family.

Dr. Proctor, editor, *Florida Historical Quarterly*, stated that all matters relating to the editing of the journal were satisfactory. There is a backlog of first quality material that has been accepted for publication. Articles are being submitted by scholars from all parts of the United States. Dr. Proctor asked Board members to encourage research and writing among all persons, amateur and professional alike. He also asked for suggestions for use on the cover of the journal. Dr. Johns complimented the editor on his work on the *Quarterly*.

Dr. Shofner reported that his committee consisting of Milton Jones and Samuel Proctor met to work out a plan to index volumes XXXVI-L of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* and to publish the index. Mrs. Carol F. Lauer of the Florida State Library is checking and collating the cards and will type a manuscript. The project is now in its final stages. It was agreed previously to pay a fee of \$500-\$750 to Mrs. Lauer for her services. It was noted that the Florida Historical Society had no investment in the project so far, and that the typing of the

cards has been done by students at the University of Florida and librarians from the Gainesville Public Library. Miss Broward was added to the Committee to examine the final manuscript draft.

Dr. Hammond, co-chairman with Dr. Peters of the program for the annual meeting, reported that the Committee had met with the local arrangements committee in Fort Pierce in September. He outlined the tentative program that is being planned. Dr. Johns will invite the banquet speaker. The headquarters hotel will be the Port St. Lucie Hilton. Joseph Coville, Indian River Community College, Fort Pierce, is local arrangements chairman.

Mrs. Kuhl reported that copies of the *Quarterly* purchased from the Historical Association of Southern Florida had been received and were being sold. Dr. Johns asked Dr. Peters to inventory the artifacts, pictures, and other properties belonging to the Society which are not in the Society Library.

Dr. Johns reviewed the Society's plans to organize historical societies and commissions. The Society will extend an invitation to every historical group in the state to send a representative at its own expense to a planning session to discuss the means whereby a confederation for the exchange of information and for the benefit of mutual strength could be developed. The possibility of having such a meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting was discussed. Dr. Proctor suggested having an organizational meeting at the Historical Society's Library, and then hold a second meeting with the annual convention. Dr. Johns then appointed the following to serve on a committee to pursue the project: Dr. Proctor, Milton Jones, Vernon Peeples, Ms. Linda Ellsworth, and Dr. Martin LaGodna.

Dr. Johns stated the health and status of the Florida Historical Society depended on the ability of the President to stimulate the interest and cooperation of the membership. More continuity is needed between meetings he pointed out, to pursue the Society's business. He called for the creation of an executive committee to meet quarterly. Mr. Jones stated that under the by-laws and charter, it was permissible for the Board to create such a committee to oversee Society affairs. Mr. Jones proposed the following Resolution for consideration:

RESOLVED, That there is established an Executive Committee consisting of the President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the Executive Secretary, the Editor of the *Quarterly*, and the immediate Past President, who shall confer and prosecute the business of the Society and report to the Board. Such committee shall meet at least quarterly. The President shall be its chairman. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum for its meetings.

The Resolution was passed.

Dr. Johns proposed the name of Dr. John K. Mahon, Gainesville to fill a vacancy on the Board. A motion to approve was passed.

Mr. Jones then proposed the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That as a matter of continuing policy, should any Board member fail to attend two successive Board meetings, *except for impelling reasons*, the President is authorized to declare the office of such Board member to have been abandoned and therefore vacant. Such office shall be deemed vacant upon written declaration to such effect filed with the Executive Secretary, and shall be filled as provided in Section 7, Article III, of the Revised By-Laws of the Society.

A copy of this Resolution will be circulated to all Board members. The Resolution was adopted.

Dr. Proctor stated that the University of West Florida has proposed collecting all of the extant papers relating to the Panton, Leslie and Company and Forbes and Company for a definitive microfilm edition. The University of Florida and the Florida Historical Society have been invited to participate in this project. A six-person editorial board will be approved to represent the consortium and to work with Dr. William Coker, University of West Florida, who will direct the project. Dr. Johns appointed Dr. Proctor and Mrs. Kuhl to represent the Society. Dr. Proctor asked for permission to photocopy the original manuscripts and their typescripts from the Greenslade and Cruzat Papers for the project. This was approved and the Society will pay these costs.

To plan the Society's participation in the American Revolution Bicentennial, Dr. Proctor proposed setting up a committee which will establish the goals of what the Society wants to do by 1976. Such things as completion of the index to the *Quarterly*,

cataloging of manuscripts, increasing membership, adding to the various funds, and bringing the Society's library up-to-date were suggested. Dr. Johns will appoint a committee to handle this assignment.

Dr. Proctor informed the board that his budget from the University of Florida for the *Quarterly* had been cut, and if the money is not replaced, the Society will have to assist. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to appropriate \$500 for aid to the *Quarterly*, if it is necessary.

Dr. Johns stated that the Florida Historical Society had been offered a valuable piece of property for use as a headquarters site. This matter is being examined, and a report will be made at the annual meeting. Dr. Johns felt that it would be difficult to get private funding until an identifiable headquarters site is found.

Dr. Johns thanked Mrs. Kuhl for handling the arrangements for the meeting and all those present for their cooperation. He then adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alva L. Jones

OBITUARY

Dr. William J. Schellings

Dr. William J. Schellings died in Japan August 8, 1972, at the age of fifty-eight. He received his Master of Arts from the University of Miami; his thesis topic was "Tampa, Florida: Its Role in the Spanish-American War, 1898." His doctorate was from the University of Florida, and his dissertation was "The Role of Florida in the Spanish-American War, 1898." He taught at Troy State University, Alabama, and Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia. A longtime member of the Florida Historical Association, Dr. Schellings was a Fulbright summer fellow and lecturer in Taiwan and Japan. Several of his articles were published in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* and *Tequesta*. At the time of his death he was completing a study on Korean and Japanese student radical movements.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

1973

May 10-12	FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY— 71st ANNUAL MEETING	Port St. Lucie Hilton Fort Pierce, Fla.
June 1-2	Florida American Revolution Bicentennial Symposium	Florida International University
Sept. 18-21	American Association for State and Local History	Edmonton, Alberta
Sept. 25-28	Society of American Archivists	St. Louis, Mo.
Oct. 11-14	National Trust for Historic Preservation	Cleveland, Ohio
Nov. 1-4	National Oral History Colloquium	West Point, N.Y.
Nov. 7-10	Southern Historical Association	Atlanta, Ga.
Dec. 27-30	American Historical Association	San Francisco, Calif.