

1995

Directors Meeting

Florida Historical Society
membership@myfloridahistory.org



Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Historical Quarterly by an authorized editor of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1995) "Directors Meeting," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 74 : No. 1 , Article 11.

Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol74/iss1/11>

FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
January 20, 1995

The Board of Directors of the Florida Historical Society convened at the Society's headquarters at 1320 Highland Avenue, Melbourne, on Saturday, January 20, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. Those attending included Marinus Latour, President; Larry Durrence, President Elect; Joe Knetsch, Vice President; Patti Bartlett, Secretary; Joe Akerman, Raymond O. Arsenault, Canter Brown, Jr., James M. Denham, Jane Dysart, José B. Fernández, James J. Horgan, Maxine Jones, Jenifer Marx, Thomas Muir, Larry Rivers, James Roth, Daniel Schafer, Niles Schuh, Patrick Smith, Robert A. Taylor, Cynthia Trefelner, and Lindsey Williams. Nick Wynne, Executive Director, and Marilyn S. Potts, Administrative Assistant, were also present. President Latour called the meeting to order and asked the new Board member to introduce themselves to the others present.

President Latour asked for approval of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting of May 1994. Joe Knetsch made the motion for approval, and James Roth seconded. The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The first item of new business concerned the editorship of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. President Latour gave the Board a brief explanation of what had transpired with the journal since the unfortunate death of Editor George E. Pozzetta in May 1994. He informed the members that two proposals had been offered to the Society.

The first was an offer from the University of Florida to continue the relationship the Society has had with the University and to place responsibility for editing the *Quarterly* in the hands of Immediate Past President David R. Colburn. The second proposal was from the University of Central Florida to create a similar relationship. Jerrell H. Shofner, a former president of the Society and a long-time Board member, would serve as the interim editor. UCF would advertise for a faculty position in Florida history and the permanent editorship of the *Quarterly* would be an integral part of the position description. The Society would have an advisory role in the selection process.

President Latour acknowledged that any movement of the *Quarterly* offices would certainly be controversial. He informed the Board that he had named a Special Committee of former presidents--Olive Peterson, William Goza, John Mahon, Milton Jones, and Shofner to study the issue and to make a recommendation to the Board. The Committee met on January 14, 1995, at the Altamonte Springs Public Library. The Committee, with President Latour and Executive Director Wynne present, discussed the options and concluded that the Society's best interests would be served if the journal office was moved to UCF. By a 4-0 vote (Shofner abstaining), the recommendation of the Committee was approved. William Goza then offered the Society a \$5,000 donation from the Wentworth Foundation to assist in any costs associated with relocation, *pending approval of the Board*.

The recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Committee was relayed to the Board. After much discussion about the merits of both proposals, Joe Knetsch moved that the Board accept the offer from the University of Central Florida. José B. Fernández seconded the motion. Canter Brown, Jr., offered an amendment to the motion which would have delayed acceptance for thirty days until all other institutions of higher learning were solicited for offers. The amendment to the motion failed. The question was called, and the Board ratified Knetsch's motion by a 15 to 7 margin. The Board then adjourned for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m. for its afternoon session. Canter Brown, Jr. introduced a motion to delay the implementation of the Board's decision to move the *Quarterly* for thirty days. Larry Rivers seconded the motion. After much heated debate over the question, Brown withdrew his motion and the Board proceeded with its business.

Joe Knetsch introduced a motion, which was seconded by Larry Durrence, to have President Latour appoint a special committee of three Board members to work out the details of the *Quarterly's* transfer to and future support of the journal with UCF. The committee would be authorized to submit requests for proposals from other institutions should the UCF-Society negotiations fail. A motion was made to close further debate on the issue. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Larry Durrence, chair of the Finance Committee, presented the financial review for FY 94 and the proposed budget for FY 95. Central to the discussion is the need for the Society to maintain of-

fices in Tampa and Melbourne. The projected FY 95 budget calls for increases in most categories of membership. The increases, the first in more than five years, are necessary to underwrite the additional expenses incurred by the recent increase in postage, higher printing costs, and the maintenance expenses associated with the upkeep of the Melbourne properties. The Executive Director explained that these costs will have to be borne by the Society until the Rossetter gift is in place. The difficulty, he explained, is not having a firm date for the transfer of the monetary gift to the Society. The projected budget for FY 95 is \$107,885. The proposed dues increase will be presented to the general membership for ratification at the May 1995 Annual Meeting.

No raises were included for Society staff, but the Board approved a \$200 per month stipend for Marilyn Potts, the Society's Administrative Assistant, who has taken on additional responsibilities as a result of the opening of the Melbourne office. The Board also approved a proposal to increase the Society's contribution for health insurance for the Executive Director from 50% to 100%.

The proposed budget, including the increase in dues, was approved on the motion of Joe Knetsch, which was seconded by James M. Denham.

Joe Knetsch, chair of the Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee, reviewed plans for the meeting. Knetsch expects to raise a significant amount of local financial support for underwriting many of the activities. He also made a motion to dedicate the 1995 meeting to the memory of Dorothy Dodd, in recognition of her work in Florida History. The motion was seconded by Daniel Schafer and passed unanimously.

Wynne announced that the 1996 Annual Meeting will be held in Brevard County and will be sponsored by the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science. A date and location will be announced later. He also indicated that the 1997 meeting is open for proposals. The Jacksonville Historical Society has expressed an interest. Daniel Schafer volunteered to make inquiries and to let the Board know in May 1995. Raymond Arsenault indicated that Tampa might be interested in hosting the 1998 meeting, which would be the centennial year of the Spanish-American War.

President Latour reviewed the current contract the Society has with the University of South Florida to house our collection. The Executive Director displayed the conceptual plans the Society has for the construction of a Society library in the future. The library,

to be called the Judge James Knott Library, would honor Mr. Knott's contribution of \$10,000 to underwrite the planning and development of the project. President Latour also informed the Board that the contract with USF, which expires July 1, is under review and that the Board would be updated on its status at the May meeting.

Larry Durrence suggested that the question of a new library be deferred until the Board could dedicate more study to the matter. He proposed that the Board consider this matter in a retreat to be held in the fall. Daniel Schafer asked that the various methods of acquiring a new library be summarized for the Board members in writing and distributed prior to the retreat. President Latour asked Board members to forward suitable dates to the staff so that preparations could begin. Joe Knetsch formalized the discussion in a motion. The motion was seconded by José B. Fernández and passed unanimously.

President Latour provided an update on the state's Sesquicentennial activities. He is the Society's representative on the statewide commission. He informed the Board that a special postage stamp commemorating the 150th anniversary of statehood will be issued by the U.S. Post Office.

The Executive Director noted that memberships in the Society had declined slightly, and he asked Board members to assist in recruiting new members. He also requested that Board members assist in the compilation of mailing lists from other organizations that might be used. Jane Dysart suggested that local historical societies be asked to purchase memberships for local schools.

President Latour commented that Board members can be very helpful on the local scene in coordinating Society activities. With that, a motion to adjourn was made by Joe Knetsch. It was seconded by Jane Dysart, and the motion was approved unanimously.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS . . .

1995

Sept. 7-9	American Association for State and Local History	Saratoga Springs, NY
Oct. 5-7	Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference	Pensacola, FL
Oct. 19-22	Oral History Association	Milwaukee, WI
Oct. 27-29	Southern Jewish Historical Association	New Orleans, LA
Nov. 8-11	Southern Historical Association	New Orleans, LA

1996

Jan. 4-7	American Historical Association	Atlanta, GA
Mar. 28-31	Organization of American Historians	Chicago, IL
May 23	FLORIDA HISTORICAL CONFEDERATION	Cocoa Beach, FL
May 23-25	FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 94TH MEETING	Cocoa Beach, FL