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Minutes of the May 29, 1997 Florida Historical Society Board of Directors Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE MAY 29, 1997
FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

The Florida Historical Society Board of Directors held its semi-annual meeting on Thursday, May 29, 1997, at the Radisson Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida. The following Board members were in attendance:

Joe Ackerman
Patti Bartlett
Tom Bowman
Mary Ann Cleveland
William Coker
Allison DeFoor
James M. Denham
Jose Fernandez
George Franchere
Kari Frederickson

Sandra Johnson
Marinus Latour
Doug Milne
Larry Rivers
Niles Shuh
Robert Snyder
Bob Taylor
Cynthia Trefelner
Ted VanTallie
Nick Wynne
Pamela Hall

Minutes of the January 18, 1997, meeting were approved as written with the substitution of "UCF" for "editorial center" for the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Motion made by Allison DeFoor, seconded by Robert Taylor. Motion carried.

Members of the board were introduced by Executive Director Nick Wynne.

Dr. Wynne gave a brief recap of the director's report which had been mailed to all Board members. He added that Patrick Smith was absent, due to illness in his family, and that Jenifer Marx was out of the country and unable to attend.

Joe Ackerman asked if there was a way we could schedule our annual meeting so as not to be in competition with the Florida Trust meeting. After discussion, it was moved by Allison DeFoor and seconded by Marinus Latour that Dr. Wynne open negotiations for a joint meeting/endeavor. Motion carried.

Dr. Frederickson gave the Editor's report for the *Quarterly*. Both the fall and winter issues are planned and each will contain an

article by a senior historian. For the Space issue she has requested articles from fifty NASA-related institutions. She will have a graduate assistant for ten hours a week next fall. Plans are underway to create a web page for the Quarterly. Dr. Frederickson asked how members of the *Quarterly* editorial committee were selected. It was the consensus of the Board that no real procedure was in place. After discussion, Allison DeFoor moved that members of the FHS Quarterly editorial board be selected by Dr. Frederickson and confirmed by the FHS Board; these members would serve three-year staggered terms, and could be reappointed indefinitely. Ted Van Itallie commented that this would be a good time to ask all those currently on the *Quarterly* Board if they wished to continue, and to select staggered terms for those who wish to remain on the board. Nick Wynne suggested that all geographical areas of Florida be considered in selecting *Quarterly* Board members. Larry Rivers asked that a resume from each potential Board member be included as part of the confirmation package. Mike Denham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cynthia Trefelner reported on *Journeys for the Young Historian*, our publication for youth. She has found that subscriptions may last for a year or two, then the child in question is out of fourth or fifth grade and the subscription stops, and a whole new market of students has to be recruited. Home schoolers are the best market so far; no schools have yet subscribed.

Robert Taylor reported for the Nominating Committee. Louise Gopher, our first Native American, has agreed to serve if appointed. The candidates are:

Asa Coates Williams, President-elect
 Dr. Robert Snyder, Univ. of South Florida, Tampa
 Sandra Johnson, Pensacola
 Alma Clyde Field, Cocoa Beach
 Lindsay Williams, Punta Gorda
 Dr. Thomas Graham, Univ. of North Florida, St. Augustine
 Louise Gopher, Brighton Reservation
 Nancy Buckley, Stuart

Dr. Taylor moved and seconded by Allison DeFoor, that these candidates be nominated at the general meeting for election to the FHS Board. Motion carried unanimously. Since Sandra Johnson and Bob Taylor have already been appointed to the Board to fill unexpired terms, they will be re-affirmed at the General meeting; the others will be appointed.

The subject of a board retreat was brought up by Allison DeFoor. Mr. DeFoor stated that he was concerned that the Society will have difficulty in dealing with the changes wrought in the society when Miss Carrie's funding becomes available. He stated that a retreat would help, and suggested Ann Henderson of the Florida Endowment of Humanities as a facilitator, and made a motion to that effect. Discussion followed on the advantages of using a professional facilitator unaffiliated with any non-profit organization within the state.

The Board agreed to decide first on the need for a retreat, and then on the choice of facilitator. It was pointed out that unless the board agrees to follow the points brought out by a retreat, a retreat would be useless and expensive.

Dr. Coker suggested that we not hold a retreat but instead appoint committees and have the committees work on specific areas of concern. Mr. DeFoor declined to alter his motion. Bob Taylor suggested that committees not be appointed until the new members were appointed to the FHS Board at the general membership meeting.

Allison DeFoor had to leave the meeting for his return to Key West, and withdrew his motion.

Bill Coker moved that committees be appointed and to report in January; George Franchere seconded. Motion carried. Dr. Wynne is to select committees and duties.

Nick Wynne suggested that the Florida Historical Confederation be taken over by the FHLF. This would provide a vehicle to reinvigorate the FHC through seminars in facilities and collections management. Moved by Jose Fernandez, and seconded by George Franchere. Carried unanimously.

Dr. Wynne asked the board to approve an increase in student membership rates. The \$15 student rate only covers about 71% of the actual cost of a membership. It was moved by Tom Bowman and seconded by Niles Shuh that the membership rates for students be increased to \$25, and after the student graduates, for every year that he/she has paid the \$25 student rate, that individual can purchase a full membership for \$27.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Coker discussed the duties of the Standards and Review Committee, whose job will be to maintain the high level of the FHS *Quarterly* after our current contractual agreements expire. Dr. Frederickson was appointed as an ex-officio member of that committee. Pam Hall requested that she be replaced on that committee

due to her inexperience with FHS board and duties; her resignation was accepted with regret. Larry Rivers agreed to fulfill that vacancy on the committee.

The next meeting sites for our annual meetings were discussed, with a request for our meeting submitted by Dr. Irving Solomon for the 2002 meeting in Ft. Myers. It was moved by Ted Van Itallie and seconded by Mary Ann Cleveland that the 2002 meeting be held in Ft. Myers. Motion carried unanimously.

Pam Hall mentioned that Tom Mickler had died, and asked that a letter of condolence be sent to Georgiana, his wife. Dr. Wynne explained that the Society sends a resolution to family members of deceased FHS members. She asked about the possibility of purchasing the Florida ephemera from the Micklers. Dr. Wynne said 'You get a price, we'll find a donor.'

Dr. Wynne said that he has applied for \$235,000 in renovation funding for the library. Results not yet in.

The next Board meeting will be held the third Saturday in January 1998.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.