



## City of Sunrise Historical Commission Meeting

Date: Monday, March 14, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Flamingo Park Meeting Hall

Address: 12855 NW 8 Street, Sunrise FL 33325

### Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen.

II. Roll Call:

Chair Toby Ginsburg-Cohen

Vice Chair William Heim

Aleece Dawson

Philip Howell

Laura Males

Jacqueline Rogazione – Absent (excused)

Bernard Shaw

**Also Present:** Meryl Girard, Deputy City Clerk

III. Open Discussion

Mr. Marco Bohorquez introduced himself. Mr. Bohorquez stated he served on the Law Enforcement Review and Advisory Board and that he came to observe the meeting.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Shaw clarified that the \$50 million from Broward Health was start up money to break ground and start the foundation of the building.

**MOTION** A motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2022, with correction, was made by Aleece Dawson and seconded by Bernard Shaw. All were in favor.

V. New Business

Vice Chair William Heim mentioned the quotes that had been discussed. Mr. Heim stated that perhaps it would be nice and a value to the city to have a contribution quote from the Historical Commission, relevant to history. Mr. Heim handed out a memo with the subject "Historical Commission personal contribution to the new Sunrise, FL Historical Commission." The quote read "Yesterday built the present and wise decisions today build the future."

Vice Chair William Heim stated it could be presented to the City, and see if they have a place for it. It would be from the Historical Commission.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard confirmed that Vice Chair Heim wanted to present the quote on behalf of the Historical Commission.

Vice Chair Heim said if anyone wanted to alter it, talk about different ideas, it could then be submitted to the City. It would be from this Historical Commission, contributing their thoughts on what they perceive history to be; a combination of yesterday, today and tomorrow, because tomorrow is built on yesterday. He said it was just a little something for the Historical Commission to have, a personal touch.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard asked if this was something separate from what had been discussed previously regarding quotes.

Chairperson Ginsburg Cohen said yes, it was an original quote.

Vice Chair Heim said that quote can be attributed to the Historical Commission. It was a personal touch that everyone had input on.

Aleece Dawson suggested deleting the word "wise." Not all decisions are wise. Laura Males agreed.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard asked for clarification, if this was in addition to the other quotes discussed previously.

Vice Chair Heim said it was a personal quote penned by the Historical Commission. This was specifically from the Historical Commission, with everyone's input, an original quote.

**MOTION** Bernard Shaw motioned to accept the quote, "Yesterday built the present and decisions today build the future," with the elimination of the word "wise." Laura Males seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard explained to Mr. Bohorquez what the board was doing and the reason why they were sorting through the boxes. The new city hall would have a historical museum, something this board had discussed for many years.

Vice Chair William Heim stated the idea of a history museum was actually proposed in 2014, and adopted in 2019. Mr. Heim advised that last December it was mentioned that a past Historical Commission thought of this 20 years ago, but he was not aware of that. Mr. Heim stated that the idea was brought up by the current Historical Commission during a 2014 GO Bond meeting, and they took the initiative, since no one remembered 20 years ago. The current Historical Commission took the initiative, then after five years the idea was accepted.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg-Cohen corrected Vice Chair Heim's statement. It was Commissioner Scuotto and members of the original Historical Commission, the idea started at least that long ago.

Vice Chair William Heim said he would like to know the meeting date where the idea was brought up.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard stated she would provide the minutes.

Mr. Heim said it was never mentioned, from the time he was appointed to the board in 2013, until he saw the opportunity.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard advised that she had been in the city for a long time and involved with the Historical Commission since Toby's mother, Frances Ginsburg, was Chair. Ms. Girard stated that this is an idea that has been spoken about since the 1980s.

Vice Chair Heim said the idea died out, so they brought it up again.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard stated that she thought the idea died out because there was no action taken on it.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen said there was no room for it.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard agreed, there was no space. There was discussion about various locations: the old post office, the old city hall. These buildings were since knocked down and different things had happened over the years.

Vice Chair William Heim stated they took the initiative at the GO Bond meeting. The idea had not been discussed since he came in 2013.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said that it was resurrecting the idea.

Vice Chair Heim said it was not resurrected, he initiated it. Everyone voted on it and liked it. If it had died out, they brought it back in 2014, it took five years and it was approved. Mr. Heim said that he was very happy the Historical Commission had a hand in this idea and that the city was pursuing it.

Bernard Shaw spoke about the Car Show. It was a great event and many people attended.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen said the Taste of Sunrise was amazing, and it sold out. Tunes and Trucks was well attended last weekend, the band was country music.

Bernard Shaw stated he would like to make the quote submitted by Mr. Heim the official slogan of the Historical Commission. Mr. Shaw suggested placing the slogan over the entry way of the museum in black lettering, possibly on a piece of oak.

There was a discussion about using or omitting the word wise in the quote. Laura Males said that the board just voted on it.

MOTION Bernard Shaw moved that this would be the official Historical Commission slogan, "Yesterday built the present and decisions today build the future," with the exclusion of the word wise, was seconded by Laura Males. All in favor.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen asked if this was going to be in the entryway.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said the board could not make that decision, but they could propose it and submit it for consideration.

Philip Howell spoke about the Laker Magazine, it was published each month, and distributed to more than 3000 households. He asked the chair of the committee if they would place a complimentary ad about the Historical Commission. The answer was they would place an ad for \$25.

Laura Males said she would sponsor the ad. She said perhaps she and Philip could work on the ad.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard reminded them they needed to do that at a board meeting, since it was conducting board business.

Ms. Males suggested taking a few minutes during the meeting to work on the ad. She believed there was a marketing department that takes care of that.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said if they would like to put together some thoughts, it can be submitted to the Marketing Division.

Ms. Males suggested taking a few minutes and have everyone add a few comments to the ad. It does not just have to go to Sunrise Lakes. It is putting the word out looking for people who have lived in the City for many years, looking for artifacts for the new city hall.

Philip Howell mentioned that he spoke about this subject at a few board meetings that he attended. Mr. Howell stated that attendance was usually not very good at these meeting, there are 750 owners, and six showed up for a meeting. That is why the Laker is good, because it was distributed to all the owners.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen suggested a full-page ad. Philip Howell said he would check on the cost.

Laura Males suggested placing a notice at each complex that had a message board. They need confirmation that can be done. Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said she would look into it.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Vice Chair William Heim to support Philip Howell's idea of submitting the President Kennedy quote, was seconded by Bernard Shaw. All were in favor.

Ms. Males said that she agreed to contribute \$25 for the ad.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen said that is for a business card sized ad.

Ms. Males said she understood that, and it can run four or five times.

Chairperson Ginsburg Cohen suggested a full page, everyone could contribute.

Mr. Howell said he would check on the price, and Ms. Girard would check on the board members contributing for an ad.

Mr. Howell stated that there were still original owners in the complex from when it was built 45 years ago, they may have historical memorabilia.

## VI. Old Business

### A. Sunrise History Museum Items for Review

- Old Post Office
- Upside Down House
- Time Capsule
- City Hall, Past and Present
- Center for Scholastic Chess

The members sorted through several boxes for historical information relating to the five items of interest. Ms. Girard requested the members index the boxes as they were sorted.

Marco Bohorquez mentioned they were starting a Rotary Club in the City of Sunrise, and that the club would meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at Goodfellas Pizza from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Bohorquez advised there would be a Rotary Social event on Wednesday, March 15, 2022 between 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. for anyone interested in more information. Mr. Bohorquez stated the event was a fund raiser for the American Legion, and a percentage of all proceeds from that night would be donated. They select a charity in the community, and help them out.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen asked how much the dues would cost.

Mr. Bohorquez said a ballpark for individuals would be \$100, and \$150 for businesses, quarterly. He invited everyone to come check it out.

## **B. Quotes for History Museum**

Aleece Dawson said it was her understanding everyone was going to review the list and mark the quotes they liked.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard asked if the members had brought any additional quotes.

Ms. Dawson said she shortlisted the quotes as follows:

1. The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future.  
Theodore Roosevelt
2. If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten.  
Rudyard Kipling
3. We are not makers of history. We are made by history.  
Martin Luther King Jr.

Vice Chair William Heim said he wanted to suggest something for consideration. He read a quote from Plato, "Those who do not pay attention to their government will someday be governed by fools." He was going by memory, and suggested going online to get the verbatim quote.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said that was probably not the direction the city would want to take.

Several of the Historical Commission members agreed, they felt the quote was not appropriate. Ms. Males liked the three quotes that Ms. Dawson selected, and said she would choose the same ones.

Vice Chair Heim mentioned the JFK quote that Mr. Howell spoke about previously. John F. Kennedy was the President when Sunrise was founded in 1961, that was something to keep in mind.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen asked how many quotes there would be.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said they would submit what the board has selected; the three shortlisted by Ms. Dawson, Mr. Heim's original quote, and the JFK quote.

Philip Howell read President Kennedy's quote, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

Vice Chair William Heim said that quote was from President Kennedy's inaugural address speech on January 20, 1961. The same year the City was founded.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard recapped: the board will submit the three quotes shortlisted by Ms. Dawson, the original quote from Mr. Heim and the President Kennedy inaugural address quote as submitted by Mr. Howell. All agreed.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg Cohen asked if they could get more quotes and if there was any way to stream the quotes.

Deputy City Clerk Meryl Girard said perhaps they can, but could not say for sure at this time.

Chairperson Toby Ginsburg-Cohen asked for a moment of silence to be observed for the Citizens of Ukraine.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Laura Males and seconded by Philip Howell. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bernita Sherrod, Administrative Assistant II