

Elaine Reed

From: Elaine Reed <ereed@napleshistoricalsociety.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 12:31 PM
To: 'Bill Moss'
Cc: Bill Barnett; 'Linda Penniman'; 'dfinlay@naplesgov.com'; 'Ellen Seigel'; 'Reg Buxton'; 'ssaad@naplesgov.com'; 'Michelle McLeod'
Subject: Naples Historic District: Specialist/Workshop/HAPB
Attachments: Proposed DRAFT Job Description.pdf; Demolitions to date.pdf

TO: Bill Moss
cc: City Council

Good Afternoon, Bill:

My note is multi-fold:

1. To share with you an unsolicited, draft job description for a preservation specialist at the City of Naples,
2. To confirm Naples Historical Society is on the March 20th City Council Workshop, and
3. To inform you that I have asked the Historical & Archeological Preservation Board (HAPB, County) to review and ultimately approve the Inventory List of Structures in the Naples Historic District.

Rationale for all three follows:

(1)

The **attached job description** describes what the Society believes is needed for this post. Note that we are not recommending a full-time or part-time employee; we recommend a 1099 contractor who could be expected to work a 30- or 40-hour work week over a period of two years. This is the best of both worlds: it gets the job done by fulfilling a desperately needed educational void AND relieves the City of a long-term employee commitment. Prior to my work at Naples Historical Society, I was a 1099 contractor for many years, when I was consulting in economic development overseas. These sorts of contracts are under-utilized, I think.

I realize that there has been some discussion of what amount of time is really warranted. The District is small, yes, but factor in the potential of a city-wide survey and the need for information among a cadre of people through education, and it becomes a massive endeavor—at least for a couple of years.

On a similar note, you or your staff mentioned that only three homes in the District have been restored in the last decade. While that is factually correct, it misses the core of the preservation challenge in Naples. There have been 19 houses demolished in the District since the District was acknowledged (1987). Of that, 11 houses were contributing structures—that's 58%, a significant ratio. Please see the attached fact sheet for reference. Many may have modified (to a preservation approach level 3) several of these houses if they knew the extent of preservation design options available to them.

With this new Inventory List of Structures, we believe that it is imperative to educate the community before the next potential wave of teardowns arise. This is our last chance—because there will never be another opportunity to include aged-in houses, never again.

We believe that this preservation specialist will be able to take up where the Society will someday leave off. The Society will always be available to help, but the work of preservation is a municipal function and should be reflected as such.

(2)

March 20th was the re-scheduled date for a Council Workshop. As I recall, additional time was needed to explore a few more areas. I trust you have come to some conclusions by now. Will you confirm this date? It has been our goal to keep this discussion during “season” so that decisions were made when the majority of community residents were in Naples. If you are not ready, how may I help? For your information, I have a phone meeting booked with **Jason Aldridge, Compliance Supervisor, next Wednesday at 11am.** If you can squeeze the time, this could be on speaker phone and we can meet in my or your office. Your thoughts are appreciated.

(3)

As a proactive measure, I asked Ray Bellows, County HAPB liaison, to include the SHPO-approved **Inventory List of Structures in the Naples Historic District on the next HAPB Agenda**, which is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 9:15am (Community Services Bldg on Horseshoe Drive). While I have presented this list and the project to the HAPB multiple times over the last two years, this March presentation would be to ask for a formal approval and acknowledgement of that list **SHOULD** you and the City of Naples decide to move forward with an inter-local agreement with the County. I am trying to make the best use of time.

It would be ideal to speak with you in person or by phone after you have read this. If I don't hear from you, I will call you on Monday of next week. Thanks, Bill, for your willingness to discuss this!

Regards,

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Educational HQ: Historic Palm Cottage™ built in 1895 and located at 137 12th Avenue South, near the Naples Pier
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It Takes a Community to Preserve One!