



Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway
Byway Organization Meeting
Minutes –January 16, 2018 - 11:00 AM
Webster Community Center
49 SE 1st Street, Webster, FL

- I. **Call to Order and introduction of guests:** Meeting was called to order by Chair, Kelly Williams (Private Citizen). Others in attendance include: Mike Palozzi (Atkins); Martin Steele (Vice Chair); Dawn Cary (Secretary); Deanna Naugler (Webster City Manager); Gayle Teerman (Private Citizen); Donna Lester (UF/IFAS); Lorena Cucek (FDOT); Bradley Arnold (Sumter County Administrator); Jim Davis (UF/IFAS) and Claudia Calzaretta (FDOT/FSHP).
- II. **Review of November 15, 2017 and December 12, 2017 Minutes** – Martin Steele made a motion to approve. Judie Mueller 2nd. All in favor.
- III. **Treasurer’s Report**-Beginning Balance \$1711.28 as of 12/01/17. Deposit of \$1316.00 from Bushnell Fall Fest. Ending Balance of \$3027.28 as of 12/31/17. Motion made by Martin Steele to approve. Kelly Williams 2nd. All in favor.
- IV. **CME Working Committees**–Committee reports are follows:
 - A. **Organizational Sustainability**-Visit Florida will be conducting a phone interview as part of the Agri-tourism grant on February 16, 2018.
 - B. **Transportation Alternative Program (Exit 309 Project)** –Claudia confirmed that this project is #9 on the FDOT list for the feasibility study.
 - C. **Economic Assessment of SSHB Update**-Claudia updated the attendees on the purpose and overview of the study. Results are still on schedule for a May 2018 delivery date.
 - D. **Coast to Coast Connector Trail**-Lorena Cucek joined us today to give us an update on recent news that the original trail may not be feasible due to some property owners not on board with the FDOT purchasing right-a-way for the trail and that they are looking at running it along Highway 50 into Polk County. Bradley Arnold indicated that the Sumter County Board of Commissioners has not agreed to the maintenance along this route, as it does nothing to assist the economic development of the county and communities such as Webster. Kelly Williams and Deanna Naugler indicated that the master plan of Webster was written based on the trail going through Webster. Hernando County is currently in a PD&E Study to bring their sidewalks at the bridge to continue down Highway 50, as part of the Highway 50 widening project that is currently underway. There was debate on these sidewalks being also considered a trail route for bikers. Also indicated was that there are bike path markings on the side of the highway in the plans. Concern was expressed for the safety of the bicyclist. Currently the firm Jacobs & BBC is handling the PD&E of the possible routes from

CR 33 to 471 on Highway 50 at the VanFleet Trailhead. There seems to be a lack of communication from this firm to the FDOT. The PD&E is scheduled to be complete September 2018.

V. Byway Partners/Business Sponsorship Program

A. Kiosk Location Update-discussed the Richloam Country Store having a kiosk with the area attributes along with information on Polk County. Possible cross promotional opportunities.

B. Donor Brick Program-nothing new to report. Members were encouraged to secure donations.

VI. Media Updates

A. Social Media-Facebook friends up to 623.

B. Ride Sumter Card- ready for print. Dawn to contact Dave's Cycles and Lucky Cycles to see if they are interested in becoming a sponsor.

VII. Upcoming Events

A. VHA Hoe Down-Saturday, January 27, 2018. In exchange for our booth, we will judge the cow chip bingo event they are holding.

B. Baker House Historical Festival-Dawn to contact the City of Wildwood Events to see if they have this on their calendar.

VIII. Florida Scenic Highways Program Report-Mike Palozzi and Claudia Calzaretta

1. **Annual Report**-Dawn to get the annual report to Wanda prior to February 1, 2018 and to copy Claudia.

2. **Florida Tourism Day**-Hosted by Visit Florida on January 18, 2018 in Tallahassee. There is an appointment with the FDOT Secretary that has been set up for state byways to introduce themselves. Kelly and Dawn to attend.

IX. Public Comment/Round Table Discussion-Adopt-A-Highway clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2018. City of Bushnell is spending money to set up the 3rd floor of the Historic County Building for the Sumter County Historical Society being head up by Karen Cloud and her members.

X. Adjournment-Next Meeting February 20, 2018 at Dade Battlefield Historic State Park in Bushnell, FL.

Respectfully submitted by: Dawn A. Cary, Secretary/Treasurer