



Preserving America's Heritage

HIGHLIGHTS
ACHP BUSINESS MEETING
March 24, 2016
Tampa, Florida

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) met for its spring meeting March 23-24 in Tampa, Florida, at the Westin Tampa Harbour Island. The business meeting was preceded by an ACHP tour and listening session with Latino and Hispanic community members in Tampa March 23. Council members toured historic Ybor City and West Tampa where they met with community leaders who discussed preservation challenges. A following discussion session focused on the historic preservation needs in this community. As part of its initiative to build a more inclusive preservation program, the ACHP is looking at ways to better engage diverse communities in the national preservation program. At their July business meeting, members will consider actions the ACHP and others can take to promote this goal.

On the morning of March 24, the members had an informal discussion session on challenges and opportunities facing the national preservation program at its 50th anniversary this year. The discussion furthered the ACHP's initiative to develop policy recommendations to improve the program for the future. These will be completed by year's end and submitted to the incoming Administration and Congress.

At the business meeting, Chairman Milford Wayne Donaldson and Chairman James Billie of the Seminole Tribe of Florida signed an agreement for the tribe's historic preservation procedures to substitute for the normal Section 106 procedures on tribal lands. Several members of the tribe and the entire Tribal Historic Preservation Office were in attendance and celebrated the signing.

Members heard about the Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation for the rehabilitation and renovation of the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center's historic gardens and Grotto. The award was presented on March 8 at the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers' annual meeting. (read more here: <http://www.achp.gov/docs/chairman-award-release-march2016.pdf>)

A brief recap of the previous day's session on Latino heritage issues culminated in Chairman Donaldson announcing that the ACHP steering committee overseeing the initiative to build a more inclusive preservation program would work with staff to develop recommendations for member action.

In a related effort, ACHP members unanimously adopted a strategic plan to guide efforts to involve young people in the national historic preservation program. They also heard an update on ACHP work to engage Native American youth, as part of the Administration's Gen-I initiative.

Further discussion on the Preservation50 policy recommendations surfaced a variety of ideas including making sure that the full range of the American experience is considered and included in preservation; addressing issues of environmental and social justice; finding ways to better support intangible cultural

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

heritage through place-based preservation; enhancing agency planning and integration of historic preservation in their missions and work; making Section 106 more effective and more open to public involvement; engaging youth in preservation work; and educating decision makers and others about the value and benefits of historic preservation. Chairman Donaldson announced he would appoint a steering committee to guide the effort going forward.

The members adopted a motion to support recent historic preservation bills now pending in Congress: a bill to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program (H.R. 295); the U.S. Civil Rights Network Act/African American Civil Rights Network Act (S. 2309/H.R. 3683); and the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act (S. 1579/H.R.3477). Another motion, supporting the PRISM Act (Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities) (S. 805/H.R. 1541), passed without dissenting votes. All of the federal agency members abstained on the PRISM Act vote since the Administration had not yet taken a position on the legislation.

Members were also reminded about the policy statement regarding resilient communities currently out for public comment via the *Federal Register*. The working group that has been developing the statement will finalize it for a council member vote by unasssembled meeting by May 1.

A discussion on the consideration of cultural resource issues in the work of the White House Council on Climate Preparedness and Resilience led to suggestions on raising the profile of this area. Federal agency members agreed to work with the ACHP to make their respective representatives on the Council more aware of historic preservation concerns.

The members also heard brief reports on federal agency support for SHPOs and THPOs, public involvement in Section 106, and the FAST Act.

Finally, the Native American Affairs Committee brought forward a recommendation that the ACHP develop procedures and guidance for the development of future agreements with Indian tribes to substitute tribal regulations for the ACHP's Section 106 regulations. It was accepted without discussion.

The next business meeting will be July 13-14, 2016, in Washington, D.C.