

Cultural Resources Branch Meeting

Meeting Minutes

8:00 AM-9:30 AM | MARCH 22, 2023 | COLLABORATORY | 2031 JACKSON ST, FT MYERS | PUBLIC MEETING

Call to Order

On March 22, 2023, the Cultural Resources Branch Meeting convened at 8:06 AM with the following members present:

- Gloria Tate
- Lydia Black

Facilitators and Branch Support:

- Terry Mazany
- Harrison Newton
- Robbie Heere
- Ilani Fernandes

Introductions

Terry Mazany introduced himself and the Branch members went around the room introducing themselves. Mr. Mazany discussed how the Recovery Task Force (RTF) intentionally created two separate branches representing cultural resources and natural resources to make sure the issues were properly addressed. Mr. Mazany then gave an overview of the agenda.

Review of the Recovery and Resilience Planning Structure and Timeline

Mr. Mazany presented on the work of the RTF and Branches, including the RTF looking for initial priorities when they meet on March 24th.

Roles and Responsibilities

Mr. Mazany went through the structure of the Branch and the frequency of meetings. He then explained the relationship between the RTF and the Branches. He spoke about the deliverables, roles, and responsibilities for the Branches.

Initial Branch Priorities Discussion

Mr. Mazany facilitated the discussion on initial branch priorities. Ms. Tate asked if the goal was to use funding opportunities to support the recovery of cultural resources from Hurricane Ian. Mr. Mazany said it was more general than that and these priorities are preliminary. The following initial priorities were discussed by the Branch members:

- Short-term recovery and stabilization of the arts:
 - Reopening of cultural and historical sites;
 - Capital improvement opportunities;
 - Role of philanthropy;
 - Engaging non-profit and for-profit sectors;
 - Cape Coral Yacht Club;
 - Museums;
 - Cultural Park Theatre;
 - Community spaces for cultural activities;
 - Florida Repertory Theatre;
 - Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre;
 - Beaches as cultural sites;
 - Coastal sites;
 - Mound houses;
 - National Shell Museum;
 - Art festivals;
 - Individual artists; and
 - Matlacha artists.
- Convening of the arts community supporting cultural facilities and individual artists:
 - Supporting artists; and
 - Housing for local and visiting artists.
- Regional cultural planning and county-level representation for the arts:
 - Assessing economic impact;
 - Assessing community impact; and
 - Assessing health impact.

Branch Community Engagement Strategy Discussion

Mr. Mazany went over community engagement strategies. The Branch members said they hope to have an opportunity for the arts communities of each city to participate and share their voice specifically for the needs of cultural resources.

Public Comment

No public comment request.

Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Mr. Mazany thanked the Branch members for their participation. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 AM on March 22, 2023.