



Heritage Crossroads: Miles of History

Corridor Management Entity

Nonprofit Annual Report

FY 2015

Letter from the Chair

In 2004, community advocates including county and local government representatives, Flagler County Historical Society and other community leaders came together to discuss the historic significance and natural beauty of Flagler County. At that time the group was introduced to the Florida Scenic Highways Program by the Florida Department of Transportation. This program was established to help recognize the “best of the best” in regional roadways that offer the visitor a journey to remember for a lifetime.

These local partners recognized the importance of a scenic highway designation as a method of telling the story of Flagler County’s heritage and providing an economic development tool for the region. In 2008, 98 miles of Flagler County roads were designated as a Florida Scenic Highway, Florida’s first heritage highway. Since that time this advocacy group has worked diligently to implement its mission of community education, resource enhancement and protection of the region’s heritage resources. The group is currently working with its partners on the redevelopment of a small parcel in downtown Bunnell, the design of a regional heritage visitor’s center along US 1 in the northern part of the County and developing innovative ways to educate the community on the region’s heritage. Each project is expected to spark interest in the County’s intrinsic resources and draw additional visitors to Flagler County.

The Heritage Crossroads: Miles of History Heritage Highway recently celebrated its 7th anniversary as an advocate for the region’s heritage. In addition to its success in implementing local projects, the group is now a federally recognized 501(c)3 organization with a corridor web site, high quality marketing materials that promote the unique intrinsic resources of this Byway, and a growing membership base.

I am pleased to submit the attached 2015 Not-for-Profit Annual Report for the Heritage Crossroads Inc. It reflects constant organizational growth and focused energy consistent with our mission and long term vision.

Lastly, the byway organization recognizes the efforts of all our past leaders and volunteers for their efforts to make local heritage a focal point in Flagler County.

If you have additional questions, please refer to our website www.heritagecrossroads.org or via email at heritagecrossroadshighway@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Nancy Duke-Birkhead, Chair
Heritage Crossroads Heritage Highway, Inc.

Our Core Principles

Our Story

In November of 2004, a small group of community advocates including county and local government representatives, Flagler County Historical Society and others came together to discuss the historic significance and natural beauty of Flagler County. In that same year the Bunnell Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Flagler County Chamber of Commerce formed a Historic Preservation Committee to seek designation as a Florida Scenic Highway through the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). This FDOT program was established to help identify the “best of the best” in regional roadways that offer a visitor the journey to remember for a lifetime. These community advocates recognized the importance of a scenic highway designation as a tool to tell the story of the history of Flagler County, take advantage of potential grant opportunities and use this designation as an economic development tool for the region.

As a result of these early efforts, in 2008, 98 miles of roads in Flagler County were designated as a Florida Scenic Highway, Florida’s first heritage highway. Since that time this corridor advocacy group has worked diligently to accomplish its mission of community education, resource enhancement and protection of the region’s heritage resources.

Mission

The mission of Heritage Crossroads is to highlight the historic resources of Florida’s first Heritage Highway – ranging from the Florida Agriculture Museum to the Bulow Plantation Ruins - by promoting, enhancing and preserving the unique character of these resources and their place in Florida’s history. Through education and interpretation we will enhance the experience of visitors and the community’s appreciation of the region’s heritage.

Our Defining Values

- Appreciation for the history of Flagler County
- Building a vibrant local economy
- Respect for the founding families of the region
- Desire to ensure that future generations understand their roots
- Appreciation for the balance between community heritage and the natural beauty of the region
- Maintaining strong partnerships with other community advocacy groups having similar interests

Recent Achievements

- Participation in the 10th Annual Flagler County Chamber of Commerce Creekside Festival.
- Ongoing design efforts to develop a regional heritage visitor's center.
- Advancing the design and funding efforts for the Bunnell Crossroads property in downtown Bunnell.
- Support the Flagler County Historical Society's monthly heritage bus tours.

Specific Programs/Case Studies

Heritage Crossroads Project Fact Sheet

Student History Research

Background: The Byway Organization worked in partnership with Daytona State College to support educating the youth of the community on the history of Flagler County. Heritage Crossroads Byway vice chair Dr. Nancy Duke-Birkhead, a professor at Daytona State College, challenged students in her American History classes to learn more about the history of the community they live in. Nancy developed the course curriculum used by the students and supervised the students as they developed their projects.

Student teams selected historical resources located along the byway to investigate. The goal was to learn about the resources that contribute to Flagler County's long history. The students reviewed historical files, field reviewed their subject resource and prepared a poster board on the results of their research. Additionally, Bill Ryan, byway organization member and local historian, gave a presentation on local history to the students. The byway organization was updated as the project evolved. Once they had completed their research the students presented their poster boards and fielded questions from the public at Flagler County's Creekside Festival in late October.

Current Status: These displays were presented at the 2015 Creekside Festival held on October 10-11 at the Princess Place Preserve in Palm Coast.

Cost: \$1,000 (in-kind)

Schedule: 03/2015-10/2015

Additional Questions: Nancy Duke-Birkhead, Chair



Heritage Crossroads: Project Fact Sheet

11th Annual Creekside Festival

Background:

The Heritage Crossroads Byway Organization was a major participant in this regional event sponsored by the Flagler County Chamber of Commerce. The Creekside festival spotlights the history of Flagler County and brings together families to learn and experience Flagler County's heritage. Held on the shores of historic Pellicer Creek at the Princess Place Preserve, the Creekside Festival has become the signature event of the year, attracting more than 12,000 visitors yearly. This two-day festival with family friendly activities including live bluegrass music, historical demonstrations and exhibits, arts & crafts vendors, a photography contest, a kids' zone, pony rides, amazing food vendors and much more, all in a picturesque natural setting. Participants shopped for crafts, viewed period exhibits and mingled with historic reenactors.

Current Status: Event held October 2015

Cost: Donations to Heritage Crossroads General Operating Fund

Additional Questions: Nancy Duke-Birkhead, Chair



11TH ANNUAL
CREEKSIDE
Festival
FLAGLER COUNTY

Heritage Crossroads: Project Fact Sheet

Bunnell Crossroads Property

Background:

One of the byway organization's primary goals is to identify ways to enhance the community's appreciation for Flagler County heritage and gain a better understanding of the advocacy group's mission. Additionally, one to the byway organization's founding principles has been supporting enhancement efforts in downtown Bunnell.

Through a review of the County Property Appraiser records, a small vacant parcel located at the intersection of SR 100/SR 11 and US 1 ("Four Corners" Property) was identified as the site for a possible pocket park. The CME has worked closely with the City of Bunnell to establish current ownership and identify property acquisition options. This parcel was acquired by the City in early 2014. Long term site planning efforts for this parcel are just beginning but current concepts include; informational kiosk, limited parking, wall of history, landscaping and park amenities. During 2015 the byway organization supported the City's efforts to seek project funding through Florida Department of Environmental Protection Recreation Development Assistance Grant. The community will learn late in 2016 about the award of this grant.

Current Status: Park visioning efforts are currently underway

Cost: \$15,000 (property acquisition), design estimate currently being developed

Schedule: Master planning concepts 2016. Seeking construction funding

Additional Questions: John Seibel, 386.437.5568



Goals & Objectives for 2016

- Engage the youth of the community through fundraising and volunteer opportunities
- Support final design and funding of the Bunnell Crossroads Property in downtown Bunnell
- Increase membership by 30%
- Support the design/construction of the Flagler Visitor Center
- Updating and reprinting of byway informational materials

Financial Report FY 2015

Heritage Crossroads Heritage Highway

Consolidates Statement of Activities

FY 2015 Budget (with projection to FY 2016)

Revenues	FY 2015	FY 2016
H. Crossroads Themed Merchandise	\$100	\$100
Grants Received	\$1,500	\$1,500
Donations	\$1,000	\$1,000
Events Revenue	\$600	\$700
Expenses		
Post Office Box	\$100	\$100
Postage	\$20	\$20
Office Supplies	\$20	\$20
Licenses/Certifications	\$200	\$200
Donations	\$50	\$50
Memberships (community)	\$0	\$0
NET ASSETS	\$2,810	\$3,010

Current Officers (FY 2016)

- Nancy Duke-Birkhead, Chair
- Susan Barry, Vice Chair
- Sandy Reffitt, Secretary

Board of Directors (FY 2016)

- Nancy Duke-Birkhead
- Susan Barry
- Steven Jones
- John Seibel
- Stanley Drescher

Technical Advisors (FY 2016)

- Florida Department of Transportation/District V

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Byway Organization

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www.heritagecrossroads.org

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Heritage Crossroads is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation